

Soggy Saints stay solid



Colby Barnes scored five touchdowns and ran for over 100 yards in DeKalb Middle School's 62-6 swatting of the Upperman Bees Thursday night.

Middle school still unbeaten

DUANE SHERRILL
Editor Smithville Review
Smithville, Tennessee

Pouring down rain storm. No problem. Colby Barnes celebrated a soggy eighth-grade night with five touchdowns and well over the 100 yards rushing in the first half alone as the DeKalb Middle School Saints stayed undefeated, swatting away the Upperman Bees in an impressive 62-6 win.

The Saints charged out of the gate after a half-hour rain delay Thursday night, with Barnes scoring the first of his five touchdowns on their first possession. Barnes ended up with 153 yards on 13 carries to go with his five touchdowns. His entire massing of stats happened in just one half as he was lifted for the second half given their huge half-time lead. Barnes has surpassed the 100-yard mark in all five of the Saints' wins.

Coach Justin Poteete noted that Barnes' success along with that of fellow back Josh May who rushed eight times for 180 yards has been helped by good offensive line play, opening holes for the bruising runners.

"The run game was good and the offensive line played its best game of the season," Poteete said. "They had a good drive off the line of scrimmage."

The one-two dose of Barnes and May left the Bees at the bad end of 30-0 drubbing going into the second quarter. The Bees' only score came on a mishandled punt, the rain slick ball bouncing around the turf only to be picked up by the punter who was then able to elude Saints tacklers for the 70-yard scoring burst.

The second half saw some new faces get playing time. Ari White rushed three times for five yards and Jordan Stanick three for 30. Gabe Hollingsworth galloped 15 yards for a touchdown and Josh May added to his earlier offensive touchdown by returning a pick-six for a defensive score.

They play their final regular season game at Macon County next Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. They get a bye-week this Thursday. While in the catbird seat for the playoffs, a win at Macon County would guarantee them a top seed in the first round.

Tigers tamed by Tigers

DUANE SHERRILL
Editor Smithville Review
Smithville, Tennessee

The battle of the Tigers was all purple Friday night as the sixth-ranked Watertown Purple Tigers mauled their hosts, handing DeKalb County its third straight loss, 48-14.

"There were actually some things we improved on this week from last," revealed Tiger Head Coach Steve Trapp of the loss, noting the quality of play by Watertown left his squad outgunned. "Watertown is loaded with talent and we're a young team."

The onslaught began on the first Purple Tiger drive as quarterback Heath Price scampered 38 yards for a touchdown on just his team's second offensive play. Price played in relief of Watertown's starting quarterback who suffered a collarbone injury last week in their close 22-21 win over Trousdale County. It was actually Price who led his squad back from a 21-7 fourth quarter deficit against Trousdale.

"He's fast and elusive," Trapp said after scouting him leading up to the game.

Things continued slipping away when late in the fourth, running back Deramus Carey carried the pigskin 90 yards for a second Purple Tiger touchdown. The second quarter began with a second touchdown for Carey who ran 25 yards to make it 21-0.

A Tiger fumble left Watertown with a short field moments later and it took just two plays for the Purple Tigers to get a 28-0 advantage.

It was Carey again late in the second as he burst through the line for his third touchdown and a 35-0 Watertown advantage.

Another DeKalb fumble was picked up and ran to the house making it 42-0. Then, as time was waning in the first half, backup quarterback Brayden Cousino scampered six yards to make at 48-0 at the break.

Facing Watertown's second string, the Tigers played with more confidence in the second half and actually outscored the visitors 14-0 behind a four yard touchdown run by quarterback Axel Aldino and a 53-yard bomb from Aldino to Tanner Myers. The scores marked the first time the Tigers have scored since their win over Warren County, 19-14 in the opening game of the season.

As for states, Aldino led the team in rushing, carrying 10 times for 49 yards before subtraction of 23 yards for sacks. David Bradford rushed seven times for 10 yards and Tre Ladet three times for 12. Aldino was four for 10 in the air for 69 yards and a touchdown. He also threw an interception.

"We're going to have to put these last three week behind us," Trapp said, noting the Tigers' last three opponents are all ranked the state's top ten and are yet to lose a game. "It's been a tough schedule thus far. I'm not making excuses. That's just the way it is so now we have a longer business trip this week, down to Grundy County where we need to brush ourselves off and do the things we need to do to come out of there with a win."

Grundy County is also 1-3 like the Tigers after losing 17-0 to Bledsoe County last week. The Tigers beat the Yellow Jackets 27-7 here last season. Kickoff is in Coalmont at 7 p.m. Friday.



Axel Aldino scrambles as Watertown defenders give chase. The sixth-ranked Purple Tigers defeated DeKalb County 48-14 last Friday in Smithville.