

🐾 Football: Shelby-Rising City def. North Bend 34-14

Tigers hurt own cause in loss to Huskies

Nathan Arneal
Editor

After the Tiger football team absorbed its third straight loss, coach Ryan Stieren was left seeing yellow.

Too much yellow.

NBC was flagged 10 times for 80 yards, but it was the timing of those penalties that turned the game. Shelby-Rising City took advantage for a 34-14 win in a game that was much closer than that.

"We shot ourselves in the foot at bad times," Stieren said. "I mean, we had them on third and long a couple times and we get penalties. We get a facemask. We get a horse collar. We get late hits. Stuff that's hurt us all year. When you're evenly matched with a team that's about the same caliber as you, that's what gets you beat."

North Bend's offense wasn't helping itself early, as the Tigers went three and out on their first two possessions.

Shelby-Rising City didn't have much more success on its first drive as NBC forced a punt on the Tiger 37. Facing fourth and 14, the Huskies tried a fake that was snuffed out for no gain by NBC. However, an illegal use of hands penalty against North Bend allowed SRC to maintain possession and score a few plays later to go up 7-0 to a complete a 12-play drive.

The Huskies added another touchdown on their next possession to take a 14-0 lead before NBC had recorded a single first down.

"I think if we get off to a better start I think this game's different and we have a chance in the end," Stieren said.

The Tiger 'O' got on track near the end of the first period. NBC cranked up the tempo and caught the Huskies - who were huddling up before each defensive play - unprepared for the snap a couple of times.

The Tigers drove to the SRC 9-yard line where they faced fourth and four. Austin Endorf tossed the ball to a wide-open Sam Buckingham for a touchdown, cutting the lead in half.

On the ensuing Shelby-RC possession, the Huskies fumbled on the first play and NBC's Cole Johnson fell on it.

The Tigers pounced on the opportunity, scoring on their first play as Endorf hit John Emanuel with a short pass and Emanuel juked his way into the end zone.

In less than 30 seconds of game time, it went from a two touchdown lead for SRC to a tie game.

Shelby responded with a big kickoff return to the NBC 29. There the Tiger defense held for a 3-and-out.

But a facemask call on North

Bend gave them another chance.

Again, NBC held Shelby, and this time the Huskies went for it on fourth and 15 on the NBC 21. Buckingham ended the threat with a pass break up in the end zone.

NBC advanced to the SRC 27 with help from a big pass to Ben Rolenc, where it gave the ball up on downs.

But the Tigers took it right back on the next play when Breckin Peters batted a Husky pass into the air and then intercepted it after he had fallen to the ground.

Peters, a sophomore, ended the game with a co-team high eight tackles, two sacks, an interception and a bunch of big hits.

"When Breckin plays inspired football, he's a very good football player," Stieren said. "When our team plays inspired football we're a good team. When we don't shoot ourselves in the foot, we would be a hard team to beat. It was nice to see Breckin do that tonight."

NBC took over on the Shelby 19, but was unable to do anything, and the teams went to halftime tied.

The Huskies found their way out of another tough situation on their first drive of the second half. Facing third and 19, SRC quarterback Mason Schleis was flushed from the pocket by two Tigers. One of them tripped him up near the sideline, but he used his hand for balance to keep from going down, popped up and found a receiver in the middle of the field for a very Johnny Manziel-like conversion.

Two plays later the Huskies scored the go-ahead touchdown.

NBC looked ready to answer after Endorf found Buckingham all alone down the right sideline for 35 yards to convert a third and 17.

That put the Tigers on the SRC 16. NBC took a shot in the end zone, but intended receiver Ben Rolenc tangled with the DB and was tripped up. Another Husky DB swooped in and made the interception in the back of the end zone.

That's as close as NBC would come to scoring for the rest of the game. Shelby made it a two-score game again with a 84-yard drive early in the fourth period.

NBC was still fighting late when a Husky interception with less than two minutes left was returned about 40 yards to the 1-yard line. Shelby-Rising City scored the final points on the next play for the 34-14 win.



NATHAN ARNEAL | EAGLE

Bend Rolenc, right, and Breckin Peters chase down Shelby-Rising City quarterback Mason Schleis before bringing him to the turf for a sack. The Tigers totalled four sacks in the game.

Football Notes:

- See page 13 for a breakdown of NBC's playoff chances and possibilities.

- John Emanuel broke a school record with 17 catches in Friday's game. If he had done this last year, he would also hold the Class C1 state record, which is currently 16. As it is, he is short of the C2 record of 19.

The previous NBC record was 13, set by Emanuel's cousin Chase Wietfeld in 2012.

- Austin Endorf also tied a school record he set earlier this season with 31 pass completions against Shelby-Rising City.

- On one third-quarter drive, NBC was held to three three-and-outs. The Tigers tried to give the ball back to the Huskies, but Shelby-RC was called for roughing the punter twice. The drive's third punt got off cleanly.

- Senior Ben Rolenc has been NBC's starting left tackle this year until the Tiger staff moved him to wide receiver/H-back against SRC. The 6-foot-4, 205 pounder, who played tight end until this season, had three catches, including a 48-yard catch in the second period.

Sophomore Jace Owen got his first extended action in Rolenc's vacated tackle spot.



NATHAN ARNEAL | EAGLE

Sam Buckingham crosses the goal line for NBC's first touchdown Friday. The Tigers would tie the game up less than 30 seconds later.

UP NEXT:

DAVID CITY

7 p.m. Friday in North Bend

SCOUTS

Like the Tigers, the Scouts are enjoying Class C2 with a 4-4 record after five straight seasons in C1 where they won no more than two games. NBC and DC have been frequent district opponents recently, having played six times in the last eight years. David City holds a 5-1 record in that series, with NBC's lone win a 25-22 victory in 2016. The Scouts won 21-12 last year. The last three games between the two schools have been decided by a touchdown or less, including an overtime game.

This year: The Scouts are 4-4, with their latest victory on Oct. 5, a 21-20 win over Twin River, a team NBC beat 43-6. However, the Scouts also own a 21-6 win over Shelby-Rising City. DC's other two wins are over teams that are a combined 2-15.

