



November 21, 2009

Gillette, Opelt meet on field at Glass Bowl

BY MATT MILLS
News-Messenger correspondent

TOLEDO -- Despite his team coming out on the wrong side of a 47-21 loss to the Toledo Rockets, Eastern Michigan's freshman quarterback Alex Gillett made huge strides in securing the Eagles starting spot.

Gillett threw for 195 yards and two touchdowns on 13 completions.

"Alex made some plays out there," Eagles coach Ron English said. "Unfortunately, Alex also turns the ball over. I wish he didn't do that."

Gillett threw two picks and lost a fumble that Toledo's Alex Johnson recovered in the end zone for a touchdown.

Among the highlights for the true freshman from Clyde High School was a 29-yard fourth down touchdown pass to Kinsman Thomas. Gillett also threw a 48-yard touchdown pass to Tyrone Burke, as well as accumulating 101 rushing yards on 15 carries.

Gillett was unavailable for comment. Eastern does not let freshman speak to the media.

On the other side line was Fremont Ross product, Aaron Opelt. Opelt didn't start the game, but came in and did some good things for his team. Even though Opelt didn't play an intrigal part of the Rockets offense in this game, he will be ready for next week.

"It's BG week. We're ready for it," said Opelt. "The countdown is already going."

Opelt couldn't say enough about how special playing at Toledo with his fellow seniors was to him.

"I want to thank the guys behind me. We have 105 players and 19 seniors, and I wouldn't have taken my decision back four years ago [to attend Toledo] for anything," said Opelt. "It's a special place and a special town to play football in. I want to thank the town for coming out, and everyone for coming out and covering Toledo football and helping us out. But it starts with all of these guys first; they're like my brothers. It was an awesome week for us and a great win for the seniors."

TOLEDO 47, E. MICHIGAN 21.

TOLEDO -- DaJuane Collins ran for two touchdowns and Morgan Williams rushed for another to lead Toledo to a 47-21 win over Eastern Michigan on Friday night.

Williams finished with 155 yards rushing and one touchdown for the Rockets (5-6, 3-4 MAC), and Collins rushed for 145 yards and two touchdowns.
