

Playoffs are still within CBS' reach

The Falcons hand Union Mine its only loss in the Sierra Valley Conference.

How it went down: Host Christian Brothers kept its playoff hopes alive with a 27-14 victory over seventh-ranked Union Mine in a key Sierra Valley Conference game.

Falcons senior quarterback Curtis Raulnaitis completed 15 of 22 passes for 252 yards, including an

eight-yard touchdown pass to junior receiver Pat Gormley. Raulnaitis also scored on a four-yard run.

The Falcons tied Cordova (8-2, 5-2) and three-time defending Division II Sac-Joaquin Section champion Oak Ridge (6-4, 5-2), who both won Friday night. A coin flip at 9 a.m. today at Cordova will determine which team will go to the playoffs.

Christian Brothers is happy to finish the regular season strongly and to be in contention for the playoffs late in the season.

"It's just an incredible feeling," coach Andre Johansen said. "From Day One, we knew we had the talent and the ability to win big games, and we were able to win our share this season."

Extra points: Falcons running back Anthony Molina rushed for 122 yards on 21 carries, including a four-yard touchdown. Falcons kicker Keenen Flynn booted field goals of 22 and 27 yards in the second half. Diamondbacks running back Josh

Moran replaced starter Mike Springer and scored on a 52-yard touchdown run. Springer sat out the game with a separated right shoulder.

Why the game mattered: Christian Brothers is the only team to defeat conference champion Union Mine in SVC play. Union Mine's other loss was 36-30 to Colfax on Sept. 23.

The skinny: Christian Brothers finished the regular season undefeated at home. The Falcons have won five straight.

- Quwan S.

Celebrating a big win



Sacramento Bee/Kevin German

Christian Brothers' Michael Macaluso jumps onto the back of teammate David Bonomi (44) after the Falcons beat No. 7 Union Mine 27-14 Friday to keep their playoff hopes alive. See story, Page C9.

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