

Julio Jones Leads Falcons Past Eagles 26-24 In Quinn's Debut

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — Julio Jones had 141 yards receiving and two touchdowns, Matt Ryan shook off a pair of interceptions, and the Atlanta Falcons came back to beat the Philadelphia Eagles 26-24 Monday night after squandering a 17-point halftime lead.

Ricardo Allen's interception off a deflected pass sealed the victory with 1:11 remaining, giving Dan Quinn an upset victory in his first game as Falcons coach. The Eagles missed a chance to go ahead when Cody Parkey missed a 44-yard field goal with 2:27 to go.

"Our defense stepped up at the end of the game," Ryan said. "Ricardo has worked so hard."

Coming off the best season of

his career and with a lucrative new contract, Jones dominated the Eagles' revamped secondary as the Falcons raced to a 20-3 halftime lead. It could have been even more if not for Kiko Alonso's dazzling one-handed interception while falling backward in the end zone.

Ryan had another interception on the first possession of the second half, turning the momentum in Philadelphia's favor. The Atlanta quarterback finished 23 of 34 for 298 yards.

Sam Bradford, in his first regular-season game in nearly two years and making his debut for the Eagles, was 36 of 52 for 336 yards. But Philadelphia's much-hyped running game, led by newcomer DeMarco Murray, was largely a bust.

After leading the NFL with more than 1,800 yards rushing in Dallas

last season, Murray was held to 9 yards on eight carries. Ryan Mathews had only 4 yards, while Darren Sproles led the way with 50 yards on the ground.

Coach Chip Kelly's up-tempo offense looked unstoppable in the preseason but bogged down in the first half against the fired-up Falcons, who hope the energetic Quinn can turn things around from a 10-22 showing the last two seasons under Mike Smith.

Other than a 69-yard drive that led to a field goal, the Eagles generated just 56 yards on their other seven first-half possessions — three of which went three-and-out, and another ended quickly when Bradford was intercepted.

Jones, on the other hand, was unstoppable. After signing a new \$71.25 million contract, he gave At-

lanta its money's worth by hauling in eight passes for 97 yards before halftime, including touchdowns of 4 and 22 yards. The Eagles clamped down in the second half, but Jones finally got loose for his only catch after the break — a 44-yarder that set up Matt Bryant's winning field goal from 47 yards with 6:27 left.

Bryant also connected from 41, 39 and 44 yards.

