

### **Chiefs edge Breaux Bridge, 14-12, in season opener**

**BREAUX BRIDGE, La.** - Junior quarterback Owen Smith scampered 19 yards for a touchdown on the final play of the first half as the Natchitoches Central Chiefs' football team Friday night edged the Breaux Bridge Tigers, 14-12, Friday night on the road in the season opener.

The Chiefs (1-0) fell behind 6-0 halfway through the first quarter. NCHS responded as Smith threw a short screen pass to Dillon Braxton at the 23-yard. Braxton, the senior running back, exploded for 77 yards for the Chiefs' first touchdown of the season.

After the Tigers (0-1) retook the lead midway through the second quarter. The Chiefs drove down inside the Breaux Bridge 20-yard line. Moments later, Smith broke free from the pass rush and ran it in for the touchdown as the first half expired. Freshman kicker Amsden Pasch kicked a pair of extra points which was the difference in the game as NCHS got head coach Brad Laird the victory in his first game with the Chiefs.

The Chiefs' offense remained quiet for much of the second half until they picked up three first downs to ice the final four minutes of the clock as NCHS picked up the win.

"We made some big plays early on offense and made some big stops defensively," said Laird "I thought Owen (Smith) did a great job on converting some third downs and we got some big plays from KJ Newton at receiver. Dillon (Braxton) with the big play really got us going and the big interception from Cade Singletary. I also can't say enough about (freshman kicker) Amsden Pasch, he stepped in and made two huge extra points for us."

Next up, NCHS will take on Evangel (0-1) Friday, Sept. 13 at home at 7 p.m. Evangel is coming off a 42-24 loss to Neville in their opener.

Fans can follow Friday's game as the play-by-play will be broadcast live on [nchschiefs.live](http://nchschiefs.live). Updates will also available of the game at the [Inside Natchitoches Sports facebook page](#).