

# Bears best Maroons, barreling along at 8-0

Bastrop gets 116 yards receiving, go-ahead score from Shipley

By Danny Davis

AMERICAN-STATESMAN STAFF

Move over Jordan, there is another big play wide receiver in the Austin area that goes by the name of Shipley.

Central Texas, meet Auston Shipley.

Shipley hauled in the go-ahead touchdown to lift Bastrop to a 14-7 win over Austin High. Playing only a few miles away from where Jordan Shipley has established himself as a household name at the University of Texas, Shipley had six catches for 116 yards.

With the win, Bastrop moves closer to a district championship. The Bears (8-0, 5-0 in District 25-5A) can clinch the district title with a win next week against Akins or a Westlake loss.

"We don't plan on losing, period," said Shipley, who left the game in the fourth quarter with a pinched nerve in his shoulder. "No one else in our district is undefeated. There is no better place to be than Bastrop."

Tied in the third quarter, Shipley was able to break loose in the Austin High secondary to haul in a 32-yard touchdown pass from Josiah Monroe. Shipley's seventh touchdown catch this season gave Bastrop a 14-7 lead with 4:49 remaining in the quarter.

On the game-winner, the Bears were finally able to bust off a big play against a stingy Austin High defense that blitzed Monroe throughout the night. With a Maroon rushing from his left, Monroe rolled to his right to toss his second touchdown pass of the night.

"Luckily in our arsenal, we've got the rollout," Bastrop coach Gerald Perry said.

"He threw it right where it was supposed to be," Shipley said. "Coaches say big players make big plays. I'm one of two senior wide receivers and I did what I needed to do."

For the second straight game, the Maroons took the field without



Larry Kolvoord AMERICAN-STATESMAN

Bastrop receiver Auston Shipley pulls down a pass that set up Bastrop's touchdown in the first half. Later, he caught a game-winning TD pass.

Jacob Morgan under center.

Last week, in a 23-17 loss to Pflugerville, Morgan was benched to start the game for what Austin High coach L.D. Williams said was strategic reasons.

This week, however, Morgan never took the field. Williams said that the senior quarterback was suspended for the game for breaking team rules.

The Maroons struggled offensively without Morgan, who has passed for 13 touchdowns and more than 2,000 yards this season and is expected back for next week's game against rival Westlake.

In the first quarter, the Austin High defense returned two turnovers into Bastrop territory but the Maroons were unable to get

any points. Austin High, which went into Thursday night averaging 28.1 points per game, had only 46 yards of offense at halftime.

Austin High got its lone touchdown in the third quarter after a fumble return by Darrel Green set up a 2-yard scoring run by sophomore Cayleb Jones, who rotated with junior Hunter George at quarterback. The Maroons got the ball inside Bastrop territory four times after Jones' touchdown but failed to get any more points.

"I thought our offense just missed out on some opportunities," Williams said. "We had some inexperience out there and it showed."

Austin High dropped to 5-3 with the loss.

danieldavis@statesman.com; 445-3952



# BASTROP BEARS DOWN

Undefeated Bastrop hangs on for 14-7 win  
over Austin High ■ **C3**