

# BACK AT IT

Varsity beats DeSoto for the first time in three years

With the sun beaming bright on the field and ESPN cameras pointed toward players, varsity football prepares for kick off against the DeSoto Eagles on live television.

Varsity had lost to DeSoto for the past three years since they first started to play against the school, but on August 29 they won against the Eagles with a final score of 46-26.

"It felt so great to defeat DeSoto," sophomore Jaran Washington said. "It was a real accomplishment for us."

Kicker junior Patrick Grady, who has kicked as far as 50 yards, prepared for the DeSoto game by practicing field goals before the game and stretching.

"I was pretty nervous because the game was live on ESPN, and it was my first game of the season as a starter," Grady said. "I had to prepare myself mentally and physically for the game."

Some players said this game had a great impact on them.

"This game was important to me because we worked so hard to beat DeSoto," freshman Kentrell Smith said. "I will take this game with me for the rest of my high school years."

The varsity team trained to defeat DeSoto by having daily practices in the summer and school year.

"We practiced everyday until we got better, focusing on what we needed to improve," senior Nathan White said. "We also worked out in the summertime."

The team worked together on and off the field to receive this accomplishment.

"One thing I will always remember about this game is that we went on the field as a team and left as a team," Washington said. **by Karine Robinson and Annie Tran**