EAGLES *FOOTBALL* GRIDIRON NEWS

Eagles geared to soar over

Del Rio Rams

“Win and you’re in”

Battle for 4th Place in 29-6A

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

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Coming off their Bye week, the Eagle Pass Eagles varsity football team under the tutelage of head football coach Tom Gonzalez return to the gridiron to close out their 2019 regular season as well as their district schedule this coming Friday, November 8, 2019 with a road trip to Del Rio, Texas to battle against their oldest high school football opponent the Del Rio Rams with playoff implications riding on the line in an extremely vital 7:00 PM win and you’re in situation at the Walter Levermann-Rams Stadium.

This will be the **98th all-time meeting** between these two football programs. At stake will be the district's fourth place playoff spot for the winner of this matchup.
The Eagle Pass-Del Rio football rivalry dates back to 1920 when the Rams were then known as the Del Rio Wildcats and their school colors were red and white while the Eagle Pass Eagles' school colors in 1920 were green and white.
The Del Rio Rams lead the all-time series against the Eagle Pass Eagles by a margin of 72 wins with 20 losses and there have been 5 ties in this series but the Eagles have won the last two games of this series (41 to 0 last year and 30 to 0 in 2017). This year's game should be a real barn burner so get your Popcorn ready sports fans it's time for
Eagles
vs,
Rams
….."
It don't get any better than that"

The home standing Del Rio Rams under the direction of first year head football coach Roderick Taylor will venture into this game sporting an overall season record of 2 wins with 7 losses and a district mark of 2 wins with 3 losses. The Rams offense will be spearheaded by their young dual threat sophomore quarterback Matt Mendez #16 a fairly accurate passer a very dependable runner with above average speed who has seemed to spark the offense ever since he came off the bench against Kerrvlle Tivy. Joining him in the backfield will be senior running back Ivan Basurto #26 a tough downhill runner that does not like to dance in the backfield and is more like a 1 cut and go type running back along with Sergio Alameda #7 who has average speed and likes to set up his blocks.
When the Rams take to the airway they will feature a solid group of receivers with the likes of Richard Haynes #19 as the X-Receiver who is their go to
guy very fast and has the ability to get behind the defense, Aiden Huerta #22 as the Z-Receiver who is quick and can also get behind the defense and is probably their fastest receiver, Dominic Sanchez #9 as their slot receiver who has great speed and has the ability of making people miss out in the open field, and Sergio MIreles #6 as the tight end/fullback a very aggressive blocker with good hands and good speed as well.

The Rams offensive line that are best described as being massive, wide and strong that average 6'0" and 270 lbs. per man and are very mobile and fire off the ball will be comprised by Emiliano Faz #62 at left tackle, Luis Perez #79 at left guard, Oscar Rodriguez #61 at right guard and Isaac Salazar #75 at right tackle.

On defense the Rams will lineup in a base 3-4 scheme with Gabriel Sanchez #45 at defensive end, Gabriel Rosas #94 as the nose guard and Nathan Casares #99 as the anchor end. The Rams solid line backing quartet will feature Oscar Sandoval #34 as the Sam linebacker, Andrew Garza #10 as the Mike linebacker, Alejandro De Luna #50 as the Will linebacker and Jesus De Luna #42 as the Hybrid linebacker.
The Rams secondary crew will be manned by Roy Talamantes #24 and Ricky Cedillo #23 at the corners and Joey Jimenez #20 and Jay Gomez #1as the safeties.

The Eagle Pass Eagles will enter this key matchup with an overall season record of 5 wins with 4 losses and a district record of 2 wins and 3 losses. The Eagles offense under the guidance of offensive coordinator Javier Cardenas will have their offensive arsenal ready to be unleashed with dual threat quarterback Allan Rodriguez and their backfield tandem of the swift and elusive freshman running back TJ Mares and the hardnosed running back Isaac Caballero eager to tote the pigskin all the way into the promise land on any given play. The Eagles potent aerial attack will feature a crew of quick footed and sure handed wide receiving corps with the likes of Dakota Kypuros, Carlos Santos, Chris Hiller, Cgc Ritchie, Carlos Lopez and David Lopez who could very well have a major role in determining the final outcome of this game. But as usual the key to success will be entrusted into the hands of the Eagles offensive line that must dominate the line of scrimmage to enable the Eagles to turn their running and passing game loose into the secondary and on the way to pay dirt..

On the defensive side of the ball the Eagles famed ***"Land Sharks"*** hard hitting, stingy and quick pursuing defensive unit under the leadership of longtime defensive coordinator Roger

Olivas will once again be heavily tested but they never back down from any challenges. The front four of MJ McGehee, Andres Conde, Santana Martinez and Charlie Schuessler will need to win the battle in the trenches to nullify the Rams running game and must apply the defensive pressure to disrupt the Rams passing game. The line backing trio of leading tackler Joe Samaniego, Jacob Salinas, and Saul Peralez will need to roam freely to help in run support as well as contribute in pass coverage and will need to apply their relentless pressure all game long. The defensive secondary unit of Kristian Barcena, David Lopez, Jose Hernandez and Mando De Los Santos will be heavily tested but rest assure they certainly will look forward to the challenge of holding the Rams aerial assault in check. Look for the Eagles defense to force a couple of key turnovers in this game.

Eagle Pass Sports Central wishes the mighty Eagle Pass Eagles the very best of luck against the Del Rio Rams and invites the Loyal Legion of Eagles faithful as well as the entire community of Eagle Pass, Texas to make the trip to Del Rio, Texas this coming Friday night and support the Eagles . GO EAGLES! BEAT THE RAMS!