10 THE TALON DEC. 11, 2015 SPORTS

### Falcons advance to Bi-District Playoffs

Jacob De Hoyos jacob.dehoyos.np@gmail.com Co-Sports Editor

nding the season with a record of 9-3, the season was the most successful since 2010.

Junior QB William Rivers finished with 3,372 passing yards, 30 touchdowns and 12 interceptions. Rivers quickly found his target with junior WR Logan Mann, who finished with a city best 1,269 yards and 16 touchdowns. Junior WR Devin Martin finished with 905 yards and seven touchdowns.

Senior WR Terrel Wiley-Ramsey gained 524 yards on 39 receptions.
Senior DE Elijah Earls and DT Elijah Garcia dominated this season, leading the team in tackles and sacks. Earls finished with 125 tackles, leading the team in tackles, tackles for a loss (17) and leading the team with 16 sacks. Senior CB D'Anthony Carter lead the city with eight interceptions.

"This season was about overcoming adversity," Earls said. "A lot of people doubted that we were going to the playoffs since we lost a lot of seniors. This season we had to work tremendously hard so we could prove everyone wrong."

#### **Loss to Smithson Valley**

In the second round of the playoffs, Stevens fell to Smithson Valley with a score of 35-0 on Nov. 20 at Comalander stadium

Stevens gave the game all they had but ultimately came up short. Smithson Valley was able to control the ball, with 167 rushing yards and 248 passing yards. Rivers was held to only 131 passing yards and zero touchdowns. WR Wiley-Ramsey led the team with seven receptions and 51 receiving yards. The Falcon running game

was held to a combined 42 rushing yards, led by senior RB Fred Williams.

Earls and Garcia played their last game as Falcons and led the defensive unit in the game.

"Rivers is the best QB in the city hands down. Without him the offense wouldn't flow as smooth as it does wide receiver," Mann said. "He has great leadership traits and his ball placement is awesome, that's why all of our receivers are so successful."

#### Win against the Hornets

Stevens beat East Central 43-6 at East Central on Nov. 13 to open up the first round of the playoffs. Rivers gained 276 passing yards and made three touchdowns. Stevens gained 166 rushing yards, led by senior RB Devante Donald, with 41 rushing yards.

All wide receivers contributed to the game. Martin led the way with 102 receiving yards, Wiley-Ramsey had eight receptions for 96 yards. Mann had 40 yards and two touchdowns.

On defense the Falcons limited the Hornets to only six points. A big part came from the pass rushing ability from Earls and Garcia. While only giving up only six points they let East Central gain 166 rushing yards.

A strength for the team comes in the secondary which only let up 81 passing yards. Junior Izaiah Guana had a 30-yard fumble return for a touchdown. Carter returned an 89-yard punt return to provide a boost of energy for the team.

"Our coaches dedicate so much time to football, and they treat us like family," Mann said. "I don't see any of them as coaches more like father figures. They are the greatest coaching staff we could ask for."



**Senior DE Elijah** Earls tackles Clark QB for a five-yard loss and sets up third down for the defense. Earls and the defense put consistent pressure on the QB and forced three interceptions. *Photo by Kiana Johnson* 

#### Road to Playoffs

Stevens beat Clark 63-14 to advance to the first round of playoffs. Stevens put up a total of 492 yards on offense. Rivers had 369 yards, four touchdowns and one interception., Martin was able to gain 154 yards off of nine receptions and scored two touchdowns. Wiley-Ramsey combined for a total of 112 yards on four receptions, averaging an outstanding 28 yards per catch and added a touchdown.

Mann had 84 yards on five receptions and a touchdown. The running backs combined for 123 rushing yards. The defense put on a strong performance, putting consistent pressure on the QB and holding the wide receivers to minimal yards and forcing three interceptions.

#### **Football Honors**

Defensive MVP: Elijah Earls All District First Team: juniors William Rivers, Logan Mann, Steven Anguiano, Devin Martin, Trechun Oliver, seniors Elijah Earls, Elijah Garcia, Eric Pena, Ashton Smith, D'Anthony Carter

All District Second Team: seniors Terrell Wiley-Ramsey, Anthony Segura, juniors Nathan Montes and Tristan Castaneda

**All District Honorable Mention:** seniors Taylor Evins and Devin Lanier

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