

Unicorns to greet Bears in playoffs

BY MICHAEL ADAMS
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There are some unique ties between Bastrop and New Braunfels.

The late Cliff Wilkins, who was a head basketball and assistant football coach at Bastrop, took the Unicorns to back-to-back trips to the state basketball tournament in 1985 and 1986.

Wilkins led Bastrop to three district championships and a berth in the 1974 state basketball tournament.

Also, current Bastrop mascot T.J. Bartlett was "Eugene the Unicorn," New Braunfels' mascot, before his family relocated to Bastrop.

Despite the ties, the New

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PLAYOFFS: Unicorns to run at Bastrop

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Braunfels Unicorns (7-3) are waiting to greet Bastrop back to the playoffs for the first time since 2005.

"It's going to be a good test," said head coach Gerald Perry. "They are blue collar workers and play hard just like us."

Bastrop (9-1) is coming off its first loss of the season while New Braunfels is coming off a 27-16 win over San Antonio McArthur.

The Bears and Unicorns take to the field at Bobcat Stadium Friday in the bi-district round of the Region IV-5A, Division II playoffs.

Kickoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

"There is going to be a big crowd," Perry said. "It's going to be an electric game. They will bring a lot of fans with them and I expect that the entire

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**— Gerald Perry,
Bastrop head coach**

town of Bastrop will shut down and show up in San Marcos."

A concern might be the lack of playoff experience for Bastrop's current players.

Perry said he has been preparing for this all season.

Bastrop chartered buses and had a team meal before it's game in Killeen earlier in the year.

"The current players may not have that playoff experience, but traditionally, Bastrop does," Perry said. "We are going to

leave early Friday and have a team meal at Luby's before the game. This is a big deal."

New Braunfels, which moved to 5A from 4A in 2008, is making its first playoff appearance in 5A.

The Unicorns are a run-based team and average 225 yards per game on the ground.

The Bears have been stingy against the run this year, only giving up 151 yards per game.

Bastrop, however, has given up 300 or more yards in two games this season — Anderson and Bowie.

The Bulldogs had a season-high 368 rushing yards against Bastrop's defense.

"I like our match-up with them size wise," Perry said. "They don't really have one standout, but they play hard and will come at us."