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## Spears Demolish Cowboys

Both the Junior and Varsity squads of the Niagara Spears made quick work of the visiting Halton Cowboys in Ontario Varsity Football League action Saturday. After getting out to a quick 21-0 first quarter lead, the Junior Spears coasted to a 61-0 victory, thanks in large part to a record ten turnovers by the beleaguered Cowboys. On the senior end of the doubleheader, Spears quarterback Matt Beardwood tossed five touchdown passes en route to a 37-7 dismantling of the Cowboys.

In Junior action, rushing majors from David Handley (3 yds) and quarterback Matt Woehl (1 yd), followed by consecutive touchdown passes from Woehl to Lucas Schinkel (11 yds), Dylan Howard (44 yds) and Jonathan Lue (35 yds) gave the Spears a comfortable 35-0 halftime lead. Even as the Spears went deep into the bench early in the game, the Cowboys continued to be their own worst enemy, fumbling six times and giving up four interceptions on a wet, sloppy day at West Park. Niagara linebacker Clay Grant showed an especially good nose for the ball, recovering a league record four fumbles on the day. Spears backup quarterback Reid Robertson opened the third quarter with a 1-yard TD plunge and later connected with Schinkel for a 10-yard TD pass. Defensive back Josh March returned an interception 29 yards for a touchdown and kicker Alessandro Arghittu nailed two field goals, both from 9 yards out to complete the scoring for the Spears.

**Comments from Junior Head Coach Brian Duguay:** *“We played well both ways, but there’s always room for improvement. We were able to get everyone into the game early, so I hope that added experience will pay dividends later. We tried to take our foot off the gas, but they kept handing us the ball, often in their own red zone. We’ve had two relatively easy wins in a row – we just need to avoid being complacent, because we certainly can’t afford to go into coast mode. Every game is a must-win from here on in. We’ve got a really tough road game in Essex next week, so we’ll definitely need to ramp up the intensity in practice this week.”*

### **OFFENSIVE STATS - JUNIOR**

QB Matt Woehl: 4/6 passing for 147 yds, 3 TDs  
QB Reid Robertson: 2/5 passing for 20 yds  
RB David Handley: 5 carries for 59 yds, 1 TD  
RB Jordan Clout: 3 carries for 20 yds  
WR Max Cameron: 2 catches for 58 yds  
WR Lucas Schinkel: 3 catches for 31 yds, 2 TDs  
WR Dylan Howard: 1 catch for 44 yds, 1 TD  
WR Jonathan Lue: 1 catch for 35 yds, 1 TD  
K Alessandro Arghittu: 7/8 PAT, 2 FG (both 9 yds)

### **DEFENSIVE STATS - JUNIOR**

LB Clay Grant: 1 tackle, 4 FR  
LB John Rush: 5 tackles, ½ sack, FR  
LB Josh Doucet: 4 tackles, ½ sack  
FS Johnny Lapenna: ½ tackle, ½ sack, BB, INT  
DB Josh March: 1 tackle, FR, INT returned 29 yds for TD  
DB Joe Kordos: 1 tackle, INT  
DB Jacob Bromhall: ½ tackle, INT

In the senior half of the doubleheader, a single point off a missed 32-yard field goal and a 48-yard TD pass from Matt Beardwood to Jake Harper gave the Spears an 8-0 first quarter lead. A conceded safety and another Beardwood/Harper hook-up from ten yards out gave the Spears a 17-0 halftime lead. In the third quarter, Beardwood connected with tailback Nathan Zavarella on a dramatic 55-yard catch and run to extend the lead to 24-0. However, the Cowboys answered back on the ensuing kickoff, as Dan Parr streaked up the middle for a 75-yard TD return. Beardwood closed out his five-touchdown day with two TD bombs of 36 and 75 yards to receiver Curtis Kelly. The Spears defense also had a strong day Saturday, scoring three defensive points and completely shutting down the Halton offense. Three fourth quarter interceptions from Jack Rush, Trevor Trotman and Justin Hipperson snuffed out any hopes for a Cowboys comeback.