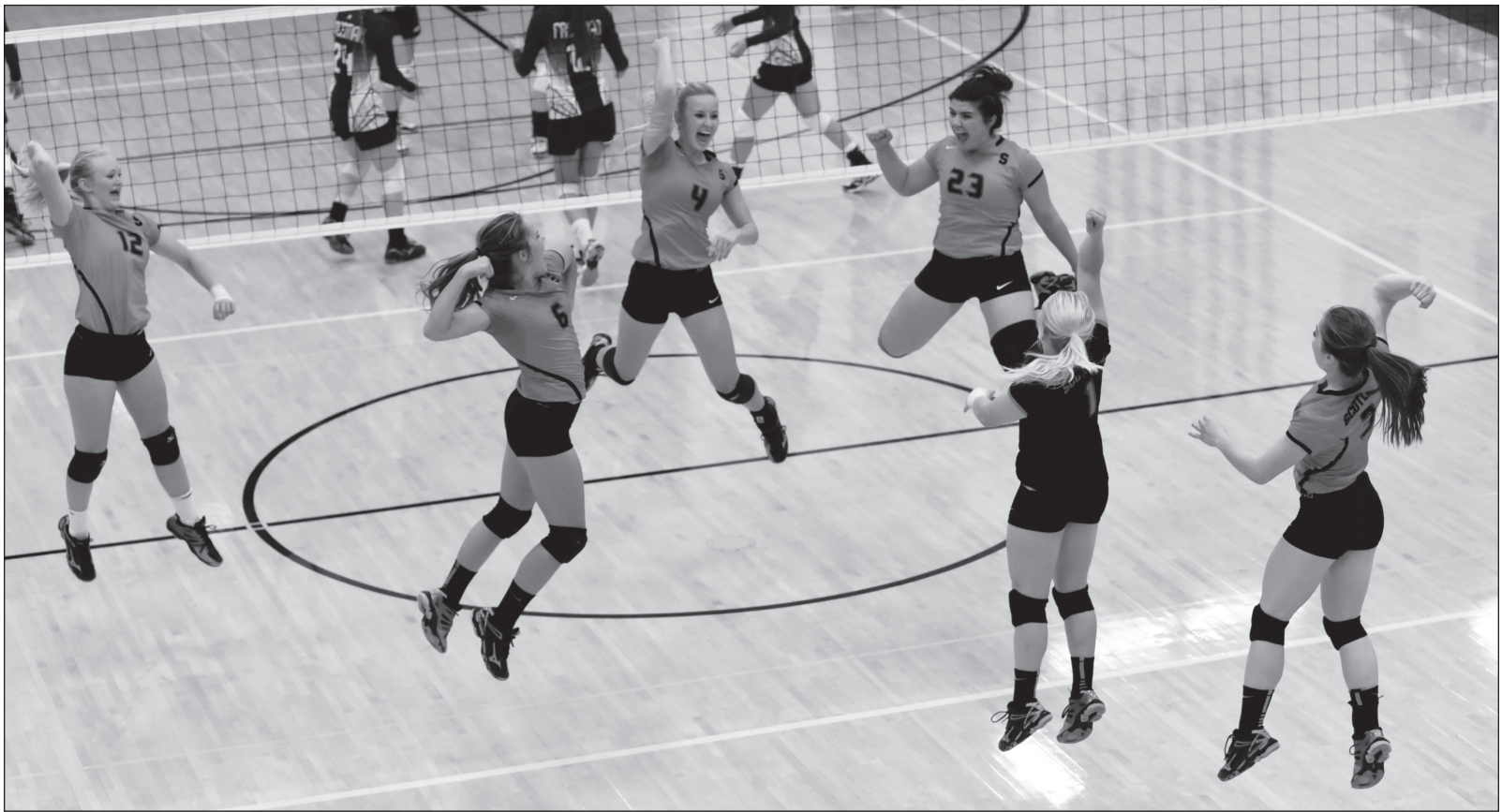
It didn't take long for the Eagles to capture the momentum after halftime.

On the third play, Ryan threw a deep pass down the middle just as he was hit, looking for Roddy White. Walter Thurmond stepped in to make the interception, returning it 23 yards to the Atlanta 8. After an incomplete pass, Murray took off around right end for Philadelphia's first touchdown of the season.

The Falcons were forced to punt, and the Eagles put together their most impressive drive of the night to that point. Despite four penalties, they went 95 yards in 13 plays, capped off by Bradford's 5-yard touchdown pass to Murray that sliced Atlanta's lead to 20-17. The running back hauled in the throw, cut back to leave Kroy Biermann sprawled face-first on the turf, and sauntered into the end zone.

Philadelphia wasn't done, either. Bradford guided the Eagles 80 yards in just six plays, including four consecutive completions that went for 24, 12, 21 and 19 yards to the Atlanta 1. Mathews took it in from there, giving Philadelphia its first lead of the game.

It wouldn't last.



Scotland players celebrate an ace serve during the Highlanders' home volleyball match with Freeman on Monday. Scotland recorded 28 ace serves in a 3-0 victory over the Flyers.

Scotland Sweeps Past Flyers

SCOTLAND — Taylor Bietz had eight kills and four ace serves to lead Scotland to a 25-14, 25-9, 25-13 victory over Freeman in prep volleyball action on Monday.

Alex Conrad had 11 ace serves and nine assists, and Alexis DeBoer had three ace serves for Scotland. Shannon Fanning added nine digs and three ace serves in the victory.

For Freeman, Dayna Roth had 10 digs and Lacey Wipf had seven digs. Journey Mehlhaf posted two blocks.

Scotland, 3-3, travels to Lake Andes to face Andes Central-Dakota Christian today (Tuesday). Freeman continues a seven-match road stretch in Emery tonight against Bridgewater-Emery.

Freeman (0-8).....	14	9	13
Scotland (3-3).....	25	25	25

field downed Wausa 25-23, 25-19, 21-25, 25-17 in Lewis & Clark Conference volleyball action on Monday in Wausa, Nebraska.

