

Bulldogs maul Eagles in opener

Posted By BERNIE PUCHALSKI , STANDARD STAFF

In his wildest dreams, Andrew Krzeczowski couldn't have anticipated the start he would have to the 2009 football season.

In one quarter of action Wednesday, the Grade 10 quarterback at Sir Winston Churchill completed seven of nine passes for 137 yards, including four TD passes. Krzeczowski's passing prowess helped the two-time defending Varsity 1 champions roll out to a 47-0 half-time lead over the visiting Grimsby Eagles. The game would end 62-7 for the Bulldogs.

"I was hoping to get in, first of all, and I was hoping we would come away with the win," the 15-year-old said.

The 5-foot-10, 155-pounder was quick to share the credit for his impressive stats.

"The O line played a great game, the receivers got open and the defence got the ball back for us pretty fast. All I had to do was put the ball there."

To prepare for the season, Krzeczowski attended four football camps over the summer.

"I just wanted to get better so I could try and lead this team," he said.

He got in at the end of games last season but this is his first year to show what he can do when the game's on the line.

"I'm hoping I can take this team all the way. I have to get a couple of my throws up. There were a couple of throws that I underthrew."

Krzeczowski is hoping to follow in the cleatsteps of his older brother Jon, who quarterbacked the Bulldogs the past two seasons, before heading to Queen's this fall.

"We're a lot the same. People say we talk the same and we make the same reads and stuff. My brother taught me basically everything I know. I owe a lot to him," Andrew said.

Bulldogs head coach Peter Perron was impressed with the poise shown by Krzeczowski.

"We have two quarterbacks this year, both of equal calibre, and today Andrew stepped up. I guarantee next week the other quarterback is going to step it up in practice," he said.

The plan going into Wednesday's game was to platoon Krzeczowski and Nathan Fawcett and Perron says that will continue.

"If they produce in practice, there is no quarterback controversy on this team. If they deserve to play, they play."

There were several people complaining about Churchill running the score up on Grimsby after the game, but Perron said that wasn't the case. Two of Churchill's later TDs came on 80-yard kick returns.

"You look at the score and you think we're running it up but we're not actually running up the score. On the kick-off returns, we can't take a knee. You have to play the game and you have to play it honest."

Churchill played its second-and third-stringers in the second half and Grade 9 running back Marc Plamondon scored a rushing major.

Despite the lopsided victory, there were parts of Wednesday's game that didn't please Perron.

"We have a lot of things to work on. We got hit for penalties big time and that's a big thing we have to work on next week."

The Bulldogs will play Stamford next Thursday under the lights in Niagara Falls in a rematch of last year's championship game.

bpuchalski@

stcatharinesstandard.ca

- - -

The Scoop

BULLDOGS 62 EAGLES 7

Standard Star of the Game: Churchill quarterback Andrew Krzeczkowski, 7-9 passing for 137 yards and four TDs in one quarter of action,

For the Sir Winston Churchill Bulldogs: Max Cameron, three catches for 78 yards, including TD grabs of 54 and 11 yards; Alex Christie, 10 carries for 126 yards, including TD runs of 26 and three yards; two 80-yard kick return TDs by Josh Brown-Myrie; 15-yard TD reception by Jaeger Perna; one-yard TD run by Marc Plamondon; 19-yard TD reception by Andrew Dunlop; sacks by Devon Miller and Joel Petriello; fumble recoveries by Andrew Gordon and Ryan Saunders.

For the Grimsby Eagles: 29-yard TD pass from Lucas Spagnuolo to Akeeno Williams.

Game stats: Net offence (pass-run) total: SWC (137-213) 340, GR (70-40) 110. First downs: SWC 18, GR 8. Turnovers: SWC 0, GR 3. Penalties: SWC 10 for 75 yards, GR nine for 70 yards.

Up next: Eden at St. Francis today at 1 p. m.; Beamsville at Governor Simcoe, today at 2:30 p. m.; Ridley College at Holy Cross, 3 p. m.; and, Myer vs. Westlane, today at 7 p. m.