

By JASON EPP

It's not an unusual scenario for Oklahoma panhandle teams to be overlooked in the early season rankings. But after Friday night's convincing 27-7 win over No.2 Oklahoma Bible Academy, Beaver will have to be considered one of the top teams in Class A.

OBA had earned their high ranking, by returning most of their players from a team that made the semifinals last year and had won their four games this year by an average of over 34 points.

"We basically controlled all aspects of the game for 48 minutes," said Beaver Dusters Head Coach Mike McVay. "We just kind of took them out of their game, and kept applying the pressure. Our kids just played pretty darn good in every aspect of the ball game."

How dominant was the Duster defense? OBA finished the first half with 29 yards of total offense, and only 75 yards rushing for the whole game, far below their season average that hovered around 300. The Duster D did not allow much through the air either giving up only 95 yards passing with 84 of that coming late in the fourth quarter long after the outcome had been decided.

"We were able to control them at the line of scrimmage and not let them bust a lot of big plays," said McVay. "We took them away from running inside and made them try to go outside, which took them out of their game."

Beaver's offense was effective in the win, with the Killer "B's", Samuel Becker and Allen Butterfield scoring all four Duster touchdowns.

The Beaver offense wasted no time scoring. The Dusters took the opening kickoff and drove

70 yards, with Butterfield scoring on a 7-yard run with 9:39 left in the first. After holding OBA, Beaver drove for their second score, with Becker taking it in this time on a 9-yard run to make the score 14-0 in favor of Beaver after one.

Late in the second Beaver again scored as Butterfield scored his second of three touchdowns with just under two minutes left before halftime, and the Dusters took the 20-0 lead to the locker room.

Beaver changed their offensive game plan a little, and it surprised OBA.

"We had not shown a lot of rolling our quarterback out on bootlegs," said McVay, "and letting him have the option to either run or pass. He caught them totally off-guard and he is a little faster than they thought he made a lot of yards just keeping it and running up the field."

Becker was able to rush for 120 yards, as well as completing 8-of-12 passes for 70 yards; keeping OBA off balance with the short passing game.

OBA did finally get on the board with a 26-yard touchdown pass with 5:03 left in the game. Butterfield scored a touchdown his third TD with 2:10 left that allowed the Dusters to collect the maximum 15 points which could be a crucial tie-breaker at the end of the season.

Beaver moves to 5-0 overall and 2-0 in district play, and will travel to Mooreland (1-4, 0-2) next Friday.