



High School Football - Week 7 Preview

**5A NCHS Chiefs (1-5, 0-4 1-5A) at Byrd Yellow Jackets (5-1, 3-1 1-5A)
Friday, Oct. 18, 2024 | 7 p.m. CT | Shreveport, La. | Lee Hedges Stadium**

Chiefs travel to face Byrd in district action

SHREVEPORT, La. - The Natchitoches Central Chiefs hit the road for District 1-5A football action Friday night at Lee Hedges Stadium in Shreveport to face the Byrd Yellow Jackets.

The Chiefs (1-5, 0-4 in 1-5A) enter Friday's contest looking to snap a five-game losing streak. However, NCHS fought step-for-step last week with reigning Division II non-select state champion Opelousas (2-3) before slipping, 26-18.

"I think our guys fought and competed," said NCHS head football coach Brad Laird. "I thought we had a good week last week in preparing despite being off of school last week. I thought we had some opportunities in the first half to put some pressure on them and then in the second half we made some plays to really make them have to fight to win. But I appreciate how the guys fought back and competed.

Byrd (5-1, 3-1 in 1-5A) comes into Friday ranked eighth in Division I non-select. The Yellow Jackets defeated district foe Huntington (4-2, 4-1 in 1-5A), 24-20, last week. The Yellow Jackets scored with under 30 seconds to go in the game on a 12-yard touchdown pass for the thrilling win.

"One thing you get with Byrd is they are probably the most consistent team we will play, said Laird. "With what they do offensively, they don't give the other team many possessions, much

like Opelousas. So, we have to take advantage of the opportunities we get when we have the football.”

The Yellow Jackets have defeated NCHS four of the last five times with the Chiefs winning, 23-10, back on Oct. 1, 2021.

Fans can follow the game with a live radio broadcast on 100.7 KZBL, listen live at kzblradio.com or watch live at [NCHSChiefs.Live](https://www.nchschiefs.com) as Brad Ford, Dane Terrell and Caleb Uselton will have the play-by-play of Friday’s game.

Updates will be available at the [Inside Natchitoches Sports Facebook Page](#).