



Snior Jade Cathey catches a 42-yard pass for a touchdown at the Friday scrimmage. He also intercepted a pass for a touchdown. Daily Leader photos/Earl Watt

By EARL WATT

Daily Leader

Usually at this time of the season, the defense is ahead of the offense.

That did not appear to be the case at Redskin Field Friday during the annual Powerade Scrimmage.

Liberal's offense was clicking from the moment it took the field.

Slader McVey was making pinpoint passes, receivers were making the catches, and the backfield was able to turn the corner in the running game.

More importantly, the bulk on the front line seemed to be making a difference. This front line is one of the bigger groups in a number of years, and that size was opening holes Friday night.

When receivers weren't open, McVey was able to tuck the ball and make something positive happen.

On the first two possessions for the varsity offense, the Redskins marched the ball down field and into the end zone with relative ease.

Having some two-way players missing from the defense may have had something to do with the ability of the offense to move the ball with little resistance.

But execution was also required, and in Wade Standley's second year as head coach, the familiarity with the system was clearly an advantage.

There was also an appearance of smash-mouth in this group of Redskins. When Isaac Gallegos turned the corner and headed to the end zone, he had the choice of trying to reach the corner or to take the contact and guarantee a touchdown.

He chose to make contact.

Jade Cathey made some big catches.

And the back-ups did well. Freshman Britton Abbott guided the offense down the field as one of the quarterback reserves.

It's always a hard measure at a scrimmage, but the offense moved the ball. When the starting defense took the field, Cathey returned an interception for a touchdown.

Offense humming at scrimmage tune-up

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I've been to a couple of practices, and while Standley was not going to show all of his cards at the scrimmage, it was clear that this team has talent, is familiar with the system, and appears to have the hard-nosed attitude of the Angry Red. I was impressed with the scrimmage, and I am ready to see the Redskins host Ulysses next Friday at the Burial Grounds.