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OPSU Holds Spring Football Game

Goodwell, Okla.-After over three months of off-season preparation, the OPSU Aggie football team played its 2013 spring game on Carl Wooten Field on Saturday.

The game capped off a day full of athletic activities and events held at OPSU. The spring game featured the Aggie offense versus the Aggie defense in an intra-squad scrimmage which followed a special scoring system. For the offense, any touchdown was worth six points, 4th down conversions were worth three points, any offensive plays over 20 yards were worth two points, and all first downs were worth one point. For the defense, any three-and-out was worth two points, 4th down stops were worth two points, a tackle for a loss or a sack was worth two points, forced turnovers were worth four points, and any forced turnovers for touchdowns were worth six points.

The game was full of big hits and big plays made on both sides of the ball. Leading the defense was sophomore safety Junior Vimoto who had five tackles and a pass deflection, as well as senior linebacker Andrew Dougherty who finished with four tackles. Also contributing was sophomore cornerback Jamel Major who was in on two tackles and two pass deflections, and freshman defensive lineman Courtney Stinnett who finished the game with three tackles for loss. The Aggie defense also forced two turnovers in the game as freshman cornerback James Cameron half stripped/half intercepted a ball and returned it for 25 yards. The second turnover came as freshman defensive end Allen Maxime recovered a fumble behind the line of scrimmage. The defense finished with 56 points using the special scoring system for the game.

One the offensive side of the ball, transfer running back Delans Griffin and newly converted running back Justin Fogle led the way. Griffin, who is expected to fill the void left by Justice Patterson, made a series of big plays for the offense as he racked up over 40 yards in limited action while Fogle had a nice showing with over 20 yards receiving and rushing. Also contributing was freshman running back Junius Champagne as he used his elusiveness to navigate through the defense. Quarterbacks Caleb Holbrook, Beau Avila, and John Baker all completed passes to the transfer receiver Jamal White and sophomores Deron Wilborn and Jawon Johnson. However, the biggest play of the day came from a pass thrown by freshman quarterback Brian Hinojo to tight end Andrew Park who gained 38 yards on the reception.

The 2013 offseason officially ends with the spring game, but the football team will continue to work hard in preparation for the upcoming season this fall. The Aggies look forward to senior cornerback Keidrick Brewster as well as linebackers Nathaniel Mathurin and Andrew Dougherty on the defense to be its anchors, as the offense expects junior quarterback Caleb Holbrook, senior linemen Marcus Dimando and Cameron Hickey, as well as junior receiver Tim Hollingshed to lead the way. The Aggies are expected to open the season on August 31 playing Lamar University, a Division 1-AA team.

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OPSU Laura Nelson