

Malakoff, Kemp face off for District 6-3A championship

By Blaine Clamon

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The Malakoff Tigers host the Kemp Yellowjackets tonight in a showdown to determine the winner of the District 6-3A championship.

Kemp is 7-2 while Malakoff is 7-1, but both teams come in with undefeated district records of 4-0 and have already clinched playoff spots.

This is the first matchup between the Tigers and Yellowjackets since their district game on Oct. 30, 2015, when Malakoff downed Kemp, 53-7.

Kemp opened the season with a tough loss on the road against former district rival Sunnyvale but were able to survive a tight non-dis-

trict schedule at 3-2 before it outscored their first four district opponents by an average of 37.3 points per game.

Kemp's offense and defense continues to build off last year's success with notable seniors leading the way, including quarterback Cameron Clamon, running backs Desmond Tutson and Desmond Jones, receiver Brock Dedie and linebacker Boomer Irvin.

First-year head coach Lee Wilkins and the Yellowjackets know they will not underestimate the Tigers, with this being the biggest test for a team that returns plenty of experience.

The Tigers have won five in a row since their only loss against Grandview in non-district play.

They have also cruised past their first four district opponents, by an average of 48.5 points per game.

Malakoff has been led by the running back duo of Dedric Davis and RJ Carr and the talented defensive front that includes linebackers Colby Rush and Everado Garcia. Sophomore quarterback Darion Pearce has also stepped up after Judd Miller graduated in the spring.

Tiger Head Coach Jamie Driskell, in his 10th season, prepares to continue the longest active postseason streak in Henderson County since he arrived in 2009.

With two high-scoring offenses, this game will likely be a shootout and come down to key defensive stops by either side.

