

Gladiator News

Bradenton Gladiators Weekly Game Recap

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Bradenton Gladiators (40) Broward Bears (6)

Staff Writer

BRADENTON - Gladiators First Home Game of the Season Unfriendly To Visiting Broward Bears

On a cool misty evening at Manatee County PAL the Bradenton Gladiators, in front of a vocal crowd, hosted the Broward Bears for their first home game of the season. After forcing the Bears to fumble the opening kick-off, the offense took two drives to click-in and have a Dawson-to-Charlton pass from just outside the red-zone to open the scoring 6-0. With the first play of their next drive the Bears took advantage of the Gladiator defense playing with only ten men on the field and picked up a big play to the Gladiator nine yard line. It took a misplayed slant on fourth down for the Bears to get their only points of the evening to tie it all up. On the Gladiators next series that bridged the 1st and 2nd quarter, a Dawson-to-Murray TD went for 70 yards to put Bradenton up for good at 13-6. The next Gladiator drive featured Glenn Woods early and then a 3rd down and thirty conversion by Charlton. The drive was finished off with a Chauncey Jones score that put the Gladiators up 20-6. Again the Defense got the ball back for Bradenton and after running the ball down the field there was another Dawson to Charlton TD which increased the lead to 27-6 just before halftime. At halftime Dawson was 9 of 16 for 241yds and three scores.

The Gladiators started the 2nd half with Kirby at QB. In the second drive for Kirby found Charlton for his third TD of the game. Charlton finished with 6 catches for 160yds and three scores. The final score was a run heavy drive in the third quarter featuring Bobby Dawes that ended in another Jones TD, this time at FB.

Defensively Bradenton frustrated the Bears all night with 10 sacks and two turnovers. The Gladiators missed the chance to add to the interception total by dropping several errant passes, as they kept the Broward QB running for his life. Last week's AFC Defensive Player of the Week, Derrick Hugine finished the game with 9 tackles (5 solo, 2 for loss) and two sacks, but was out-done by Mike Mills whose 5 sacks actually understated the pressure he place on their offense all night.

THIS WEEK GLADIATORS TAKE ON SARASOTA

Renewal of a fierce rivalry to start this weekend at Booker H.S. Sarasota, as the undefeated Gladiators take a short trip south down 301 to take on the Sarasota Millionaires (2-1) in the first of two road games. This will be Bradenton's first Divisional Game. The winner will come away with the inside track to the divisional crown and a play-off bye.