

Trending: Last season, **Columbia** and Pequea Valley combined for six victories.

After just two weeks, the **Crimson** Tide and Braves have already combined for four. Both are 2-0, and for the latter, the two victories match their total from all of last season. To date, Columbia has outscored opponents 56-21; Pequea Valley 79-40.

A quick review of the stats reveals a common thread: Both the Tide and the Braves are dominating on the ground. Paced by senior **Seth Lefever**, who has carried 22 times for 211 yards and a 9.6 average, and junior **Andrew Combs** (22-100, 4.5), the Tide is averaging 208 yards per game on the ground.

Columbia's defense, fronted by outside 'backer **Bryan Flory** (team-high 25 tackles), is surrendering an average of just 96 yards per game rushing and 136 total.

Translation: The Tide is controlling the game by controlling the ball, leaving opposing offenses to idle on the sideline.

Same goes for the Braves. Pequea Valley has averaged 284 yards rushing in its first two games. Seniors Chris Schmid (47-364, 7.8) and the 190-pound Mitch Ball (17-129, 7.6) offer a one-two punch of speed and power, respectively.

Head coaches **Mike Burke III** of Columbia and Pequea Valley's Evan Breisblatt are in their second and first year, respectively, at their current schools. It's far too early to tell, but it could be that these are two programs trending upward.