Kristin Thompson had seven kills, seven assisted blocks and 14 digs to lead a balanced Bloomfield barrage. Karly Jensen had six ace serves and seven blocks (two solo). Sarah Castaneda had seven blocks (three solo) and eight digs. Kaci Millikan had 11 digs, Brittany Kerbel had 27 assists and Brandi Guenther had six blocks (one solo) and seven digs in the victory.

No statistics were reported for Wausa, which travels to Plainview tonight (Tuesday).

Bloomfield, 5-1, hosts Winside on Thursday.

Bloomfield (5-1).....	25	25	21	25
Wausa (0-6).....	23	19	25	17

posted 11 kills on the way to lead Howard to a 25-22, 25-10, 25-18 victory over Menno in prep volleyball action on Monday.

Citori Bentz had seven kills and Katelyn Kampshoff had 27 assists and four ace serves for Howard.

For Menno, Tara Spencer had five kills, two blocks and 11 digs, and Hailey Fergen had five kills and five ace serves to lead the way. Courtney Edelman had 15 digs, Ashton Vaith had 12 digs and Jaedyn Oplinger had three ace serves for the Wolves.

Howard, 4-6, faces Chester today (Tuesday). Menno, 2-3, travels to Salem to face McCook Central-Montrose on Thursday.

Menno won the JV match 26-24, 13-25, 17-15.

Howard (4-6).....	25	25	25
Menno (2-3).....	22	10	18



Freeman's Journey Mehlhaf attacks the ball against Scotland's Elyssa Walloch (6) and Kayla Rokusek during their prep volleyball match on Monday in Scotland.

Bloomfield 3, Wausa 1
WAUSA, Neb. — Bloom-

Howard 3, Menno 0
MENNO — Izzy Becker

Twins Hit Tigers Hard Early, Cruise To 7-1 Victory

BY JON KRAWCZYNSKI
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Eduardo Escobar homered and drove in two runs and Tyler Duffey struck out seven while pitching into the seventh inning to lead the Minnesota Twins to a 7-1 victory over the Detroit Tigers on Monday night.

Duffey (3-1) gave up one run on seven hits and walked two in 6 1-3 innings, and Joe Mauer went 3 for 5, extending his streak of games reaching base to 34 for the Twins, who entered the night trailing the Texas Rangers by one game for the American League's second wild card.

Kyle Lobstein (3-8) gave up six runs on seven hits in just 1 2-3 innings for the Tigers. J.D. Martinez had two hits for Detroit, but Steven Moya had four of the team's 11 strikeouts.

The Twins returned home from a 10-day road trip pretty much right where they left off — neck-and-neck with the

Rangers for the second wild-card spot. They play 13 of their final 20 games at home, including 10 in a row against the Tigers, Angels and Indians.

Playing their first meaningful September games in five years, the Twins jumped on Lobstein and the Tigers right off the bat.

Mauer had three hits in the first three innings, Trevor Plouffe's two-run double highlighted a four-run first inning and Escobar's homer landed in the second deck in left field to give Minnesota a 7-0 lead in the fourth.

It was another mess for the Tigers, with Martinez misplaying Plouffe's opposite field shot off the wall in right, Lobstein getting hit hard and being charged with a balk all in the first inning. The Twins sent 17 hitters to the plate in the first two innings.

It's been quite a reversal of fortunes for these two teams, with the once-mighty Tigers bottoming out this season and the Twins (75-68) — losers of

at least 90 games in each of the past four seasons — vaulting back into the postseason picture.

The Tigers (65-78) are 19 games behind AL Central-leading Kansas City.

Torii Hunter had two hits and an RBI for Minnesota.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Twins: All-Star closer Glen Perkins threw a bullpen session on Monday to test his ailing back. He said everything went well and he will throw another bullpen on Wednesday. If all goes well then, Perkins said he hoped to be ready to return to action by Friday. He has not pitched since Sept. 1.

UP NEXT

Phil Hughes (10-8, 4.49) will start for the Twins against Alfredo Simon (12-9, 4.94). Hughes will be pitching for the first time since Aug. 9 due to a back injury. Simon is coming off a rough no decision outing in which he allowed five runs on nine hits — including a pair of home runs — in 6 2-3 innings against Cleveland.

Official: Toronto Not Bidding For 2024 Olympics

TORONTO (AP) — Toronto will not be bidding to host the 2024 Summer Olympics.

An official with knowledge of the decision said late Monday that Canada's largest city is going to stay out of the race. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak publicly.

