

# The Bears held in a different light

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*Sports Editor*

Last Friday's game against Pflugerville was one Bastrop wasn't supposed to win on paper.

It surely wasn't one that Bastrop was supposed to dominate.

The Panthers are two years removed from playing in the Class 5A state championship and there is a deep tradition there.

The way Bastrop played on Friday night, tradition may have begun for the Bears.

"This is a big boost to our confidence," said head coach Gerald Perry, now in his second year. "We beat the teams we should have beaten and now we pick up a win against a program like Pflugerville. It's huge for these kids and this community."

There is a fear of a letdown this week when Bastrop travels to Connally to take on the Cougars (1-3, 0-1 District 25-5A).

Connally's 1-3 record is sort of deceiving.

The Cougars losses have been to a ranked Stony Point, a talented Killeen team and to Austin High.

"They are full of athletes," Perry said. "We spent some time talk-

ing to the kids about making sure they perform at the same high level they did against Pflugerville. It doesn't matter who you play in this district, everyone has the potential to win."

That became evident from the first week of district play.

Akins upset a 3-0 Anderson, Austin High beat Connally and Bastrop beat Pflugerville.

All three games were considered upsets.

Bastrop now is looked at in a much different light and is in a stronger position to make its return to the playoffs.

The Bears need four district wins to make the playoffs. With games against Connally, Anderson, Akins and Austin High being opportune for wins, the previous win over Pflugerville now adds some breathing room.

Perry said Bastrop is well aware of the position they are in now, but wants to keep the focus on one week at a time.

"I briefly talked to them about the possibilities, but that's all it was," Perry said. "Our focus this week is Connally and next week it will be Westlake. There aren't going to be any sure wins."



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Bears quarterback Josiah Monroe turns upfield in action from earlier in the season.