

Dragons with big playoff win over Metcalfe

DALE CURRY
STAFF WRITER

Green County High School's football team advanced in the playoffs Friday night with a 36-28 win over Metcalfe County.

Seems as if anytime these two teams play, it becomes a dog fight and this game lived up to that tradition.

"We found a way to win," Head Coach Colt Phelps said. "It wasn't pretty and we made lots of mistakes but we are happy to advance."

During the regular season, Green County defeated the Hornets 38-21 to seal the number one seed in the district. After both teams won their first-round games of the playoffs, they faced off again. This rematch was at Dragon Stadium.

Metcalfe won the toss and elected to defer until the second half, so the Dragons had first possession of the ball and they wasted no time in putting points on the scoreboard.

On the first play

after the kickoff, quarterback Houston Hodges pitched the ball to Kelson McKinney who threw the ball downfield to Caleb Scott who had been completely ignored by the Metcalfe defense. He was all alone waiting for the ball and turned and sprinted into the end zone for a first down with just 11 seconds into the game.

This was Scott's first touchdown of the season, and it couldn't have come at a better time for the senior wide receiver.

The two-point conversion attempt was no good and the Dragons led 6-0.

Metcalfe, in their first possession, was successful with some short pass completions, and they methodically marched down the field, picking up four first downs in a row before scoring with 7:51 to go in the first period. The PAT was good, and Metcalfe led 7-6.

Metcalfe recovered their onside kick, and their offense took

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—Coach Colt Phelps

over again. This time, however, the Dragons forced a fumble and recovered it on their own 27-yard line.

The Dragon offense sputtered for just a moment and when they went for it on fourth down and short yardage, they failed to pick up the first down and the Hornets took over.

On the very next play, Metcalfe scored another touchdown from the Green County 37-yard line. The PAT was good, and the Hornets led 14-6.

The Dragon offense looked like they would score on their next possession but after moving the ball about 40 yards, including a 28-yard pass to Eli Bishop from Hodges, they could not convert on fourth down and the Hornets took over.

That didn't last long, however. Massiah Shively intercepted

a pass and ran it into the end zone for a pick six. A pass from Hodges to Hudson Fields tied the game at 14.

Phelps was quick to give credit to the players for their efforts.

"It's all on them," he said. "They take coaching well. They made it happen in spite of the penalties and the back-and-forth game; they found a way to win."

The teams traded possession of the ball a couple of times before McKinney ran 21 yards for a touchdown with 1:12 to go in the half. The two-point pass from Hodges to Caleb Scott gave Green County a 22-14 lead and the Dragons would not trail in the game again.

But on the kickoff, Metcalfe ran the ball back for a touchdown and after the PAT, the Hornets had cut the

lead to one, at 22-21.

Following halftime and forcing the Hornets to punt, the Dragons took over on their own 27-yard line.

The Dragons used some big plays of their own before McKinney scored from the one-yard line to put the Dragons up 28-21. The third quarter ended with that score.

It was a back-and-forth battle until Hodges scored a touchdown on a five-yard run for the Dragons with 6:55 to go in the game. He also scored the two-point conversion and the Dragons led 36-21.

Several Dragon penalties on Metcalfe's next drive allowed them to score the final touchdown with 3:24 to go to pull within 36-28.

Metcalfe attempted an onside kick, but the Dragons recovered. They picked up

a first down and by letting the play clock run down between plays, the Dragons held on for a 36-28 win over Metcalfe.

This is the second time in three years that the Dragons have advanced to the region championship game.

As a team, the Dragons picked up 202 rushing yards and 219 passing yards.

Hodges was 15 of 22 for 147 yards and McKinney was 1 of 1 for 72 yards.

Caleb Scott had four receptions for 83 yards and one touchdown. Eli Bishop caught five passes for 74 yards. McKinney had six receptions for 62 yards.

McKinney carried the ball 21 times for 159 yards. Bale had 35 yards on 10 carries. Hodges kept the ball three times for seven yards and

Shively picked up one yard on one carry.

The Dragons play Owensboro Catholic at Kentucky Wesleyan College Friday night at 7 p.m.

Playoffs: Game 13 – Owensboro Catholic

DALE CURRY
STAFF WRITER

Green County travels to Kentucky Wesleyan College Friday night to take on Owensboro Catholic in the region finals of Class 2A football.

This is the sixth time that Green County has advanced to the region finals. Two years ago, they lost at Mayfield 48-6.

The Dragons' only win in the region finals was in 1975 when they beat Mayfield at Mayfield.

Green County and Owensboro Catholic have never played each other in football but the Dragons are excited for this opportunity.

In the West regions, the other two teams are Mayfield and Lexington Christian. In

the East regions of 2A football, Shelby Valley plays at Somerset and Martin County plays at Beechwood.

Four of the top five teams, according to the RPI scores, are in the West region and it is those scores that determine who play each other in the region finals.

Owensboro Catholic has been the highest rated team most of the season and Green County is rated fifth in Class 2A but fourth among the West region teams.

The Aces are the only undefeated team in Class 2A at 12-0. Green County enters the game at 10-2.

"There's no slight to them," Head Football Coach Colt Phelps said, "but of the three teams we could play

(Mayfield, Owensboro Catholic and Lexington Christian), they're the team we want to play."

Owensboro Catholic has three times the passing yardage than rushing yards. The team has passed for 4,075 yards so far this year. Green County has passed for 1,988 yards.

The margins switch with the rushing yardage. Green County has run the ball for 2,840 yards while Owensboro Catholic has run for only 1,307 yards.

