

Huskies ready to host Mineral Wells in regular season finale

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By [Matthew Brice](#) Nov 7, 2018



(L-R) **Daimarquua Foster**, Nate Downing, & Tian Harrell towards the end of Hirschi's win over Sweetwater in week 3 (Photo: Matthew Brice, 247Sports)

The Wichita Falls Hirschi Huskies (7-2 overall, 3-1 district) will head into the 4A-Division 1 playoffs with the mindset of "unfinished business". They were knocked off in the regional finals last year by Stephenville and quite a few players still have a bitter taste in their mouths. But, the Huskies still have to take care of business against the Mineral Wells Rams (6-3 overall, 1-3 district) at 7PM on Thursday in the regular season finale.

Keys to the game;

Mineral Wells

Offensively, running back Khalil Thompson (1,492 yards rushing, 18 touchdowns) will need to be at his best if the Rams are going to pull off the upset. He's been responsible for the majority of the Rams offensive success but, quarterback Drew Huff (1,332 yards passing, 11 touchdowns) will also have to play a major role in balancing out the offense. With Thompson being the focal point, Huff and Rams receivers D'Ija Kennedy and Anthony Hernandez will have the opportunity to win on the back end of a tough Husky front 7. However, they must execute effectively if they're going to take advantage of the

opportunities given to them. Defensively, linebackers Jonah Maston, Ryan Goodwin and the rest of the Rams front 7 will have to play their best game of the season. They'll be facing arguably the nation's number 1 running back in TCU commit **Daimarqua Foster**. Along with facing Foster, the Rams will also have the task of dealing with Husky quarterback Nate Downing, who is known for his blazing speed and attacking the edge in the read option. Bringing an extra defender into the box from the secondary is a must for the Ram defense, as they'll get a heavy dose of Foster and Downing all game. The Huskies will throw it occasionally so cornerbacks Devin Hurtado and Kennedy must still play disciplined football on the back end.

Hirschi

Offensively, it'll be business as usual. Running back **Daimarqua Foster** (1,841 yards rushing, 27 touchdowns) and quarterback Nate Downing (912 yards rushing, 12 touchdowns) will just need to continue to do what they've always done, which is run through and around defenses. Downing also has 740 passing yards and 7 touchdowns through the air. When the Rams make the attempt to load the box like everyone other opponent, Downing will use his arm to find receivers Tian Harrell, Isaiah Wilson, as well as Foster for big gains to keep them honest. Defensively, defensive tackle **Lloyd Murray Jr.**, baby brother and linebacker Chris Murray, are the anchors upfront. They'll have a busy evening dealing with a run first Rams offense but, Downing (also plays free safety) and the Husky secondary will also have to play fundamentally sound defense on the back end. They should expect the Rams to mix in some play action passes and attempt to go deep on a few occasions.

A win for Hirschi will give them a share of the district title at worst and more importantly, they'll go into the postseason with a lot of momentum. But Mineral Wells will show up with a lot of pride and do anything they can to spoil the Huskies' chance at winning their first district title since 1999. Will the Huskies roll into the postseason with momentum? Or will the Rams go into basketball season on a positive note after disrupting the Huskies' rhythm? Follow me to Wichita Falls to find out.

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