



### **CTC Makes History with 18-7 victory over Shorter University JV**

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Rome, GA – After trailing into the fourth quarter, the Chattahoochee Technical College Club football team finally broke through, capitalizing on several huge defensive plays to overtake Shorter University JV for a historical 18-7 win on Monday evening at Ben Brady Field.

After a shaky start, the Golden Eagles just seemed all night to be on the brink of busting through the wall of youthful mistakes that plagued them in their home opener last week against EPSA. As the game wore on, CTC began to take control on both sides of the ball.

On the opening possession, the Golden Eagles initially appeared as if they were picking up where they left off last week by having trouble holding on to the football. On first down, QB Dee Ellison, from the shotgun formation, had trouble gathering the long snap. He was able to protect it but lost yardage on the play. Then, on the second play from scrimmage, the long snap sailed over Ellison's head, who had to chase it. Shorter was able to recover the fumble at the Golden Eagle 18 yard line. It only took a couple of plays to punch it in the end zone. After the two yard touchdown run up the middle by the Shorter fullback, the extra point kick was good and CTC trailed 7-0 only three minutes into the game.

On the return, CTC again coughed up the ball, but were able to keep it. But, after picking up two first downs, were forced to punt the ball back to the Hawks. Shorter took over at the 35 yard line and with the help of several costly penalties by CTC, including a roughing the punter, managed to push the ball to the Golden Eagle 15. However, an errant pass was picked off in the end zone by Pat Burris. With a lot of open space, he chose to run it out up the left side of the field, finding a seam across the middle, he was finally brought down at the Shorter 22 yard line. On the first play from scrimmage, Kemoi Penn took a pitch around the right end, got the corner and raced for the end zone. The extra-point was no good, but CTC had cut the Hawk lead to 7-6 at the 3:29 mark of the opening quarter.



**Burris runs back interception in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter....**



**Penn gets CTC on board with 22 yard TD run...**

In the second period, the two teams traded the ball several times after impressive defensive efforts. Chattahoochee Tech had the ball 2<sup>nd</sup> and eight to go at their own 40, when Cory Brown took a handoff around the left side, found a hole and raced up the sideline, before tiring and being run down at about the six yard line. The 54 yard scamper set up a sure scoring opportunity with 4:40 left in the half. However on first and goal, Ellison was dropped for a huge loss, which was followed up by another loss, pushing the ball back to the 25 yard line. After an incompletion, the field goal attempt on fourth down was tipped, causing it to fall short. At the 2:50 mark, Shorter took over there and promptly ran sweeps left, then right to their tailback, who picked up big gains of 14 and 10, followed by a 13 yard pass completion on the right side. The Golden Eagles came up with a huge defensive play with Chaz Barnes got into the backfield and threw the Hawk QB for a 12 yard loss. With :42 seconds on the clock Shorter was sacked for another loss, bringing up fourth down. They allowed the game clock to run down to :02 ticks on the clock and called timeout to set up the last play from the CTC 33 yard line. The pass play fell short ending the half with CTC trailing 7-6, but very much in the game.

Chattahoochee Tech kicked to Shorter to start the second half, and forced the Hawks to punt after they struggled to find yardage on three consecutive running plays. Pat Burris fielded the punt and after breaking the initial wave of Hawk coverage team, got to the outside and rolled for a 60 yard return, before being pushed out of bounds at the 19 yard line. Promptly, on first down, Justin Carswell reeled off a 14 yard jaunt to the Shorter five yard line. A delay of game infraction pushed CTC back to the 10 yard line. Ellison then rolled right and found Terrance Major in the end zone. He checked in with the referee prior to the play, and lined up as a tight end, assuming it was legal. Upon catching the TD pass, the back line judge ruled the play no good, much to the dismay of the CTC faithful. After a brief meeting between the referee crew and CTC Head Coach, Tim Freeman, the play stood. After being dropped for a loss, Ellison rolled left and over threw a wide open Darius Smith in the end zone. Trying to throw across his body, Ellison did not get zip on the ball, which sailed over the outstretched hands. On fourth down, Brian Duncan's 28 yard field goal attempt had enough on it, but was just barely wide to the left of the goal post, killing the scoring CTC threat.



**Burris gets to outside for big punt return....**



**Ellison hands off to Cory Brown...**

Shorter took over with 7:57 left in the third stanza, where they connected on a big pass play to the Shorter 45 yard line. CTC then stiffened and got in the Hawk backfield to bring runners down for consecutive losses. On third and long, Shorter threw down field and was able to draw a questionable interference call on Emmanuel Edourzin, who was tagged with the infraction though he was clearly blocked out of the trajectory of the ball by the receiver.

