

# Off to a great start!

## Bears beat Hays for 2nd year in a row

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**KYLE** — Josiah Monroe threw four touchdowns and had over 300 yards of offense as the Bastrop Bears made it two in a row over Hays, 34-14 Friday at Bob Shelton Stadium in Kyle.

Monroe razzled and dazzled the large crowd and put Bastrop (1-0) ahead for the first time with eight minutes left in the second quarter.

Before then, Hays' Trace Gandy ran in a 3-yard touchdown after the Rebels burned nearly five minutes off the clock to put Hays up 6-0, where it would stay after a failed two-point conversion attempt.

Kicker Lee McMillan put Bastrop on the scoreboard with 2:23 left in the first quarter with a 44-yard field goal.

Then Monroe took over.

He connected with Auston Shipley twice for touchdowns in the second quarter, one for eight yards and the other for 16 yards as Bastrop took a 17-6 lead at halftime.

Monrow had 163 yards passing in the first half and 52 yards rushing.

Bastrop built on its lead in the third quarter with another field goal by McMillan, this time from 31 yards out.

Monroe put the final nail in the Rebels' coffin with a 17-yard touchdown pass to Mustafa Akbar with 10:35 left in the game to put Bastrop ahead 27-6.

Gandy got a desperation touchdown late in the fourth quarter and a two-point conversion would put Hays down by 13 points, but Monroe quickly answered with a 9-yard touch-



Contributed photos by Larry Overall  
Floating like a butterfly, Josiah Monroe, above, stung the Hays Rebels like a bee with four passing touchdowns on 300 yards of offense for the Bears' season opener.

just 166 total yards of offense to the Rebels in the first half.

Bastrop's defense held Hays to three-and-out twice, and also kept the Rebels scoreless on seven straight possessions.

Pete Rodriguez and Colton Tucker each got an interception and Adam Mack had a 52-yard punt return that was 12 yards shy of being another Bears touchdown.

It was Monroe, however, that made it frustrating for Hays coach Bob Shelton at the

