

# Junior Falcons Football and Cheer

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Mike Ray – Colfax Record  
Todd Mordhorst – Auburn Journal

## Midgets Reach Championship Game

### **Colfax – 12 Folsom Vista - 0**

The Junior Falcons will play host to the Pleasant Grove Junior Eagles on Saturday on Rio Linda's field. The game starts at 4:00pm.

Colfax earned that right after winning a hard-fought defensive battle against an equally talented Folsom Vista team last Saturday.

Kyle Bryant returned the opening kickoff 20 yards to the Colfax 46. From there, Colfax ate up eight minutes of clock with a 17-play drive that Vista stopped at their 11. John Hayes and Mario Margherita set the defensive tone for the day by stopping Folsom on their first play for a six-yard loss. Following a punt, Colfax took over at Vista's 35. Seven plays later, Jack Baldoni raced to the corner scoring from 15 yards. The key play was a 3<sup>rd</sup> down 21-yard pass completion from Baldoni to Bailey Bean. On Vista's next series, Jory Weber, Michael Calleja caught runners for losses and on third down, Hayes caught the quarterback for an 8-yard loss. The ensuing punt attempt was low and bounced off a Vista player and recovered by Hayes at the Vista 20. Runs by Tanner Kane and Jordan Balsler and a pass to Chancey Trentman put ball at the 10. Vista's defense stiffened and the half ended with Colfax ahead 6-0.

Vista started the second half at the Colfax 47 and drove to the Colfax 5. Calleja broke through the blocking and forced the quarterback to fumble that was recovered by Margherita at his 15. After a sack, a hole opened up in the middle of the line and Trentman broke through and outraced the Vista defensive backs enroute to an 87-yard touchdown run and 12-0 lead.

From their own 39, Vista drove to the Colfax 32 where the defense held. Four plays later Vista picked off a Baldoni pass at their own 5 stopping Colfax again. A Vista seven-play drive ended at their own 42 with Bean, Trentman and Robbie Lopez leading defensive stops in this series. Six plays later, Kane carried 19 yards from the Vista 24 and with no further need to score, Colfax went into the "Victory" formation to end the game at Vista's five.

Pleasant Grove's only loss was a 14-8 battle at Marson Field on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Pleasant Grove and the Falcons have scored 140 and 124 points respectively while giving up only 38 and 47 points for the season.

### **Junior Midgets – 0 Rio Linda – 40**

Rio Linda came into this game with the highest scoring offense averaging 32.8 and giving up only 4.8 points per game...and then there was the size difference.

Using a persistent aerial attack and running game full of trick plays, the taller, bigger and faster Junior Knights were a challenge for the Junior Falcons.

Despite the score, several players showed that next year's squad will be tough to play. Timmy Rawlins, Ray Henry, Sammy LaHaie, Dalton Bannister, Connor Rawlins, Logan Hurst, Jake Buol and Ian Gassaway were in on numerous tackles. Patrick Beninga had a sack. Quarterback Henry was injured on the second play of the game, but played through his pain to try to help his team. He had a touchdown-saving tackle. After a Junior Knight picked off a pass at his own 26, he raced for the end zone to a sure touchdown. Coming from the opposite side of the field, Marcus Jackson caught him at the Colfax 10.

Fans, family and friends are encouraged to support the Midgets in their second championship game appearance.