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Spears Dominant in Doubleheader

Both the Junior and Varsity squads of the Niagara Spears posted landslide victories in Ontario Varsity Football League action at West Park Saturday. Junior Spears quarterback Matt Woehl threw for 330 yards and five touchdowns in just over two quarters of play, as Niagara coasted to a 57-7 win over the visiting Georgetown Crimson Tide. In Varsity action, the Spears offense finally found some momentum, scoring more points Saturday than they had in their first three games combined, knocking off the York Storm Raiders 43-8.

The Junior Spears scored on their first offensive play, as league-leading quarterback Matt Woehl connected with league-leading receiver Max Cameron for a 60-yard TD pass. After Georgetown conceded a safety, Woehl then connected with Lucas Schinkel on a 73-yard TD pass and Jonathon Lue on a 19-yard TD pass to give the Spears a 23-7 lead after one quarter. Woehl went back to the air in the second quarter with a 97-yard TD bomb to Cameron to give the Spears a 30-7 halftime lead. Woehl then threw a 15-yard TD pass to Dan Puhl early in the third quarter before giving way to back-up pivot Reid Robertson. Two rushing majors of 1 and 18 yards from running back Jordan Clout, and a 5-yard scamper into the end zone from Lue rounded out the Spears' second half scoring.

Comments from Junior Head Coach Brian Duguay: *“This was a tremendous confidence-builder for both the players and coaches. We had a very tough start to the season, going up against three really formidable teams, but that experience served us well. I really think we turned the corner in Kingston last week, coming back in the second half like we did. All three aspects of the game – offense, defense and special teams – were really clicking today. The passing attack we’ve shown lately can be intimidating, and can in turn open up the ground game for us. We still feel like we have a decent shot at a playoff spot, but we can’t rest on our laurels...there’s so much parity in the league this year. I’m really happy for our players – they see now what can happen when they work hard in practice and execute on gameday.”*

OFFENSIVE STATS - JUNIOR

QB Matt Woehl: 10/15 passing for 330 yds, 5 TD, 1 INT
QB Reid Robertson: 4/6 passing for 48 yds, 1 INT
WR Max Cameron: 6 catches for 203 yds, 2 TDs
WR Lucas Schinkel: 3 catches for 99 yds, 1 TD
WR Jonathon Lue: 2 catches for 32 yds, 1 TD; 1 carry for 5 yds, 1 TD
WR Daniel Puhl: 1 catch for 15 yds, 1 TD
RB David Handley: 16 carries for 171 yds, 1 catch for 20 yds
RB Jordan Clout: 6 carries for 34 yds, 2 TDs
WR Jonathan Lue: 2 catches for 17 yds
K Alessandro Arghittu: 7/7 PAT

DEFENSIVE STATS - JUNIOR

LB John Rush: 5 tackles
DL Chris Carver: 4½ tackles
DB Matt Furgiuele: 3½ tackles, BB
LB Tyler Lahey: 3 tackles, FR
DB Josh March: 2½ tackles, 2 INTs
DB Kyle Brady: 2 tackles, INT
DB Scott Hookings: 1 tackles, INT

In senior action, two Matt Beardwood touchdown passes to receiver Jake Harper, both for 18 yards, gave the Spears a 14-0 halftime lead. Kyle Mataya's 4-yard rushing major to open the third quarter extended the lead to 21-0 before York quarterback DJ Franks connected with receiver David Bar on a 21 yard passing TD to narrow the lead to 21-8. After Beardwood's 23-yard TD pass to Curtis Kelly late in the third quarter, a perfectly executed onside kick set up an 8-yard rushing TD from Mataya and a 35-8 Spears lead. A single point on a missed field goal and a late 2-yard rushing touchdown from fullback Stephen Muzamhindo completed the scoring for Niagara, who improved their record to 2-2.

Comments from Varsity Head Coach Dave Howe: *“Offensive production was the goal today, and they looked much more polished than they have in the past. Our O-line held their ground and gave Matt some solid protection. He had more time to read the field and didn't have to force plays. Defense played a really nice game. Looking to next week, we just need to get everybody healthy and keep executing to our ability.”*

OFFENSIVE STATS - VARSITY

QB Matt Beardwood: 8/14 passing for 119 yds, 3 TDs, 1 INT
RB Zac Davis: 17 carries for 122 yds
SB/QB Kyle Mataya: 11 carries for 72 yds, 2 TDs; 1 catch for 10 yds
FB Stephen Muzamhindo: 12 carries for 64 yds, 1 TD
RB Nathan Zavarella: 8 carries for 26 yds
WR Jake Harper: 2 catches for 36 yds, 2 TDs
WR Curtis Kelly: 2 catches for 31 yds, 1 TD
WR Alex Charette: 3 catches for 42 yds
K Liram Hajrullahu: 6/6 PAT, 0/2 FG (45 & 34 yds)

