

Eastern football assured of a non-losing season

Written by George Browning

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The Eastern Musketeers made history one more time Friday as they defeated visiting Eastern Greene 52-16.

For the first time in the Musketeers history they are assured of not finishing the year with a losing record. They enter sectional play with a 5-4 record. A loss would end the year for them with a .500 record and a win would insure the first winning season ever.

No matter what happens next week against Lawrenceburg, EHS Head Coach John Dablow is pleased with his team's performance in his second season.

"I am just so proud of the players, coaches and the fans," he said. "The players have worked so hard and I am happy to be a part of it."

Dablow took over the program that won just one time in 20 games. The Musketeers showed instant improvement in his first year posting a 3-7 record and playing several additional opponents closer than initially expected.

Then this year, they've won all the games they were supposed to and besides a late lapse in the game against Brownstown and dismal performance against West Washington, Eastern has played at a higher level.

That higher level of play continued Friday against the visiting Thunderbirds.

Josh Freeman started the game for Eastern when he intercepted a pass and took it to the house. The Musketeers added the PAT and led 7-0.

The Musketeer advantage grew to 13-0 with 5:35 remaining in the first quarter when they scored off a 47-yard touchdown run by Jash Higdon.

Neither team managed much offense in the second quarter until Eastern's Ryan Tandy scored on a 30-yard touchdown. The Musketeers converted the try for two and led 21-0.

Eastern continued to put points on the board and the game ended with Dablow getting his first Gatorade shower.

While the scene on the field after the win was a celebration, Dablow was still thinking like a coach and pointed to his team's nine turnovers as a concern heading into sectional play.

"Even though we were up big in the throughout the game, we cannot make the silly mistakes that we did tonight," he said. "We had too many turnovers!"

Ryan Tandy finished with 230 yards of Eastern's 438 total.

Information for this story was gathered by Ryan Watson.

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