

Big second quarter carries Blackhawks

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Published: Monday, April 25, 2005 2:00 AM CDT

WICHITA - The Iowa Blackhawks, Council Bluffs' indoor professional football team, won their 2005 season opener 40-35 against the Wichita Aviators this past weekend.

Wichita opened the scoring early by taking advantage of an Iowa turnover with a 47-yard drive capped off by a 7-yard touchdown run by Aviators' fullback Edris Elias to give Wichita a 7-0 first quarter lead.

"We were a little tight in the first quarter," said Blackhawks head coach Mike Wolff, "We had our opening drive stopped on the one yard line, which led to their first score, and a missed field goal later in the first quarter that had us a little frustrated."

The Blackhawks struck early in the second quarter with an 8-yard touchdown run by George Patterson III cutting the lead to 7-6.

After the Aviators stalled on offense, the Blackhawks took the lead for good on a 33-yard touchdown reception by Yano Jones, who was fully extended and sandwiched between two Aviator defenders. Jones finished the game with eight receptions for 86 yards and 2 touchdowns.

Iowa then took advantage of two Aviators turnovers with two touchdown passes from quarterback Chuck Wright. One went to wide receiver Ryan Kauffman. The other was a one-handed grab by Council Bluffs native, Kurt Ferguson as time expired to give Iowa a 26-7 halftime lead.

Wright finished the game with 172 yards passing and 4 touchdowns.

"Even though we did a lot of good things," said Wulff, "we still made a lot of dumb mistakes. Our players still have room for improvement, but overall we played great."

Iowa's defense was led by defensive-end Nick Freet; defensive backs Scott Yates, Dontrell Ducker and Justyn Creason, and linebacker Demetrius Richards.

Iowa's next game is scheduled for May 6 at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs versus defending APFL champion Kansas Koyotes. Tickets are available now through the MAC box office. For more information on the Blackhawks, please visit their web site at www.iowablackhawks.com

Iowa 0 26 7 7 - 40

Wichita 7 0 14 14 - 35

Wichita - Elias 7 run (Gunnay kick)

Iowa - Patterson 8 run (kick failed)

Iowa - Jones 33 pass from Wright (run failed)

Iowa - Kauffman 20 pass from Wright (Harold kick)

Iowa - Ferguson 6 pass from Wright (Harold kick)

Wichita - Williams 46 pass from Beasley (Gunnay kick)

Iowa - Kammrad 2 run (Harold kick)

Wichita - Beasley 1 run (Gunnay kick)

Iowa - 7 pass from Wright (Harold kick)

Wichita - Beasley 3 run (Gunnay kick)

Wichita - Richardson 7 pass from Beasley (Gunnay kick)

Individual Statistics

Rushing - Iowa: Patterson 8-35, E. Johnson 3-2, Kammrad 1-2, Ferguson 1-1 Wichita: Richardson 13-59, Elias 6-20, Beasley 5-8

Passing - Iowa: Wright 15-28-1-4-172 Wichita: Beasley 9-20-2-2-133

Receiving: Iowa: Jones 8-86, Kauffman 2-36, Moore 1-32, Patterson 1-8, Ferguson 1-6, Kammrad 1-5 Wichita: C. Williams 4-40, O. Williams 2-72, Richardson 1-8, Payne 1-7, Eason 1-6