

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 15, 2008

UCA Lions Beat Plain Dealing Christian

Farmerville, LA - The Union Christian Lions finished the 2008 regular season on Saturday, October 4, at home against Plain Dealing Christian Academy. A win for the Lions would mean first seed and home-field for the Arkansas-Louisiana Christian Athletic League (ALCAL) playoffs which begin October 18. The Lions took full advantage of the opportunity, defeating the Bulldogs of PDCA 48 - 2.

Junior Quarterback Josh Hall rushed for 27 yards and had another 30 yards through the air, including one touchdown pass. Senior Tyler Davis helped power the Lions' offense with 87 yards rushing and contributed two touchdowns. On defense Davis contributed three solo tackles, seven assists, one quarterback sack and one blocked punt. Junior Running Back Brandon "Paco" Allen helped the Lions' rushing attack with 111 yards including one touchdown. Allen also picked up 27 yards receiving in the Lions' victory. On Defense, Allen contributed one solo tackle, six assists, and one quarterback sack.

However, it was Junior Tailback Cody Dodd who led the rushing attack for UCA, earning 113 yards on the ground. Dodd demonstrated speed and fought for every yard, and gave the Bulldogs defense all they could handle. Dodd also was a strong factor for the Lions defense, contributing one solo tackle and eight assists. Dodd's performance against Plain Dealing earned him Player of the Week by Head Coach Blaine Beck.

Playmakers could be found across the Lions' roster this week. Honorable mentions from the Lions victory over Plain Dealing included Junior Jonathan Baze with a very important 13 yard reception, Cody Elkins with 3 yards rushing on offense including a 2-point conversion, and on defense contributing two solo tackles and seven assists. Sophomore Chase Kinnison picked up five yards receiving on offense, and had one tackle assist on defense. Dannon Dowling had three solo tackles and four assists on defensive. Sophomore Josh Ellis scored three solo tackles, and was in to assist on eleven more. Junior Dustin Ates had two solo tackles and five assists. Sophomore Madison Coates picked up one assisted tackle.

Yardage on the night for the Lions for UCA was 341 rushing and 45 receiving for a total of 386. The Lions continued to mix up the offensive scheme this week, utilizing Senior Tyler Davis along with starting quarterback, Junior Josh Hall to call the plays from the line of scrimmage.

The big win over Plain Dealing meant a lot to the returning players for UCA, as this was the first win ever by UCA over

Plain Dealing. Sophomore Chase Kinnison commented about Plain Dealing, "We have been looking forward to playing them this year, as we know they're a good team. We'd never beaten them until tonight. We believed that we were much improved over last year, and we were happy to get this win at home." Josh Hall added, "They have always been a big, physical team, and one that we always knew would be a real test for us. I'm proud of our entire team for this win. This means a lot to us."

The Lions finish ALCAL district play with a perfect record of 5-0, 5-1 overall, with the only loss this season coming at Tensas Academy of the MPSA, the association to which UCA will be moving in the 2009-10 school year.

But, first things first. The Lions begin their first-ever post season appearance on Saturday, October 18, at 7 PM in the first round of the playoffs against archrival Northeast Baptist School of West Monroe. The JV Lions also play NBS in the first round at Doc Elliott Stadium, beginning Saturday at 5. All Lions fans are encouraged to tailgate before the game; be sure to wear purple and pack the stands at Doc Elliott Stadium, as they begin their quest for a state championship and a berth in the national 8-man football tournament in Tennessee in November.

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