

Battled tested Celina ready to take on Wilmer-Hutchins

 247sports.com/high-school/texas/Article/Battled-tested-Celina-ready-to-take-on-Wilmer-Hutchins-124765893/

By Matthew Brice Nov 15, 2018



Celina running back **Logan Point** (#4) runs for first down yardage against Sanger in week 5. (Photo: Dallas Morning News, 247Sports)

The Celina Bobcats stumbled their way into the postseason after a 63-21 loss to Argyle in week 11. They also come in as the 4th place team from a very tough district but, they're banking on that tough district slate playing a major factor in hopes of a long postseason run. They'll put that theory to test on Thursday night when they travel to Carrollton to take on the district 8-4A champion Wilmer-Hutchins Eagles in the bi-district round.

Keys to the game

Celina

Offensively, playing ball control and slowing the game down will play a major factor for the Bobcats. Running back **Logan Point** should get the bulk of the offensive touches but quarterback Hunter Watson will also play a role in the running game. Defensively, defensive end/outside linebacker **Kaghen Roach**, Logan Walker and the rest of the Bobcat defensive line will have to win in the trenches, consistently. Getting pressure on Wilmer-Hutchins quarterback **Kyle Douglas Jr.** is a must. He loves to stretch the field with his arm but if the Bobcats can disrupt him with a strong rush, they'll have a shot at winning. Ryan Nebeker and the Bobcat secondary will play an equally important role, since they'll have the responsibility of dealing with an Eagle receiving core that has 4

receivers that average over 17 yards per catch. The Eagles don't have a 1,000 yard rusher but, linebackers Blake Bunnell and Logan Engle will still need to be alert for the occasional draw play and counters.

Wilmer-Hutchins

Offensively, quarterback **Kyle Douglas Jr.** headlines an Eagle offense that loves to stretch the field and showcase it's speed. Receivers Kendell Gilmore and **Keondre McKnight** are Douglas' go to guys and they'll get quite a bit of attention from the Bobcat defense. However, their presence could have running back **Kiedric Chancellor** primed for a big night. Defensively, Malik Thorn leads a defensive line that will need to play it's best game of the season against a run heavy Bobcat offense. Linebacker Lorenz Handy and the Eagle linebacker core will have to be equally as good in stopping the run, if the Eagles are going to have a chance at winning. While the Bobcats don't throw it much, defensive back **Elzie Barnett Jr.** and company will still need to be alert for the occasional play action pass.

Celina (5-4 overall, 3-3 district) and Wilmer-Hutchins (9-1, 6-0 district) are polar opposites on offense, but this is a game that will still be determined in the trenches. Will the Bobcats move on to round 2 and keep their hopes of winning a 9th state championship alive? Or will the Eagles prove that they're a legitimate title contender and send the Bobcats home? Follow me to Carrollton on Thursday to find out. Kickoff is at 7PM.

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