

**Football: North Bend def. David City 34-16**



NATHAN ARNEAL | EAGLE

**Cole Johnson, 78, has a fumble spring right into his arms as John Emanuel takes down David City quarterback Will Danielson. Cole Kluthe, right, caused the fumble by ripping it away from Danielson.**

## Scouts turn game over to NBC

### Win clinches state playoffs for Tigers

**Nathan Arneal**  
Editor

For the first time in a decade, the North Bend Central football season is not ending with the final regular season game.

The Tigers clinched a spot in the Class C2 playoff field with a 34-16 win over David City Friday, a game NBC controlled from the start.

"Tonight, I thought, was our most complete game of the year," coach Ryan Stieren said. "It's taken a lot of work. Our whole athletic department has high expectations of these kids, and they've worked really, really hard. I'm proud of these kids."

An opportunistic Tiger defense created some key turnovers that helped NBC's cause, including fumble recoveries on the Scouts' first two possessions.

After NBC took a 7-0 lead, the Scouts advanced to the Tiger 15-yard line where the ball popped loose as John Emanuel made the tackle and Cole Kluthe came in with the strip. Cole Johnson caught the ball in midair to end Scout drive.

Kluthe was in on the next David City turnover as well, getting his hand on an option pitch then falling on top of the ball. That set up NBC on the Scout 38-yard line and led to the Tigers' second touchdown and a 13-0 lead.

Early in the fourth period, Sam Buckingham had an inter-

ception nullified when another defender was flagged for pass interference after getting his feet tangled with the receiver. The Scouts went on to score to make it a two-possession game at 27-16.

David City then recovered an onside kick, accounting for NBC's only turnover of the game. A few players later, Buckingham jumped in front of a DC receiver for another interception, and this time it stood, thwarting the Scouts' attempt to make it a one-score game.

"David City, one thing they haven't done all year is beat themselves," Stieren said. "They usually protect the ball really well. For us to win the turnover battle, that was huge. The two keys coming into the game were turnover margin and controlling the line of scrimmage, and I felt we did both of those tonight."

North Bend rolled up 184 yards on the ground, the team's highest total in a month and a sharp turnaround from the 14 yards the Tigers rushed for



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**Quarterback Austin Endorf squirts through a hole in the David City defense. He had a season high 47-yards rushing.**

against Shelby-Rising City the previous week.

"When we can run the ball, we're tough," Stieren said. "When we can't, there's some problems."

Jacob Ray led the Tigers with

135 yards and two touchdowns on the ground and looked as fast as he's been this season after fighting *see Game, page 13*

### Football Notes:

- Douglas Alvarado scored all 16 points for David City, with touchdowns runs of 1 and 2 yards. He also kicked a field goal and an extra point. The 5-foot-9, 235-pound fullback was a load to bring down.

"You don't want to get into short yardage against these guys because he's going to get a yard," NBC coach Ryan Stieren said.

- Cole Johnson is often in the right spot at the right time. The junior linebacker now has five fumble recoveries on the season.

- John Emanuel continues to rewrite record books. He now owns the single-season NBC record for catches (67), yards (872) and career catches (96), besting records held by Chase Wietfeld (44), Ethan Bauer (747) and Drew Hines (81), respectively. Emanuel needs 19 yards to break Hines' career receiving yardage record.

- Four teams from District C2-4 made the playoffs, more than any other district in the state. District champion Centennial is the state's top seed after the Broncos' third straight 9-0 regular season.

### Final District C2-4 Football Standings

	Dist.			Overall				Off.	Def.
	W	L	GB	W	L	pt. ave.	Rank*		
Centennial	5	0	-	9	0	45.333	1	37.3	12.3
Aquinas	4	1	1.0	6	3	41.222	10	30.3	17.2
North Bend	2	3	3.0	6	3	40.222	(t)11	31.4	27.3
Shelby-RC	2	3	3.0	6	3	40.000	13	32.2	14.3
David City	2	3	3.0	4	5	36.556	23	25.1	25.9
Twin River	0	5	5.0	2	7	34.778	29	17.8	36.6

\*Rank among the 39 C2 schools by NSAA pts. (t)=tie  
Seven district champs and next nine highest ranked teams make playoffs.

**Last week**  
Aquinas def. Shelby-Rising City 31-14  
North Bend def. David City 34-16  
Centennial def. Twin River 53-18

**Playoffs this week**  
NP St. Pats at Centennial  
North Bend at Wilber-Clatonia  
Aquinas at Doniphan-Trumbull  
Shelby-RC at Oakland-Craig

### UP NEXT:

## WILBER-CLATONIA WOLVERINES

7 p.m. Friday in Wilber

While NBC is celebrating its first state playoff qualification since 2008, Wilber-Clatonia has made the playoffs every year since 2008, with this season being their 11th straight year in the postseason. That streak includes a Class C2 state championship in 2016.

**This year:** The Wolverines are 8-1, with their lone setback coming against 8-1 Sutton in Week 2, a 38-0 loss. NBC and WC share one common opponent. Wilber-Clatonia beat Johnson County Central 41-14 on Sept. 28, while North Bend beat the Thunderbirds 56-24 in the opening week. The Wolverines have beat their last three opponents by combined score of 154-0. See page 12 for more playoff preview.

