

## Arrows rout Greenville 52-12

By Danny C. Davis

After a tough two-game district skid, the Clinton Arrows bounced back big on October 27, routing Greenville 52-12 to get back to 5-5 on the season and 3-3 in district play.

The Arrows closed out the 2017 season Friday night (just after press time) at 9-2 Starkville.

In the cold rain in Greenville, Clinton found the running game that had been missing for most of the season, with a lot of the ground yards coming from junior Ryan Davis, who had a career night with 16 carries for 144 yards and four touchdowns. And freshman Keiwon Rodgers, making his first appearance in a varsity game, was nothing short of impressive, with 13 carries for 148 yards and a touchdown.

CHS built a 24-6 halftime lead. Tucker Barefoot kicked a 29-yard field goal. Rodgers scored on a five-yard run. Arrow QB Hunter Hulsey connected with Greg Evans for a 15-yard TD, and Davis scored from a yard out to cap off the first half scoring.

In the rain, the Arrows continued to pound the ball in the final two quarters. Davis added touchdown runs of 17, 10, and 4 yards. Freshman QB Caleb Miller also scored his first varsity touchdown on a 10-yard run.

Clinton had 484 yards offense, 402 coming on the ground.

The Clinton defense also had a good night in the rain, limiting the Hornets to 53 yards rushing and 96 through the air. Ronnie Thomas had five solo tackles. Javion Paige and Jeremy Mack had three solo stops each.

A week earlier, Clinton saw its chance of making the playoffs for the fourth consecutive year take a serious blow in a tough 28-10 loss to rival Warren Central. With the loss, the Arrows dropped back to back Region 2-6A games for the first time since 2013, the last time CHS

missed the playoffs.

After suffering six turnovers a week earlier against Northwest Rankin, the Arrows turned it over on the first play of the game. And, like a week earlier, CHS kept it close in the first half, only trailing 7-3. After a fake punt by WC, CHS had it at the Viking 39, but seven plays only netted 15 yards, and the Arrows had to settle for a 39-yard field goal by Tucker Barefoot.

Clinton had a chance to go up 10-0 with five minutes left in the half, but turned it over at the Viking 3 yard line on a fumble. WC completed an 85-yard pass play and capped the 97-yard drive on a 2-yard TD run by Corey Wilson, who scored the first of three touchdowns for the Vikings.

Wilson scored again on a 40-yard run on the third play of the third period and again about six minutes later on an eleven-yard run to go up 21-3.

Clinton's only touchdown of the night came on its next possession, when quarterback Hunter Hulsey hit Christian Johnson on an 82-yard pass-scoring play to cut it to 21-10 with 3:45 left in the third. But despite recovering an on-side kick, the drive for CHS stalled at the Viking 17 on a fourth and five. WC added a late score to go up 28-10. Clinton had drives to the Viking 9 yard line and 7 yard line in the final two minutes, but, like a week earlier, just couldn't punch it in.

Clinton had 431 yards of offense, most of it through the air behind Hulsey, who completed 23 of 40 passes for 336 yards. Defensively, the Arrows yielded 437 yards to the Vikings.

"We played hard again and fought to the end," said Arrows head coach Judd Boswell. "I think they gave it all to the end tonight. But we are just not an explosive football team and have had to work hard to manufacture everything we get. We will try to find our identity these last two games. If we can do that, it will lead to success down the road."



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