

Wildcats win despite overall sluggish performance

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Photo: Josh Crawford continues to lead the offense while Taylor Hawthorne is out with an injury.

Photo: Anita Barnes

By ART PARKER

It wasn't the best effort of the year for the Edgewood Wildcats, but they got the job done last week defeating Crenshaw Academy on the road, 28-14. It was the 39th consecutive victory for the Wildcats.

Edgewood went into the fourth quarter tied 14-14 against Crenshaw, a team with a 2-5 record. It took a pair of touchdowns in that final stanza to secure the win. Josh Crawford scored with 5 minutes to go to give Edgewood the lead and later connected with Heath Young on a 38 yard touchdown pass for the final touchdown.

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Crawford scored in the first half while amassing 150 yards running and Jesse Benton scored in the first half also. Austin Barnett and Heath Young made nine tackles each for Edgewood. Edgewood.

"It was not a good game for us," Edgewood coach Bobby Carr said. "We are struggling with lack of experience and injury issues."

The Wildcats still miss their starting quarterback Taylor Hawthorne, who may be back for the playoffs. Keith Johnson, an experienced defensive player was on the sidelines Friday night. Crawford, who is the offensive juggernaut for the Wildcats, is filling in at quarterback while Hawthorne is out and he has had problems with his feet. To make matters worse, the Wildcats lost a defensive tackle to a knee injury in the Crenshaw game.

"I think we are tired. We had those two real tough games with Autauga and Coosa Valley and we were sluggish coming into tonight's game," Carr said. "I think we will just workout in shorts next week to try and rest our bodies."

Edgewood is 8-0 for the season and 5-0 in the region. Next week the Wildcats will take on EMCA at home in a local battle. EMCA now stands at 2-5 for the season and is 2-2 in the region.