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(Neb.)-Eagles Shutout Grizzlies, 31-0

By: Dennis and Kathi Brown Posted at: 10/06/2013 08:33 PM

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CHADRON – Chadron State's Homecoming matchup with Adams State was delayed a day because of heavy snowfall on Elliott Field, but the No. 19-ranked Eagles didn't waste any more time in their 31-0 victory Sunday.

Quarterback Jonn McLain connected with Nathan Ross down the sideline for a 48-yard touchdown pass on Chadron State's first offensive play and the defense controlled Adams State the rest of the way en route to the first shutout for the Eagles' since 2008.

"Adams State is a tough football team and I'm thrilled with how the team played today," Chadron State head coach Jay Long said. "Our offense set the tone early and our defense carried it the rest of the way."

Sunday's game was originally scheduled for Saturday at 1:30 p.m. as part of Chadron State's Homecoming festivities, however, the Chadron area experienced heavy snowfall Friday. Beginning at 6 Saturday morning, Chadron State coaches, staff, and redshirt members of the football team, joined forces with several community members and cleared Elliott Field of 14 inches of snow in nine hours.

The game didn't take nearly as long.

McLain threw three touchdowns, Glen Clinton ran for 116 yards – his fifth-straight game over 100 – and the Chadron State defense forced five turnovers as the Eagles improved to 4-1 overall and 3-0 in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

The Eagles piled on the points in the first half. Following, McLain's long completion to Ross, Randy Wentz nailed a 28-yard field goal late in the first quarter that gave CSC a 10-0 lead.

In the second quarter, McLain connected with Chapman Ham on a 5-yard score that capped a 65-yard drive and less than two minutes later Cody Roes broke free down the middle of the field for a 25-yard reception and recovered his own fumble in the end zone to put the Eagles up 24-0.

Chadron State wrapped up its scoring in the third quarter after Pierre Etchemendy intercepted an Adams State pass on the 12-yard line. Three plays later, Clinton, who entered the game leading the RMAC in rushing and scoring, plunged into the end zone for a 3-yard TD, his seventh of the season.

The Eagles didn't threaten to score again but the Grizzlies did after driving deep inside Chadron State's territory. However, Brandon Blinn tackled quarterback Auston Hillman at the 5-yard line as time expired.

Despite the lopsided score, the two teams played almost even. Chadron State had 287 yards, while Adams State gained 265.

The Eagles received a huge boost from their punting and defense, though. Punter Zach Smith averaged 41.4 yards on eight kicks and placed four of his attempts inside the Adams State 20-yard line.

Dylan Furrier, who forced and recovered a fumble after sacking Adams State's quarterback, led the Eagles with 15 tackles. Shea Koch had 13 more and Ryan Wood added five tackles, an interception and broke up two more passes.

Cole Montgomery also had an interception that he returned for 43 yards for the Eagles.

ASU	0 0 0 0	– 0
CSC	10 14 7 0	– 31

Scoring Summary

First Quarter

CSC – Nathan Ross 48 pass from Jonn McLain (Randy Wentz kick)

CSC – Wentz 28 field goal

Second Quarter

CSC – Chapman Ham 5 pass from McLain (Wentz kick)

CSC – Cody Roes 0 fumble recovery (Wentz kick)

Third Quarter

CSC – Glen Clinton 3 run (Wentz kick)