



Arrows fall short against Warren Central and playoffs

By Danny C. Davis

In a driving rainstorm on October 25, Clinton saw its playoff chances wash away in a tough loss to their old nemesis Warren Central 13-6. With the loss, CHS drops to 4-6 and 2-4 in Region 2- Class 6A and will close out the regular season on the road against Greenville and Starkville with no chance of post-season play. It marks the first time since 1984-1986 that the Arrows have missed the post season three years in a row.

But, just like the Warren Central game last year that decided the fourth playoff position, this one was very close against two evenly matched teams and could have gone either way outside of a couple of big plays by the Vikings.

Clinton played hard the whole game and had their chances, but the offense had a hard time getting in sync and trouble running the football, which had been their bread and butter all season. After being able to pound the football on Madison Central, Brandon, and Pearl, Clinton only had 60 yards on the ground on thirty-five carries against WC. The Arrows failed to score a touchdown for the first time since a 27-3 loss to Madison Central in 2017.

But Arrows QB Caleb Miller did have a good night, completing twenty-five of fifteen passes for 159 yards. But the little things in a tight game help make a difference, like off side penalties. Clinton was flagged seven times for jumping off sides during the game. CHS was only three of fifteen on third down conversions and was forced to punt seven times.

Clinton scored on its first possession, going forty yards in nine plays to the WC 19, where Carson Barefoot kicked a 36-yard field goal to make it 3-0 with 5:15 left in the first quarter. That would be Clinton's only points until the final four minutes of the game.

The Arrows defense did a good job stopping the Viking 's running game, holding WC to 78 rushing yards on twenty-five carries and stopped Warren Central on their first five possessions. But following a interception by Miller at the WC 18, the Vikings moved it 71 yards in five plays in the driving rain, where Joshua Griffin kicked a 28-yard field goal at the first half buzzer to tie it 3-3 at the half. WC QB Parker Kivett

was three for three passing on the drive for 53 yards.

Clinton went three and out on its first possession of the second half. Then, WC took the lead for good on a 50-yard five-play drive capped off by Griffin's 36-yard field goal to put the Vikings up 6-3. The big play of the drive was a 51-yard run by Kivett around the left end to the Arrow 18.

CHS went three and out on their next three and out possessions. Kivett then threw a 45-yard TD pass to Demond Patton to put WC up 13-3 with 1;33 left in the third.

Clinton had one more successful drive, taking it 75 yards in fourteen plays to the Vking five, but on fourth and goal had to settle for Barefoot's 22-yard field goal to close it to 13-6 with 4:11 left. Miller completed four passes on the drive.

CHS had one more possession, but the drive stalled at the 50-yard line as time ran out.

Defensively for the Arrows, Robin Gray had six solo tackles and one assist, Jeremy Mack had five tackles, Antonio Thompson had four tackles, and Deandre Cavett had three tackles and one assist.

Offensively, E Jai Mason had six receptions for 50 yards, Michael Hughes had four catches for 58 yards, and Motavious Warren caught two passes for 28 yards.

A week earlier, Clinton got a big region road win over Germantown 27-13. Clinton led 10-6 at the half and never trailed

On the Arrow's first possession, Miller fired a 29-yard TD pass to Mack. Barefoot kicked field goals of 36 and 37 yards and two extra points. Miller threw TD passes to Hughes for 34 yards and Warren for 39 yards.

Miller finished the night with ten of 24 passes for 243 yards and three touchdowns. E Jai Mason caught five passes for 96 yards, Mack two catches for 40, Carson DeYoung one reception for 34 yards.

Defensively for the Arrows, Antonio Thompson had six tackles, Donte Tripp had three tackles and two assists and an interception, Chris Fowler had four tackles, Gray had three tackles, and Mack had three tackles and an interception on the goal line on the last play of the game.

