

Eagles fly past Mustangs

by Greg Oshust

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AUSTELL - Big plays on offense and a stingy defense made the difference for South Cobb as the Eagles defeated Kennesaw Mountain 21-0 in a Region 5AAAAA game at Clay Stadium on Friday.

Cordell Wilson set the tone for South Cobb with a 93-yard touchdown run on the first play of the game, then followed that up with a 92-yard scoring run in the third quarter.

Demarcus Adkins' 66-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter put the finishing touches to the South Cobb's win.

The Eagle defense also came up big, recording its first shutout in two years.

"To win a 21-0 shutout is very satisfying," South Cobb coach Ed Koester said. "The defense did a great job (Friday). The defense has been maligned and made fun of, but they proved that they can play well. To win our first region game is a big thing.

Added Wilson, "This was a big win for us. It was a total team effort, offense and defense, everybody working together."

Wilson rushed for 134 yards on nine carries and two touchdowns, while Adkins gained 100 yards on 12 carries to lead the way on offense for South Cobb (1-1, 1-0).

Diamond Stewart rushed for 123 yards on 26 carries for Kennesaw Mountain (0-2, 0-1).

It didn't take long for South Cobb to get on the scoreboard as Wilson burst up the middle on a trap play and stormed down the field 93 yards for the touchdown on the first play of the game with 11:56 remaining in the first quarter. Luis Alvarez kicked the extra point for a 7-0 Eagle lead.

"We just ran a trap play and I took it up the middle," Wilson said. "It was pretty simple."

Kennesaw Mountain took the ball to the South Cobb 23 with 1:43 remaining in the first quarter and the Eagle 30 with 3:32 left in the second quarter, but fumbled the ball away on both occasions.

Wilson struck again in the third quarter when he took the ball on an off tackle play and ran it down the field 92 yards on the first play of South Cobb's offensive series with 3:13 remaining for his second touchdown in the game. Alvarez's extra point increased the Eagles' advantage to 14-0.

Kennesaw Mountain went on a 15-play drive that took the ball to the South Cobb 40, but the Mustangs came up short again after South Cobb's Bobby Smith intercepted a pass from KMHS quarterback Will Campbell with 5:14 left in the game.

South Cobb capitalized quickly as Adkins scored on a 66 yard run on only the second play of the drive with 3:38 left. Alvarez's extra point gave the Eagles a 21-0 lead that it would hold the rest of the way.

Koester said it was important for South Cobb to win its 5AAAAA opener, especially with region powerhouses East Paulding on the road, Harrison at home and McEachern on the road coming up on the Eagles' schedule in the next three weeks.

"It's good to be 1-0 in the region," Koester said. "We've got East Paulding, Harrison and McEachern coming up, so we have a brutal stretch of games coming up. This gives us a confidence boost going into those games."

Kennesaw Mountain will travel to Etowah next Friday.