Shorter had a huge automatic first down at the CTC 40 yard line. But, Shorter's drive fizzled too after a couple of their own penalties and they were forced to punt.

The Golden Eagles took over at their own 20 yard line. Fred Brown bulled his way for two four yard gains to set up a third and two. CTC didn't convert on third down, but still trailing by one, made a bold decision by going for it on fourth down from their own 28. Kemoi Penn worked his way to the outside for a four yard gain, but it was wiped out by a holding penalty and CTC had to punt from deep. Shorter let the punt drop and it took a Chattahoochee roll back to the Hawk 42 yard line. A quick pitch on first down got the Hawks into CTC territory at the 49. Then, with 1.9 ticks on the third quarter clock, the Hawks fumbled the ball back to Golden Eagles.

To begin the fourth, CTC was in good field position and desperate to get over the hump. It wouldn't happen on this series, as Ellison mishandled a quick pitch to Fred Brown to lose four, then another broken play picked up no gain. After an incomplete pass, confusion over the downs had the Eagles going for it on fourth and 15. Ellison dropped back with 13:14 left in the game and threw down field on the right side, where Travis Ledbetter and a Shorter defender fought for the ball. Shorter came up with the interception at the CTC 20 yard line, so in effect, the turnover merely served as the same effect as a punt.

The Golden Eagle defense came up big, as a flock of Eagles led by Justin Carswell bagged the Shorter QB for a sack and an eight yard loss, back to the 12 yard line. Back into a corner, the Hawks could not complete to pass attempts and were forced to punt from behind their goal line. The punt rolled out to the Shorter 37 yard line, where CTC took over with 11 minutes left and still trailing 7-6. That would last long though. After gaining seven yards on running plays, on a third down passing situation, Ellison lofted the ball towards the end zone where Freshad Riles leaped and clutched the ball for an emotional 30 yard touchdown reception. The two point conversion was not converted, but the Golden Eagles 12-7 lead was its first lead in a football game in school history.



*Riles, wide right, hauled in go ahead TD pass from Ellison...*



*Ellison in shotgun formation...*

Again, the Golden Eagle 11 came up big on defense, as Shorter went three and out, setting up another punt. Two CTC rushers got hands on the punt and the ball bounced off the ground into the hands of Wesley Walker, who raced to paydirt, to suddenly put Shorter down 18-7 with 6:05 remaining in the contest. Again, the two point conversion was not good as Ellison tried to loft an over-the-top Ledbetter in the deep corner.



***Eagles go for two, after Walker's punt block return for a TD...***

With a victory now seemingly possible, the CTC coaching staff desperately tried to re-focus a jubilant Golden Eagle team. Shorter got off a good return to the 45 yard line, followed by a personal foul, gave the Hawks great field position at the CTC 40. On two runs, Shorter pounded out a first down to the 27 and were threatening to score with 4:57 left. The game was not over.

But, again the CTC defense showed up big when the QB was forced out of the pocket, took a big shot to the ribs, causing him to fumble. CTC's Demonte' Smith scooped up the fumble and rumbled 65 yards for an apparent touchdown. But, an illegal block 30 yards behind the runner, who was already stepping across the goal line, brought the ball all the way back to midfield. Jonathan Jackson took over under center and though the offense didn't get anywhere, they executed three running plays that ate up a lot of clock. A bad snap and punt gave Shorter the ball at their own 45 with 2:50 remaining.

Shorter's quarterback rolled left and passed down field. The pass was deflected into the hands of CTC DB, Montae Giles. He returned the pickoff back across midfield, effectively sealing the victory. Jackson re-entered, handed off up the middle to use clock, then on the next play ran a keeper 12 yards for a first down. That would prove to be the last play, as time expired, giving the Golden Eagles a resounding 18-7 win, its first in school history.



***Giles seals victory with late interception....***

***CTC players happy with the big win...***

"We made some big plays and we have come a long way just since last week's loss to EPSA," remarked an elated Tim Freeman. "We are going to be alright. We will now have a bye week with the cancellation of the Lagrange game, so we have two weeks to work on things. We are going to be alright."

"That's a big win," offered Associate Provost Dr. Ron Dulaney. "We looked light years better than last week and it was good to see."



Coach Freeman and Dr. Chandler happy about win...



Post game prayer circle with both teams....