

Benbrook, Kennedale all set to battle for the district title

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By [Matthew Brice](#) Nov 1, 2018



Benbrook running back **Quintan Jackson**

The Benbrook Bobcats (7-1 overall, 4-0 district) and Kennedale Wildcats (7-2 overall, 5-0 district) are both headed to the class 4A-division 1 playoffs. But first, they'll battle each other on Thursday evening at 7PM to decide who will take home the district 6 4A-division 1 title.

Keys to the game

Benbrook

Offensively, everything starts and ends with running back **Quintan Jackson**. Jackson has run for a mind boggling 2,555 yards this season and 31 touchdowns. He averages 319 yards per game and 14 yards per carry. However, that will also mean extra attention from the Wildcat defense. So far this season, quarterback **William Green** (835 yards 13 touchdowns) has shown that he's up to the task of stretching the field and beating defenses deep. Leading receivers Brandon Johnson and Brice Hill will be needed along with Green to keep the Wildcat defense honest in passing situations. Defensively, linebacker Kyle Lewis and the Bobcat front 7 will have to play their best game of the season against one of the state's most potent run offenses. Defensive linemen Isaiah Carpenter and **Tre James** will have to be even better as they'll see a lot of power sweeps coming their way. Containment on the ends by Carpenter and James will allow Lewis and

Dylan Osmus to come downhill and plug gaps upfront. The Wildcats only complete 4 passes per game but, just about all of them have gone for long gains. While they won't see many passes, Brice Hill and the Bobcat secondary will still have to play disciplined football.

Kennedale

Offensively, the Wildcats live and die with their wing-T offense. Top running back **DJ Kirven** has returned after missing 5 games but, the Wildcats will roll out 4 other backs to keep everyone fresh. Along with Kirven, Micah Conner, **Antwone Parker**, Marlete Joyner Jr. and Donovan Rubin have all run for a combined 1,988 yards and 30 touchdowns. Quarterback Evan Jowers will also chip in on the running duties and all will be needed to play ball control to keep Jackson and the Bobcat offense on the sidelines. 6'6 receiver **Jaden Smith** and tight end Carrington Roblow will also play a role in keeping the Bobcat defense honest. But Spencer Roof may play a bigger role in the passing game, using his speed to get behind the Bobcat secondary. Defensively, tackle **Jamal Marshall** and the Wildcat defensive line will have to play their best game of the season in the trenches. The same has to be said about linebacker Ethan Bishop and the Wildcat linebackers as they'll get a heavy dose of **Quintan Jackson**. Beating the Bobcat linemen to the point of attack and filling all gaps will play a major role in determining what Jackson does and how he does it. As mentioned earlier, it all starts and ends with him. But defensive back J.D. Coffey and the Wildcat secondary can't allow themselves to fall asleep and get beat on the play action. Discipline football for the Wildcat secondary is just as important as it is for the Bobcat secondary.

The Benbrook football program is only in its 3rd year of existence. Head coach Cody Slater has his young men ready to show and prove that they belong in elite company. But, Richard Barrett and his young men at Kennedale have been here before and they've proven that they have what it takes to get the job done. Will the Bobcats put everyone on notice by winning their first district title? Or will the Wildcats remind them that they have to crawl before they walk? Follow me to Fort Worth on Thursday evening to find out.

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