

BASTROP

CHAMPS!



Contributed photo by Larry Overall

Bears quarterback Josiah Monroe makes a run against Akins in Friday night's 35 - 21 win.

Bastrop claims share of 25-5A title; stays unbeaten

BY MICHAEL ADAMS
Sports Editor

CEDAR CREEK - Bastrop has waited nine years, but for the 3,500 screaming Bastrop fans at BISD Memorial Stadium it was well worth the wait.

Bastrop defeated Akins 35-21 Friday to clinch a share of the District 25-5A Championship and move to within one win of the Bears first undefeated regular season since 1966.

Pending the outcome of Westlake-Austin High, which was in overtime at press time, Bastrop could have won the district title outright with an Austin win.

Still, on this night, the Bears proved everyone wrong.

"No one expected this," said head coach Gerald Perry. "There are so many success stories with this team. We still have some unfinished business though."

The Bears (9-0, 6-0 District 25-5A) never left to question that this was going to be their night.

Josiah Monroe had 355 yards of offense, including 237 yards and three touchdowns through the air.

His first was to Auston Shipley, a 22-yards strike in the second quarter to give Shipley his 10th touchdown catch of the season.

Shipley has caught at least one touchdown in each of Bastrop's nine games this season.

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— **Gerald Perry, head coach**

Monroe gained 118 running and had two TD passes - 21 yards to Adam Mack and seven yards to Allah Hicks.

"This was a well played game," Perry said. "Akins did a good job and they came in here and played hard."

Akins did struggle early on and had minus-2 yards of offense on its first two possessions.

The Bears converted a fake punt into a touchdowns on a 49-yard pass from kicker Lee McMillan to Darrell McCloud with 29 seconds left in the first quarter.

Bastrop carried a 28-7 lead at halftime after its stellar defense held the Eagles (2-6, 1-5) to just 16 yards of offense in the first half.

The Bears outgained Akins 420 to 105 yards for the game, holding the Eagles to just six first downs.