

Dellamuth, Smith are double-trouble for Prairie

Written by Jim Ecker

Thursday, 11 October 2012 22:55 -

Prairie Coach Mike Morrissey isn't sure where they keep the record book at his school, but he plans to find out.

He's got a few new entries to make.

Mitch Dellamuth and Kentrel Smith enjoyed an historic night for the Hawks on Thursday as they belted Washington, 44-6, in a Mississippi Valley Conference game at Kingston Stadium.

Dellamuth intercepted four passes, which is probably a school record, and scored touchdowns on offense and defense.

Here's the topper: Smith also scored on offense and defense, making for a highly unusual -- and highly enjoyable -- double-play for Prairie.

Dellamuth returned an interception 41 yards for a touchdown and caught a perfect 29-yard pass from Jace Hanna for another TD.

Not to be totally outdone, Smith hauled in a long pass from Hanna for a 95-yard score -- perhaps another school mark - and returned an interception 62 yards for a touchdown.

Morrissey had never seen two guys do that in a single game before: One touchdown on an interception return and another touchdown on a pass play. By two different guys.

"I guess I'm not surprised, now that I think about it," he said. "They are two good kids, and two kids that definitely earned their opportunity tonight."

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Dellamuth and Smith are good receivers, but they're normally overshadowed at Prairie by Jarred Edmonds and Demetrius Harper. Not this time.

Dellamuth intercepted passes in the first quarter, second quarter, third quarter and fourth quarter. He was an equal opportunity thief, picking on Washington quarterback Mitch Blades in the first half and backup quarterback Reagan Wilson in the second half.

His touchdown reception happened in the third quarter.

"It feels special doing that for my team," Dellamuth said after his special night. "I'll remember it for a long time. I probably won't talk about it a lot. But yeah, I'll definitely remember it."

Dellamuth had intercepted only one pass all year before getting four picks in one game. "I tried to read the quarterback's eyes the best I could," he said.

Smith got Prairie out of a deep hole in the second quarter after a Washington punt had pinned the Hawks at their own 3-yard line. A running play got the ball to the 5, then Hanna lofted a long pass over a Washington defender's head and Smith did the rest, racing untouched to the end zone for six points and a 16-0 lead.

His 62-yard interception return for a touchdown came with 4:11 left in the game and made it 43-6 prior to the PAT.

Smith and Dellamuth exchanged smiles on the field after the game as they hung around for television, newspaper, radio and website interviews. Both players are juniors.

"We always push each other in practice," said Smith. "In games we're just out there having fun."

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It was a fun night for Prairie, which raised its record to 5-3 (3-2 in the Valley Division) and clinched a spot in the Class 4A playoffs. The Hawks host Waterloo West next Friday and hope to sail into the playoffs for the first time since 2008 with a 6-3 mark.

"We really don't talk about the playoffs a lot," said Morrissey, in his second year as head coach. "I know there's a buzz a little bit. It's been awhile.

"These kids weren't even in high school at that time (in 2008). For them to come through this is pretty big. We spend a lot of time together, so this is a big one."

Hanna hit 12 of 24 passes for 235 yards and three touchdowns. He also connected with Edmonds for a 24-yard TD in the fourth quarter before calling it a night.

Mitch Christensen carried the ball 19 times for 80 yards and a touchdown for the Hawks.

Blades had a rough night for the Warriors (2-6, 0-5). He completed only 1 of 9 passes in the first half with two interceptions, then missed the second half with a bruised thigh. Wilson hit 6 of 10 passes for 87 yards, but was intercepted three times. Wilson connected with Jason Oney for a 23-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter.

Mitch Bredeson lugged the ball 36 times for 119 yards for Washington. "He has the heart of a lion," said Washington Coach Tony Lombardi.

The Warriors finish the regular season next Friday night against Dubuque Wahlert in Dubuque.

PRAIRIE 44, WASHINGTON 6

CRP	CRW	
First Downs	19	13
Rushing	36-134	43-131
Passing	12-25-0	7-19-5
Passing Yards	235	105

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Punts	3-36.7	4-36.8
Fumbles/Lost	1/1	2/1
Penalties	6-40	8-66

Prairie	10	7	13	14 - 44
Washington	0	0	6	0 - 6

SCORING PLAYS

P - FG Sam Drysdale 25

P - Mitch Dellamuth 41 interception return (Drysdale kick)

P - Kentrel Smith 95 pass from Jace Hanna (Drysdale kick)

P - Dellamuth 29 pass from Hanna (kick failed)

P - Mitch Christensen 1 run (Drysdale kick)

W - Jason Oney 23 pass from Reagan Wilson (run failed)

P - Jarred Edmonds 24 pass from Hanna (Drysdale kick)

P - Smith 62 interception return (Drysdale kick)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING

PRAIRIE: Christensen 19-80, Hanna 8-38, Harper 7-17, Simpson 1-0, Beckman 1-(minus 1).

WASHINGTON: Bredeson 36-119, Blades 4-33, Wilson 3-(minus 21).

PASSING

PRAIRIE: Hanna 12-24-0, 235; Beckman 0-1-0, 0.

WASHINGTON: Blades 1-9-2, 18; Wilson 6-10-3, 87.

RECEIVING

PRAIRIE: Edmonds 4-46, Harper 4-21, Dellamuth 2-53, Smith 1-95, Simpson 1-33.

WASHINGTON: Oney 5-82, Dostal 1-18, Bjornsen 1-5.

Sophomore score - Washington 62, Prairie 0