

## Oilers look to strike pay-dirt in revamped EFL

Defending champs start campaign at 1-1



Wicked Local Photo by Jacob Belcher

*The Oilers' quarterback Ryan Myers runs the ball for a first down during a recent home game against the Brockton Buccaneers last year.*

**By John Quattrucci**

**Stoughton Journal**

Posted Jul 13, 2010 @ 06:06 PM

Stoughton —

The Randolph Oilers squad is off to a 1-1 start this season, but expectations are sky high.

“There are some new teams in the league this year,” Oilers General Manager Peter O’Kane said. “Our schedule is going to be tougher but we’re looking to improve.”

The Oilers opened the season on a promising note by beating the Bay State Bucs, 21-7, in the “Kickoff Classic” in Lawrence.

Myers continued his Superman impersonation from last year, earning league Offensive Player of the Week honors with an 8-12, 130 yard, two-touchdown (one rushing, one passing) performance.

Running back Brooke Payne led the team with 56 yards on 12 carries.

Oilers alternate quarterback James Merrick tossed a 10-yard scoring strike to receiver Will Price in the first quarter and kicker Dave Canavan tacked on the extra point to give Randolph a 7-0 first quarter lead.

The Bucs answered right back with a 49-yard touchdown pass from Derrick Wright to Richard Garcia.

Myers then led the Oilers on a long scoring drive in the second quarter, connecting with Carrol and Price for long gains before taking the ball in himself on a four-yard scoring jaunt. Canavan missed the extra point to make it 13-7 Oilers going into the locker room at the half.

Myers gave Randolph some breathing room in the third quarter with a 13-yard scoring toss to Carroll to give the Oilers a 19-7 lead. Brooke Payne ran in the conversion for the 21-7 final.

The Oilers dropped their second game, 11-7, to a tough Charlestown team in a defensive battle.

Charlestown kicked a 25-yard field goal in the first quarter to go up, 3-0, and widened the gap to 9-0 with a five-yard touchdown pass.

The Oilers closed the gap to 9-7 with an electrifying 95-yard kickoff return by Price, but that was all Randolph would get off the tough Charlestown defense. A safety late in the fourth quarter increased the Charlestown lead to 11-7.

Payne again led the team in rushing with 63 yards on 13 carries.

“Payne has run well,” O’Kane said. “It’s tough to run in the EFL.”

O’Kane praised the line-backing corps of Jabari Prince, Colby Gallagher, Michael Farley and Patrick Coughlin and defensive linemen Anthony Godwin, Byron Goss and Marcus Barrow for holding the high-powered Charlestown offense to 11 points.

“Charlestown went 9-1 last season,” O’Kane said. “For us to hold them to one touchdown was pretty good.”

The Oilers will try to get back on track at Quincy Saturday night.

“Not all of our players came back from last season,” O’Kane said. “Some people thought we’d be hurting but we have a lot of good athletes. We’ll be a good team.”