



Men's soccer wins 2-1, **3B.**



Women's soccer, **5B.**



Volleyball, **8B.**

SPORTS

SECTION
B

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UNCP quarterback Cory Smith receives a snap in the Braves' Homecoming game against Webber International. Smith passed for 212 yards and a touchdown in the 30-3 win.

Photo by Nick Faulkner

Braves' home cooking leads to dominating 30-3 win

By **Matt Smith**
Sports Editor

In front of a home crowd of 4,842 students, fans and alumni, the Black and Gold football team used a dominating 30-3 win Oct. 3 over Webber International to give the Braves' fans something to smile about on Homecoming weekend.

The Braves used 138 all-purpose yards from wide receiver Jamal Williams to decimate the Warriors, as UNCP completed a perfect 4-0 home stand in 2009.

The Black and Gold used four touchdowns and a field goal to best Webber International while the defense held the visitors to just 218 yards of total offense and a field goal.

"I would have loved to have had a few more points, but we were able to do what we wanted to do," UNCP head coach Pete Shinnick said. "We wanted to hold the ball, we wanted to move the chains and we wanted to score the first time we got the ball."

The Braves wasted no time putting points on the board, using their first drive of the game to go up on the Warriors.

UNCP's first drive went 78 yards and was capped off with a Travis Daniels 16-yard rush to the left for the Braves' first touchdown.

Though Daniels got the first score, UNCP junior quarterback Cory Smith sliced through Webber International's defense, completing three passes for 34 yards. The Braves also used a Williams' 23-yard carry to put themselves into Webber International territory to set up the score.

Offense drives

With the early lead, the Braves' offense continued to dominate, using a nine play drive on their second possession of the game to go up 14-0.

This time junior running back Keith Gore picked up the touchdown with a 20-yard run with 13 minutes left in the second quarter.

The 70-yard drive again featured multiple UNCP weapons as Gore, Smith, Williams and running back Rashon Kennedy made big plays during the drive.

One drive later, Webber International responded with their only score of the day,

moving the ball 75 yards for a 21-yard field goal from place kicker Matt Ellis.

The Warrior's 12-play drive would be their only scoring threat of the day, as the Black and Gold closed out the end of the second quarter with a 20-yard touchdown pass from Smith to wide receiver L.J. Johnson. The Braves needed only three plays to score on the drive, as they used a 16-yard pass from Smith and a 7-yard run by Kennedy on the 43-yard drive to set up the scoring opportunity.

With the Braves up 21-3 at halftime, the Black and Gold again opened the quarter with a brilliant offensive display, moving the ball 76-yards on six plays for their final touchdown of the day.

A bullying rushing attack by Kennedy, who rushed for 41 yards on the drive, allowed the Braves to pull out a few tricks, as Williams threw a wide receiver pass to junior Jamelle Banks deep down the field for a 26-yard score.

The Black and Gold defense also held up their end of the bargain in the third quarter,

Continued on page 2B