



CPFL versus APFL

Outlaws to face Iowa team tonight

June 5, 2009 - 10:58 PM

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The Sedalia Democrat

Bragging rights will be up for grabs tonight in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The Mid-Missouri Outlaws, the three-time Central Plains Football League champion, will take on American Professional Football League front-runner, the Iowa Blackhawks.

The teams are set for a 7:05 p.m. kickoff.

Local indoor football fans might remember the Blackhawks from when the Missouri Minutemen called Sedalia home from 2005-2006.

The Blackhawks finished second to the Kansas Koyotes from 2003-2007 and placed third in 2008.

Iowa finally got over the Koyotes hump this year, beating them twice so far including its first-ever win on Kansas' home field.

The Blackhawks (5-0) lead second-place Kansas and Springfield by 1 1/2 games.

The Blackhawks have a high-powered offense, averaging almost 55 points a game. However, their defense seems vulnerable, giving up close to 31 a game.

Mid-Missouri coach Travis Jobe believes his offense will put up points.

"I feel good about our offense against anybody," Jobe said. "Our defense has always been the backbone of the team, but the way our offense has come around the last four or five games ... We're living up to our potential. We have some good athletes on offense."

The Outlaws (10-0) average around 45 points a game, while allowing only about 20.

Mid-Missouri isn't the only league champion to take on the Blackhawks this season.

They beat the Denver Titans 80-49 on May 16. The Titans won the Colorado Football Conference in seven of the past 10 years including six straight from 2002-07.

Jobe knows from personal experience that the Blackhawks rely heavily on their run game. He faced them when he played for the Minutemen in Sedalia.

The Outlaws coach said that Iowa will be running into his team's strength.

"We have the No. 1 defense in our league," Jobe said.

The Blackhawks are led by former University of Colorado running back Mell Holliday.

Holliday scored four touchdowns in three of their five games this season.

Quarterback Kyle Middleton runs the Outlaws' offense. He accounted for eight touchdowns in their 62-35 championship game win over the Independence Bulldogs.

Middleton has several targets for his team's passing game including Ben Lyles, Aaron Luebbe and Eric Brown.

However, Marcus James is the Outlaws' playmaker. He uses his speed at running back and wide receiver.

Fans can listen to the game online at www.iowablackhawks.com. Click on Listen Live Here on the top right side of the page.