**Comments from Varsity Head Coach Dave Howe:** *“That was a solid team effort out there today. The offense was a little slow getting started, but once they got going they were hard to stop. Matt (Beardwood) played a very smart game - a lot of good decisions and no interceptions. At 3-2, every game is a playoff game now. We know next week’s trip to Essex will be a real challenge, but last year’s playoff loss to the Ravens is still fresh in a lot of people’s minds. The Ravens always field a strong team and they’re exceptionally well coached. We’ll need to be very focused and play mistake-free football. Today was a good omen though...not a lot of penalties and a pretty well disciplined performance overall.”*

**OFFENSIVE STATS - VARSITY**

QB Matt Beardwood: 9/14 passing for 247 yds, 5 TDs  
RB Nathan Zavarella: 18 carries for 54 yds, 2 catches for 61 yds, 1 TD  
FB Stephen Muzamhindo: 8 carries for 31 yds  
WR Curtis Kelly: 3 catches for 111 yds, 2 TD  
WR Jake Harper: 3 catches for 63 yds, 2 TDs  
WR Dan Iafrate: 1 catch for 12 yds  
K Alex Charette: 4/5 PAT, 0/2 FG (32 & 35 yds)

**DEFENSIVE STATS - VARSITY**

DB Justin Hipperson: 7 tackles, BB, INT  
LB Adam Grilj: 7 tackles, BB  
LB Ryan Saunders: 5 tackles  
DL Cody Rempel: 3½ tackles, BB, FR  
DB Bob Van der Zalm: 3 tackles  
DB Keil Elliott: 2½ tackles, BB  
LB Jack Rush: 2 tackles, 2 BB, 2 INT

**NEXT UP:** The Junior Spears (2-3) and Varsity Spears (3-2) both travel to Essex next Saturday for a doubleheader against the Essex Ravens. The Junior games gets under way at 3:30pm and the Varsity games starts at 7:00pm. Both games will be played at Essex High School.

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The complete 2009 Niagara Spears schedule, with results to date, 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](mailto: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](mailto:howe@niagaraspears.com).

Additional information on the Niagara Spears may be found at [www.niagaraspears.com](http://www.niagaraspears.com). **Gameday pictures are available upon request.** Additional information on the Ontario Varsity Football League may be found at [www.ovflontario.com](http://www.ovflontario.com).

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

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		<h1 style="text-align: center;">2009 Schedule</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Current as of June 14, 2009.</p>			
TEAM	DATE	TIME	VENUE	VISITOR	HOME
Junior	Sat May 23	12:00	West Park	Hamilton Ironmen - 42	Niagara Spears - 7
Varsity	Sat May 23	4:00	West Park	Hamilton Ironmen - 39	Niagara Spears - 7
Junior	Sat May 30	1:00	St. Marcellinus HS	Niagara Spears - 6	Mississauga Warriors - 24
Varsity	Sat May 30	4:00	St. Marcellinus HS	Niagara Spears - 13	Mississauga Warriors - 3
Junior	Sat Jun 6	1:00	Loyalist Collegiate	Niagara Spears - 14	Kingston Grenadiers - 15
Varsity	Sat Jun 6	7:00	Rocky Dipietro Field	Niagara Spears - 14	Sault Ste. Marie Sabrecats - 24
Junior	Sat Jun 13	12:00	West Park	Georgetown Crimson Tide - 7	Niagara Spears - 57
Varsity	Sat Jun 13	4:00	West Park	York Simcoe Storm - 8	Niagara Spears - 43
Junior	Sat Jun 20	12:00	West Park	Halton Cowboys - 0	Niagara Spears - 61
Varsity	Sat Jun 20	4:00	West Park	Halton Cowboys - 7	Niagara Spears - 37
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
<b>Junior</b>	<b>Sat Jul 18</b>	<b>4:00</b>	<b>West Park</b>	<b>Guelph Bears</b>	<b>Niagara Spears</b>
<b>Varsity</b>	<b>Sat Jul 18</b>	<b>12:00</b>	<b>West Park</b>	<b>Guelph Bears</b>	<b>Niagara Spears</b>
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			