

# Boyle defense stifles St. X in 14-3 win

By Mike Marsee  
The Advocate-Messenger

Big games and big names are a big deal at Boyle County. There can be no doubt that the Rebels get a little more keyed up when a team like St. Xavier comes up on the schedule, and they don't deny it.

Games like this bring out the best in the Rebels time after time, and one of the best teams in Kentucky brought out the best in a defense that has become Boyle's best asset this season.

The Rebels defeated St. X 14-3 on Friday at Rebel Stadium by shutting down the Tigers' offense, holding them to their lowest yardage total of the season and keeping them out of the end zone for the first time in five years.

It was the second time this season Boyle has played a team with more state championships than its total of 12 – and only five schools have more – and it has won both games.

St. X, a perennial power in Class 6A, was expected to provide the toughest test yet for Boyle, but the Rebels proved up to the challenge just as they did three weeks earlier when they defeated fellow 4A power Highlands.

"I feel like our team, we're always better when we're the underdog," Boyle running back-



Boyle County's Kain Logan (0) fights through a tackle by St. Xavier's Te'Are Wilson-Thomas for extra yardage on an 18-yard run during the second quarter of the Rebels' Oct. 3 victory.

linebacker Kain Logan said. "We feel like we've got a chip on our shoulder, and we always bring more energy."

The Rebels don't get many chances to play the underdog card, and coach Justin Haddix makes the

most of it every chance he gets.

"There was a buzz at the school, yeah," Haddix said with a grin. "And you know, they are blessed that they get to play in these big games. And that's what we want: We're

playing the best teams in the state of Kentucky, whoever we can play, and our guys rise to that occasion."

A dominant defense lifted the Rebels (5-1) in this game. They held the Tigers (3-3) to minus-15

rushing yards and 111 total offensive yards, and St. X failed to score a touchdown for the first time in 57 games since a 2020 playoff loss to Trinity.

"We watched a whole lot of film this week, (and we saw) their schemes, all

their screen plays, their pass plays. We knew how they lined up if it was going to be run or pass," Boyle linebacker Lucas Akers said.

There was still the matter of execution, of

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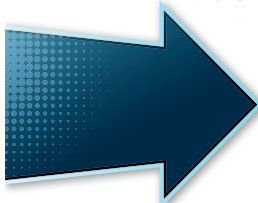
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