

MANSFIELD — Arlington Bowie's offense gets a lot of attention for its production.

But the Volunteers have a defense that is quickly establishing itself as one of the best around. Bowie recorded its third shutout of the season, defeating Mansfield 51-0 Friday at Mansfield ISD Stadium.

Bowie's defense faced one of its biggest challenges of the season in trying to contain Mansfield running back Stepfan Taylor, who entered the game second among Class 5A area rushers, averaging 172.3 yards a game. The Volunteers (5-1, 2-0 in District 4-5A) held Taylor to only 42 yards.

"We watched him all week and he was very impressive on film," Bowie defensive end Jarrett Brown said. "He was like a man-child against other teams. We know how much he likes to cut back, so we had to play our gaps."

Without Taylor drawing attention, the Tigers weren't able to utilize their play-action passing for big gains. Mansfield (4-3, 2-1) mustered only 108 total yards of offense, and [quarterback](#) Daniel Green was sacked five times. The Tigers recorded only nine first downs.

While Mansfield's running game struggled, Bowie's flourished. Travis Evans rushed for a game-high 160 yards. He had 99 yards by halftime then broke off a 56-yard run on Bowie's first drive of the second half, setting up his 4-yard touchdown run.

Evans' heroics were needed. Bowie's usual potent passing game was absent. Quarterback Christian Matthews had a rough night and wide receivers Trae Hawkins and [Jordan](#) Selexman combined for only two receptions. With Mansfield's defense guarding against the big play, the Volunteers chipped way to finish with 316 rushing yards.

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