"They are a one-dimensional team," Phelps said, "but they are very good at what they do. They have a solid team."

Owensboro Catholic's biggest win this year has been over Owensboro High School, a

A Look at GCHS Football			
Opponent	Last weekend	Record	Next Weekend
Garrard County	Did not play	3-8	Season is over
John Hardin	Did not play	4-7	Season is over
Hart County	Beat Glasgow 28-21	12-0	Union County
West Jessamine	Did not play	6-5	Season is over
LaRue County	Did not play	1-10	Season is over
Barren County	Did not play	4-7	Season is over
Clinton County	Did not play	4-7	Season is over
Monroe County	Lost to Lexington Christian 57-14	6-6	Season is over
Metcalfe County	Lost to Green County 36-28	3-9	Season is over
Taylor County	Lost to Corbin 49-14	9-3	Season is over
Green County	Beat Metcalfe County 36-28	10-2	At Owensboro Catholic

team that is still in the playoffs in Class 5A. The Aces won that game 33-28 in the fourth game of the season.

Owensboro Catholic is not a stranger to the region finals. This is the fourth year in a row

for them but in 2022 and 2021, they lost to Lexington Christian and in 2020, they lost to Murray in the region finals.

"We have a good plan in place," Phelps said, "and will have to

execute it well. We are excited for the opportunity."

Game time is 7 p.m. at Steele Stadium on the campus of Kentucky Wesleyan College, where the Aces play their home games.

Football team continues to receive honors

DALE CURRY
STAFF WRITER

Honors continue to roll in for members of the Green County High School football team.

After Head Coach Colt Phelps was named Coach of the Year for Class 2A, District 3 and Kelson McKinney was named Player of the Year in the same district, other players were named to the All-District Team.

By virtue of winning the district, the Drag-

ons placed six players on the First Team of Class 2A, District 3.

In addition to McKinney, who is a senior this year, the other GCHS players are Houston Hodges, Andrew Houk, Koltyn Milby, Carson Scott and Jullian Seymour.

All stats in this story are prior to Friday night's game against Metcalfe County.

Hodges is a 6'4" 186-pound junior quarterback. Hodges has thrown 202 passes and completed 131 of them

for 1,722 yards or 157 yards per game. That places him at 10th in the state in Class 2A for passing yardage.

Houk is a 6'4" 260-pound sophomore lineman. He has 33 tackles on the year including seven tackles for a loss and two sacks. He also has one interception.

McKinney is a 6'0" 225-pound running back/wide receiver. He has racked up 905 yards rushing and 460 yards receiving. He has scored 21 touch-

downs and with his two-point conversions, McKinney is sixth in the state in scoring. On defense, he had three interceptions which places him in a tie for 15th in the state in 2A. He also has 55 tackles including five tackles for losses.

Milby is a 6'2" 235-pound lineman. He has 47 tackles including 15 tackles for loss and nine sacks. The nine sacks put him at number three in the state in Class 2A for sacks.

Scott is a 6'0" 265-pound senior lineman. He has 16 tackles including three tackles for a loss. He and the other defensive team members are tied for fifth in the state in Class 2A, giving up just 16.6 points per game.

Seymour is a 5'10" 160-pound senior running back. He has accumulated 958 yards rushing and 444 yards receiving. He has scored 19 touchdowns and is also responsible for eight interceptions. The eight intercep-

tions put him in a tie for the number three position in the state in Class 2A. He is also seventh in the state in scoring and 14th with his rushing yards. In addition to the interceptions, he has 49 tackles.

Four Dragon players were named to the Class 2A District 3 second team. Seniors Eli Bishop and Jake Bishop along with sophomores Justin Hessig and Massiah Shively represented Green County on that team.

Marching Dragons finish season

CLEVIS JEFFRIES
STAFF WRITER

The Green County High School Band completed its fall marching competition at the Mid-States Band Association Championships, Saturday, November 4 at Simon Kenton High School in Independence, Ky.

In the preliminaries, the Marching Dragons finished

15th in the Class A Division with a score of 55.6.

Archbishop Alter High School, Kettering, Ohio won the division, scoring 79.45.

Additional results were: 2. Nicholas County, (KY) 79.15; 3. Warren East, (KY) 78.4; 4. Simon Kenton, (KY) 74.45; 5. Cumberland County, (KY) 72.9; 6. Mason County (KY) 69.4; 7.

Indian Hill, (OH) 68.9; 8. Hart County, (KY) 67.2; 9. Grove City Christian, (OH) 63; 10. Dayton Christian, (OH) 61.6; 11. Henry County, 61.45 (KY) 12. Batesville, (IN) 61.4; 13. Paris, (KY) 60.5; 14. Nelson County, (KY) 58.45; 15. Bardstown, (KY) 55.6; 17. Rising Sun, (IN) 53.95; 18. Mitchell, (IN) 53.75; and 19. Switzerland County, (IN) 51.3.

Warren East had the top percussion performance and Nicholas County, the top auxiliary.

"We've had a very successful season this year. At mid-states, we ended up two places higher than we ended the year prior! I'm very excited to see how much we progress through concert season," said GCHS Band Director Brayden Yates.

GCHS Bowling Results

**Green County vs. Elizabethtown
Friday, November 3, 2023
B & B Lanes**

Team pinfall scores – Green County girls 842, Elizabethtown girls 1139

Individual two-game scores (Green County) – Kadee Swary 173, Jewel Hines 171, Rylee Smith 143, Rylie Budd 109, and Ella Mills 106

Green County bowler – highest score – Kadee Swary 173