

The Silver Creek varsity football Dragons and head coach Mike Donahue took a huge step in the history of the grid iron last Friday night as they took the football field at Springs Valley High School. The game began a new era in Silver Creek football as the Dragons played in the first game of a full varsity season on the grid iron since 1942. The team never gave up and got a taste of what varsity football in southern Indiana is all about. Silver Creek fell to the home-standing Blackhawks 38-21. The Dragons accepted a challenge from Donahue and outscored Springs Valley 21-13 in the second half of the contest.

The new era opened with Silver Creek receiving the opening kickoff. After a three and out the Blackhawks only needed four plays to find the endzone as quarterback Levi Weddle hooked up with Jonas Stults for a 19 yard touchdown pass with 8:58 remaining in the first stanza. The extra point attempt failed for the early 6-0 Springs Valley lead.

Springs Valley found the endzone for the second time of the ballgame a mere 11 seconds into the second quarter as Weddle hit Sebastian Baggett for a 34 yard touchdown strike. Ethan Galloway tacked on the extra point extending the Blackhawk lead, 13-0, with 11:49 remaining in the opening half.

Both teams traded punts until late in the half. Springs Valley finished the half strong scoring twice in the last three minutes of the quarter. Weddle scrambled eight yards for the touchdown to extend the Springs Valley lead to 19-0 before he hooked up with Galloway for a 14 yard touchdown pass with less than one second remaining in the half.

Springs Valley enjoyed the 25-0 lead heading into the halftime break.

The Blackhawks got the ball back to open the third quarter as they drove down the field. The drive was capped off by Baggett's 20 yard scamper to the endzone. Galloway tacked on the extra point for the 32-0 Springs Valley lead with 9:36 remaining in the third stanza.

Silver Creek found the endzone in less than two minutes. Dragon Sophomore quarterback Brooks Howell hooked up with senior Grant Meyer for a 44 yard catch and run. Junior Trevor Spence split the uprights for the extra point for the 32-7 Springs Valley lead.

The Dragons defense stood strong and forced the Blackhawks to a three and out. On Silver Creek's next possession, they drove down the field with an eight play drive capped off by junior Layne Taylor's two yard touchdown run. The extra point attempt was blocked. The score cut into the Blackhawk lead, 32-13 with 3:53 remaining in the third quarter.

Springs Valley was deep in Dragon territory as Baggett coughed up the football. Taylor recovered the Blackhawk fumble and sprinted 76 yards down the sideline for the Silver Creek touchdown. Taylor then ran in the two point conversion to pull the Dragons within 11, 32-21, with 9:43 remaining in the ballgame.

The Blackhawks put the game out of reach for the Dragons with a touchdown from senior Coleton Cassidy with 4:36 left in the ballgame. The extra point attempt failed. The score would prove to be the last of the ballgame as Springs Valley took the 38-21 victory over the Dragons of Silver Creek.

"We could of laid down and quit but we didn't," Silver Creek head coach Mike Donahue stated after the ballgame. "At halftime I challenged them to beat them in the second half. And they did

that. We didn't play together in the first half and I challenged the kids to listen to the coaches and they did."

Silver Creek will play their first Mid Southern Conference contest this Friday night. The Dragons will travel to Salem for a 7 p.m. kickoff.