EAGLES *FOOTBALL* GRIDIRON NEWS

Eagles edged in overtime

By Uvalde Coyotes 28 to 27

Dakota Kypuros 115 yds. receiving

By: Conrado Perez, Jr. – Eagle Pass Sports Central

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The Eagle Pass Eagles varsity football team under the direction of head football coach Tom Gonzalez kicked-off the program’s historic 100th Texas High School all-time football season opener on Thursday, August 29, 2019 when they hosted the Uvalde Coyotes in a 7:00 PM non-district gridiron matchup at the Eagle Pass ISD Student Activity Center Cozel Foster-Veterans Memorial Stadium. The visiting Uvalde Coyotes prevailed in an overtime heart breaker by the final score of 28 to 27 over the Eagles.

The Coyotes received the game's opening kickoff and after minimal yardage Eagle Pass defensive back Kristian Barcena intercepted an Uvalde pass attempt to set up the Eagles offense for their first series of the game. The Eagles offense also could only muster a few positive yards and were forced to punt the ball back to Uvalde who found themselves pinned deep in their own territory.

The very youthful Eagles defense held their ground and forced to Uvalde to punt but disaster struck the Coyotes when the snap from center sailed over their punter's head and rolled to the Uvalde one yard where the Coyote punter recovered the ball but the Eagles defense quickly covered the punter giving the Eagles offense excellent field possession with a first and goal from the one yard line.

After a short loss on first down Eagles starting quarterback Fernando Sarabia connected with wide receiver Dakota Kypuros with an 8 yard touchdown pass with 2:02 left in the first quarter. Erick Ramirez tacked on the point after to give the Eagles the early 7 to 0 lead.

Midway through the second quarter the Uvalde Coyotes orchestrated a 75 yard scoring drive that was capped off with a two yard run to pay dirt by their workhorse running back Sotero Martinez with 5:42 remaining in the second quarter. The point after attempt was no good as the Eagles held on to a 7 to 6 lead over the Coyotes.

The Eagles quickly countered with a two play 69 yard scoring drive culminating with a 69 yard touchdown pass from Fernando Sarabia to wide receiver Dakota Kypuros who made a sensational catch down the right sideline and out ran the Uvalde secondary into the end zone with 4:52 left in the second quarter. Eagles place kicker Erick Ramirez converted the point after to extend the Eagles lead to 14 to 6 over the Coyotes.

With time winding down in the first half, the Eagles mounted a 47 yard scoring drive capped off with an 11 yard touchdown pass from quarterback Fernando Sarabia to tailback Jose Hernandez with1:26 left in the first half. Erick Ramirez split the uprights with the point after to give the home standing Eagles a 21 to 6 lead over the Uvalde Coyotes heading into their halftime locker room.

In the second half of this season opening contest, mental mistakes, missed assignments and penalties plagued the Eagles who were held scoreless in the third and fourth periods. The Eagles lone potential scoring drive saw them miss a 32 yard field goal attempt.
To their credit the Uvalde Coyotes fought back in the second half with a pair of touchdowns the first of which was a one play 32 yard touchdown pass from Donovan Davila to wide receiver Christian Rivera with 4:31 left in the third quarter.
The Coyotes then converted a two-point pass to narrow their deficit to 21 to 14.

Early in the fourth quarter the Coyotes fought all the way back to tie the game when Donovan Davila connected with the Coyotes main target D’Andre Carroll who had gotten behind the Eagles secondary with a 68 yard touchdown pass with 7:51 left in the game. Miller Carnes added the point after to knot up the score board at 21 all.

Neither team managed to score the rest of regulation time so the game headed to overtime. In the overtime period the Eagles went on offense first and managed to score on a one yard run to pay dirt by tailback Jose Hernandez.
The point after attempt sailed wide however but the Eagles now held a 27 to 21 lead over the Coyotes.

The Coyotes took their turn on offense in the overtime period and answered with a five yard plunge into the end zone by tailback Sotero Martinez. Miller Carnes then tacked on what proved to be the game winning point after attempt to give the Uvalde Coyotes the heart breaking 28 to 27 triumph over a valiant Eagle Pass Eagles squad.

Dakota Kypuros finished as the game's leading receiver with 4 receptions for 115 yards with 2 touchdowns, teammate Jose Hernandez was the leading rusher for the Eagles with 57 yards on 15 carries with 1 touchdown and quarterback Fernando Sarabia completed 14 out of 23 attempts with 1 interception for 210 yards with 3 touchdown passes Defensively the Eagles were led by linebacker Jacob Salinas who had a team high 9 tackles, 3 assists, 1 tackle for a los and was selected the C0-Defensive Player of the Game.
Defensive End Charlie Schuessler recorded 7 tackles, 4 assists, 6 tackles for a loss, 2 QB Sacks and was also selected Co-Defensive Player of the Game. Defensive Back Kristian Barcena had 7 tackles, 3 assists, 1 fumble recovery, 1 interception and was also selected Co-Defensive Player of the Game.

The Eagle Pass Eagles will reload their arsenal and correct their mistakes for next week's game where they will host the San Antonio Southwest Dragons in a 7:00 PM non-district gridiron encounter on Friday, September 9, 2019 at the Eagle Pass ISD Student Activity Center Cozel Foster-Veterans Memorial Stadium. This game has been designated as Parent's night with the

Eagles players honoring their respective parents during pre-game festivities.

TEAM STATS:

EAGLES COYOTES

First Downs 16 14

Att./ Yds. Rushing 27/65 33/57

Yards Passing 210 168

Total Yards 275 225

Pass att./comp./int's 14/22/1 13/22/1

Return Yards 00 00

Punts /Avg. 4/17.0 3/36.1

Fumbles/Lost 0/0 2/1

Penalties/Yards 9/65 8/75

INDIVIDUAL OFFENSIVE STATS:

PASSING:

#16 Fernando Sarabia 14 comp. 23 att. 1 int. 210 yds. 3TD's

RUSHING:

#3 Isaac Caballero 3 carries 5 yds.

#5 Carlos Santos 2 carries 3 yds.

#16 Fernando Sarabia 7 carries no yds.

#29 Jose Hernandez 15 carries 57 yds. 1TD

RECEIVING:

#5 Carlos Santos 5 rec. 55 yds.

#14 Dakota Kypuros 4 rec. 115 yds. 2TD's

#18 Chris Hiller 1 rec. 7 yds.

#29 Jose Hernandez 4 rec. 33 yds. 1TD

INDIVIDUAL DEFENSIVE STATS:

#45 Jacob Salinas 9 tackles 3 assists 1 tackle for a loss Co-Def. Player of the Game

#44 Charlie Schuessler 7 tackles 4 assists 6 tackles for a loss 2 QB Sacks

Co-Def. Player of the Game

#2 Kristian Barcena 7 tackles 3 assists 1 fumble recovery 1 interception

Co-Def. Player of the Game

#4 Jacob Ruiz 6 tackles 2 assists

#21 Saul Peralez 5 tackles 9 assists 3 tackles for a loss 1 QB Sack

Co-Def. Player of the Game

#28 Joe Samaniego 4 tackles 4 assists 3tackles for a loss 1 QB Sack

#24 MJ McGehee 3 tackles 4 assists 2 tackles for a loss 1 QB Sack

#1 Mando De Los Santos 3 tackles

#42 Andres Conde 2 tackles 3 assists

#55 Tommy Cantu 2 tackles

#13 David Lopez 3 assists 1 caused fumble