

**Weekly Article for Neil Jacob's 105-1 Team vs Quakertown Panthers 105-1
September 19, 2009 2pm at Hickory Park Field 2**

Marsh Creek Eagles 24 – Quakertown Panthers 0

Playing without two of their offensive and defensive leaders in Stephen Koons and Cole Thomas, the Division 1 - Marsh Creek Eagles 105 lb team looked to continue their winning ways against the visiting Panthers of Quakertown. After receiving the opening kickoff, the Eagles wasted little time taking control of the game by scoring a TD on their opening possession for the 4th consecutive week. QB David Gallagher threw a beautiful strike to the streaking Ryan Betley who continued his impressive play by catching the ball in stride and outrunning the Panthers secondary for a long 45+ yard TD to open the scoring for the Eagles. After a failed conversion the Eagles led 6-0 in the early minutes of the ball game.

Quakertown started their first offensive series of the game at their own 46 yard line; but failed to get a first down after 4 plays. Alec Walter had a big hit during the series to prevent a Panthers first down. The Eagles offense took over again and methodically marched down the field behind strong running from Drew Rafferty and Dylan Rittenhouse and a first down catch by Ryan Betley. The drive was capped off by a hard fought 10 yd run by Dylan Rittenhouse who was determined to cross the goal line despite several hits from the Panthers defense. The extra point was no good but the Eagles led by 12-0.

The Eagles defense forced the Panthers to punt on their second possession when Alec Walter and Dylan Rittenhouse both hit the QB to break up an attempted pass play. David Gallagher returned the ensuing punt for 30 yds to set up the Eagles offense with good field position. Early in the 2nd quarter the Offense capitalized when Colin Ditillo blasted through a gaping hole for a long TD run which increased the Eagles lead to 18-0. The Eagles received some great blocking on the drive by lineman Carter Regitz; Charlie Lashell, Steven Clark, Kevin Smyth, Jackson Hale, Noah Hahn, Brett Allan and Ryan Betley. Other highlights from first half action included impressive defense from Kevin Smyth, who had a big tackle for a loss to setup a 3rd and long and also recovered a Panthers fumble. Quakertown completed a long pass to the Eagles 20yd line with only 6 seconds remaining in the first half; but Kevin Smyth broke through the line for another tackle for a loss to end the half with the score Marsh Creek 18 – Quakertown 0.

The Eagles defense continued to dominate in the 3rd quarter. Charlie Lashell had a nice tackle for a loss to begin the 2nd half and Brandon Peterson had a big hit to break up a 3rd and long for the Panthers. The Eagles offense took over and chewed up a lot of clock behind strong running from Drew Rafferty and Kyle Hegarty, who had an impressive run on 4th down to keep the drive going before it finally stalled deep in Panther territory.

The Eagles finished the scoring early in the 4th quarter after a nice drive that included a long pass completion to Grey Jacobs for a first down. QB David Gallagher capped it off with a 48 yd dash around the left end for another impressive TD run by the Eagles to put the score at 24-0. The Panthers however continued to fight and after two successful pass completions they were at the Eagles 15 yd line and threatening to score. However big hits by Drew Rafferty and a nice interception by Stephen Clark ended

the drive and secured the shutout for the Eagles. After the interception, Stephen Clark raced for 45 yards before running out of bounds in the spirit of sportsmanship despite a clear path to the endzone. Another turnover secured the shutout late in the 4th quarter when Dylan Rittenhouse recovered a fumble caused by a big hit from Ryan Betley on the Panthers QB. The Eagles shutout was preserved; continuing their impressive streak to start the 2009 season.