

Eagles' depth pays off

Fast-moving offense proves too much for stubborn Vallivue to overcome

By Greg Kilmer
Matchup

According to Capital coach Todd Simis, Friday's 5A SIC game between Vallivue and Capital was a battle of attrition.

"We know they have a lot of guys going both ways. They have to," Simis said after his Eagles' 42-18 decision. "We knew they were going to be gassed."

A look at team's roster backed up Simis' assessment with the Eagles outnumbering Vallivue 2-to-1 in bodies. Accordingly, Capital went with a hurry-up, no-huddle offense all night to put extra pressure on the Vallivue defense.

"That was our game plan," Simis said. "We just told the kids at half, if we keep pounding them, keep pounding away, we would break them down. We did that in the second half."

Vallivue coach Layne Coffin wasn't exactly buying into it, though.

"No, I don't think so," Coffin said. "We did a great job of staying in there and battling."

The Falcons did stay in it early, trailing 21-12 at intermission after outgaining Capital in total offense in the half.

"Our kids played hard. I'm very proud of them. I couldn't be prouder," Coffin said.

Vallivue answered the Eagle's first two touchdowns with a Sean Davis 45-yard blast and Ringo Robinson's 18 yard explosion up the middle but, much in part to injuries, couldn't match the Eagles offense after intermission.

Quarterback Jamari Rogers, who hit on 4-of-4 tosses in the first half for 71 yards, was knocked flat



TOP: Jamari Rogers finds running room early in the game while Ringo Robinson looks for someone to block.

BOTTOM: Mike Burk looks to the sideline as the play ends.

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on Vallivue's first play from scrimmage after half, suffering what was determined as a concussion and did not return.

"Not a chance," Coffin said of putting his senior back into action.

Just another injury that was hit Vallivue this fall. Senior Mike Burk, who showed off his talent and speed on a 72-yard kickoff return that was called back, reinjured an ankle sprain that has hampered Coffin's leader all season.

"We just can't seem to kick the injuries," Coffin said. "He tweaked it again and we don't want to injure it again and make it worse. I love that kid. I don't want to mess up his future at the next level."

Handcuffed with injuries, Vallivue could only manage one first down in the second half before Davis popped off an 88-yard scoring jaunt late with the game's result already determined.

Quarterback Makena Simis put the Eagles in control with his decision making in Capital's option attack.

"He did a nice job tonight," coach Simis said of his son, who finished with 81 of Capital's 266 yards rushing and two touchdowns. "He made good decisions, taking what they were giving us."

Simis, who hit on 12-of-17 tosses for 151 yards, led Capital to three scoring drives in the second half with running back T.J. Clarke backing up his classmate with 94 yards on the ground.

Despite its second straight setback and rash of injuries, Coffin remained upbeat about his 2010 Falcons.

"I thought we executed well. They gave everything they had and I love them for it," he said. "I can't say anything bad about their effort tonight."

TOP LEFT: Dallen Collins, Eric Ford and Trevor Henderson.

TOP RIGHT: Ringo Robinson.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Ford comes off the field with a bloody nose.



GAME SUMMARY

Capital	7	14	7	14	-	42
Vallivue	6	6	0	6	-	18

- C – Denis Popudnik 21 run (Carlos Soria kick)
- V – Sean Davis 45 run (kick failed)
- C – T.J. Clarke 1 run (Soria kick)
- V – Ringo Robinson 18 run (run failed)
- C – Makena Simis 10 run (Soria kick)
- C – Popudnik 3 run (Soria kick)
- C – Simis 8 run (Soria kick)
- C – Asa Shepherd 2 run (Soria kick)
- V – Davis 88 run (pass failed)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING: Clarke 18-95, Simis 11-88, Shepherd 9-35, Popudnik 4-32, Jacob Foley 4-14, Victor Kennedy 2-4. Vallivue – Davis 17-153, Robinson 7-55, Mike Burk 8-25, Jamari Rogers 1-1, Kyle Woodworth 2-0, Evan Johnson 1-(-2).

PASSING: Simis 13-18-0-166 yards, Connor Poulson 1-1-0-4 yards, Hunter Young 0-1-0-0 yards. Vallivue – Rogers 4-7-0-72 yards, Johnson 1-8-1-23 yards.

RECEIVING: Foley 8-88, Dylan Hale 3-34, Paul Blakely 1-28, Spencer Lipkin 2-20. Vallivue – Parker Garner 3-68, Lane Sale 1-23, Robinson 1-4.