

The Mt. Juliet Christian Academy (MJCA) Saints middle school football team got off to a fast start in their season opener Thursday, defeating the Providence Christian Academy (PCA) Lions 38-0 in Murfreesboro.

The Saints led 22-0 at halftime on the strength of three touchdowns by running back Samuel Eastin, who finished the game with four touchdowns and 119 yards on the ground.

Quarterback Alex Pitman added another 100 yards rushing as well as a touchdown, and was 2-for-2 passing.

In total, the Saints offense rolled up 274 yards.

Defensively the Saints allowed PCA just 83 yards of total offense.

With PCA driving early in the game, Daniel Boehm made a key interception which he returned 35 yards, ending the scoring threat and setting the tone.

Preston Sloan led the defensive attack with 4.5 tackles and blocked a punt that was recovered by the Saints.

Keegan Edwards and Triston Mathis tied for second in tackles, with three each.

Josh Jose and Hunter Stonebreaker each had fumble recoveries and Will Dedman added a sack.

Head Coach Mike Kittrell described the win as the culmination of months of preparation.

“Our team has worked extremely hard, going all the way back to the spring,” said Kittrell. “I couldn’t be any prouder of them, and I’m so excited to see them succeed and move our football program forward.”

The 1-0 Saints next play host to the Zion Christian Academy Eagles on Tuesday, Aug. 14, at 6 pm.