DEFENSIVE STATS - VARSITY

DB Keil Elliott: 3½ tackles, 2 BB, 2 INTs
LB Adam Grilj: 3 tackles, 1 sack
LB Ryan Saunders: 2½ tackles, 1 sack, 1 BB
DL Ian Marouf: 1½ tackles, 1 sack, 1 FR, 1 INT
DB Justin Hipperson: 2½ tackles, 2 BB
DL Chris Cantalini: ½ tackle, 1 FR, 1 INT

NEXT UP: The Junior Spears (1-3) host the Halton Cowboys Saturday June 20th at 12:00pm and the Varsity Spears (2-2) host the Cowboys at 4:00pm. Both games will be played at West Park in St. Catharines.

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The complete 2009 Niagara Spears schedule is attached

Both Spears teams practice at 6:00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights at West Park. Members of the media are welcome to stop by to speak with coaches and players.

Both Head Coaches would be pleased to speak with the media and may be contacted directly. Junior Varsity Head Coach Brian Duguay may be reached at (905)687-9396 (h), (289)213-6791 (c), or via e-mail at duguay@niagaraspears.com. Varsity Head Coach Dave Howe may be reached at (905)682-3754 (h), (905)321-0973 (c), or via e-mail at howe@niagaraspears.com.

Additional information on the Niagara Spears may be found at www.niagaraspears.com. **Gameday pictures are available upon request.** Additional information on the Ontario Varsity Football League may be found at www.ovflontario.com.

Thank you for your continued support. For more information, please contact:

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2009 Schedule

Current as of June 14, 2009.

TEAM	DATE	TIME	VENUE	VISITOR	HOME
<i>Junior</i>	<i>Sat May 23</i>	<i>12:00</i>	<i>West Park</i>	<i>Hamilton Ironmen 42</i>	<i>Niagara Spears 7</i>
<i>Varsity</i>	<i>Sat May 23</i>	<i>4:00</i>	<i>West Park</i>	<i>Hamilton Ironmen 39</i>	<i>Niagara Spears 7</i>
<i>Junior</i>	<i>Sat May 30</i>	<i>1:00</i>	<i>St. Marcellinus HS</i>	<i>Niagara Spears 6</i>	<i>Mississauga Warriors 24</i>
<i>Varsity</i>	<i>Sat May 30</i>	<i>4:00</i>	<i>St. Marcellinus HS</i>	<i>Niagara Spears 13</i>	<i>Mississauga Warriors 3</i>
<i>Junior</i>	<i>Sat Jun 6</i>	<i>1:00</i>	<i>Loyalist Collegiate</i>	<i>Niagara Spears 14</i>	<i>Kingston Grenadiers 15</i>
<i>Varsity</i>	<i>Sat Jun 6</i>	<i>7:00</i>	<i>Rocky Dipietro Field</i>	<i>Niagara Spears 14</i>	<i>Sault Ste. Marie Sabrecats 24</i>
<i>Junior</i>	<i>Sat Jun 13</i>	<i>12:00</i>	<i>West Park</i>	<i>Georgetown Crimson Tide 7</i>	<i>Niagara Spears 57</i>
<i>Varsity</i>	<i>Sat Jun 13</i>	<i>4:00</i>	<i>West Park</i>	<i>York Simcoe Storm 8</i>	<i>Niagara Spears 43</i>
Junior	Sat Jun 20	12:00	West Park	Halton Cowboys	Niagara Spears
Varsity	Sat Jun 20	4:00	West Park	Halton Cowboys	Niagara Spears
Junior	Sat Jun 27	3:30	Essex High School	Niagara Spears	Essex Ravens
Varsity	Sat Jun 27	7:00	Essex High School	Niagara Spears	Essex Ravens
	Sat Jul 4	B Y E W E E K			
Junior	Sat Jul 11	2:00	Gretzky Centre	Niagara Spears	Brantford Bisons
Varsity	Sat Jul 11	8:00	Gretzky Centre	Niagara Spears	Brantford Bisons
Junior	Sat Jul 18	4:00	West Park	Guelph Bears	Niagara Spears
Varsity	Sat Jul 18	12:00	West Park	Guelph Bears	Niagara Spears
Playoffs	Sat Jul 25	W I L D C A R D G A M E S			
	Sat Aug 1	C O N F E R E N C E S E M I - F I N A L S			
	Sat Aug 8	C O N F E R E N C E F I N A L S			
	Sat Aug 15	L E A G U E C H A M P I O N S H I P			