

Colby Gallagher and Will Price lead the Randolph Oilers in victory over the Midcoast Falcons in Eastern Football League showdown

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Will Price catching yet another touchdown pass

Randolph —

Coming off a close loss to the Eastern Football League's best team, the Oilers really needed to rebound in their next game and they did just that Saturday against the MidCoast Falcons.

"We exploded against them which is tough for them because they are a new team in this league and it's difficult your first couple seasons," Oilers general manager Peter O'Kane said.

Exploded might have been an understatement as Randolph used seven turnovers and a blocked punt to fuel their 55-22 drubbing of MidCoast.

"It actually looked like it was going to be a low scoring game as we neared the half because both teams were turning the ball over," O'Kane said.

But the floodgates opened for the Oilers when they blocked a Falcon's punt and returned it to the opposing 15-yardline. From there the decision was made to put in quarterback Ryan Myers for James Merrick and he promptly threw a 15-yard touchdown pass to Brian Gallo on the final play of the first half.

Colby Gallagher, playing in honor of his grandfather who recently passed away, set the tone for the entire Oiler team with his spirited play on both offense and defense. His grandfather would have been proud as Colby (like usual) played with great heart and intensity and was an unstoppable playmaker.



Playing in honor of his recently passed away grandfather, All Star LB Colby Gallagher (#22) led a ferocious Oilers defensive attack vs the Falcons

“We weren’t moving the ball well so we hurt ourselves and we put Myers in to give us a boost and get the ball moving,” O’Kane said.

Before Myers replaced Merrick the offense struggled to do anything. Their first drive of the game started with runs for losses and an ill-fated 4th down conversion that ended in a sack.

The second half went much better for Randolph when they converted their momentum into touchdown after touchdown.

“We had a couple guys who were playing both ways and scored touchdowns despite being asked to play twice as many snaps,” O’Kane said.

Will Price had a particularly outstanding game recording two interception with one returned for a touchdown and catching two touchdown passes on top of a 76-yard kick return that set up an easy touchdown.

“Because we were up they continued to throw the ball to gain quick yardage and try to get back in it,” O’Kane said.

The Oilers defense clearly invited the aerial challenge and intercepted Falcon's quarterback Tim Manoureus five times. Mark Royster recorded one interception while Brian Gallo grabbed two to match Price's mark.

Gallo and Price combined for five touchdowns with both hauling in two touchdown grabs and Price returned pick.

"A guy who quietly had a nice game was Ryan Eisenhauer who had 53-yards on five reception," O'Kane said.

The man throwing to Eisenhauer had a day worth remembering despite not getting the start and only playing a little over a half of football.

"Myers is a good player he's done great things for us in the past and has a very strong arm," O'Kane said.

The former league Most Valuable Player completed 14 of 18 pass attempts for 211 yards and four touchdowns.

"Because we have had trouble running the ball we gave some guys who hadn't played a lot of running back for us some carries," O'Kane said.

Wilbert Powell averaged ten yards per rushing attempt and Olajuwon Brown had an impressive 19-yard rushing touchdown.

"That was Brown's first rushing attempt ever and he made it count," O'Kane said.

Not to be out-down by the offense, Oilers linebackers Jose Branco and Patrick Coughlin both made MidCoast pay with a fumble recovery each.

Kicker Dave Canavan also had a perfect day going 7 for 7 on extra point attempts.

Next up for the Oilers is an away game on Saturday against the Granite State Knights at Gil Stadium in Manchester, New Hampshire.

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