Mayor John Tory is due to announce the decision at a news conference on Tuesday morning. He had until Tuesday to write a letter to the International Olympic Committee to express interest. The declared bidders for 2024 include Los Angeles, Paris, Rome, Budapest, Hungary and Hamburg, Germany.

Toronto declining to bid is good news for Los Angeles as it becomes the only North American bidder. The winning city will be chosen in 2017.

Tory began researching the feasibility of a bid only when excitement for the Pan Am Games. The competition was hosted by Toronto this past summer. Canada spent about \$2.5 billion Canadian (\$2 billion) to organize the Pan Am Games — the most expensive in history — and has several Olympic-style venues in place.

After an initial wave of enthusiasm for an Olympic bid, many expressed concerns in recent weeks about the cost. The Canadian Olympic Committee had been urging Toronto to enter the race.

Toronto has failed twice with recent Olympic bids.

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Tennis: Gazelles Pick Up One Victory On Weekend Road Trip

SIoux FALLS — The Yankton Gazelles girls' tennis team went 1-3 over the weekend, dropping two on Friday and going 1-1 on Saturday.

Roosevelt swept both Yankton and Aberdeen Roncalli on Saturday in Sioux Falls. Yankton beat Roncalli 8-1 in the other match.

On Friday, Yankton lost to Washington 9-0 and Madison 7-2.

For the weekend, Yankton's

Anne Knoff went 2-2 in singles and doubles, teaming with Sophie Kouri for doubles victories against Roncalli and Madison. Knoff's singles wins also came against Roncalli and Madison.

Also on Friday, Yankton announced that its Sept. 10 dual with Vermillion, which was called off due to rain, will not be made up.

Yankton returns to Sioux Falls

today (Tuesday), facing Mitchell and Sioux Falls Lincoln in a triangular.

ROOSEVELT 9, YANKTON 0

SINGLES: Lexy Ronning R def. Anne Knoff 10-5; Allison Eichacker R def. Mimi Garcia 10-2; Allison Weidenbach R def. Sophie Kouri 10-3; Morgan Johnson R def. Josie Krajewski 10-4; Mollie Sundvold R def. Adrienne Kusek 10-3; Jordyn Fossell R def. Olivia Tennant 10-1

DOUBLES: Ronning-Johnson R def. Knoff-Kouri 10-2; Weidenbach-Eichacker R def. Garcia-Krajewski 10-2; Fossell-Sundvold R def. Kusek-Tennant 10-2

JV: Alana Moe R def. Breanna Becker 10-0; Maria Damjanovic R def. Maddie Binder 10-2; Moe-Damjanovic R def. Binder-Bender 10-8

WASHINGTON 9, YANKTON 0

SINGLES: Libby Nachtigal W def. Anne Knoff 10-6; Charlotte Goodhope W def. Mimi Garcia 10-0; Sadie Goodhope W def. Sophie Kouri 10-3; Anna Goodhope W def. Josie Krajewski 10-0; Skylar Close-Smith W def. Adrienne Kusek 10-3; Katelyn Nesheim W def. Olivia Tennant 10-1

DOUBLES: Nachtigal-Sadie Goodhope W def. Knoff-Kouri 10-3; Charlotte Goodhope-Anna Goodhope W def. Krajewski-Garcia 10-0; Miller-Close-Smith W def. Kusek-Tennant 10-4

JV: Lauren Miller W def. Brenna Becker 8-3; Katie Anderson W def. Maddie Binder 8-0

MADISON 7, YANKTON 2

SINGLES: Anne Knoff Y def. Alyssa Jones 10-0; Simone Droge M def. Mimi Garcia 10-2; Sydney Swenson M def. Sophie Kouri 10-8; Lecee Fedel M def. Josie Krajewski 10-2; C.C. Graham M def. Adrienne Kusek 10-3; Morgan Wrey M def. Olivia Tennant 10-6

DOUBLES: Knoff-Kouri Y def. Droge-Swenson 10-2; Graham-Wrey M def. Garcia-Krajewski 10-3; Fedel-Hannah Olsen M def. Kusek-Tennant 10-3

JV: Lily Wolff M def. Brenna Becker 8-6; Maddie Binder Y def. Emma Kruger 8-2; Wolf-Mya Maxwell M def. Binder-Bender 8-5