

## Sep. 9: Week 1 Football Preview

### Riese vs. Obado will be a fun sidebar to the Klockner Klash



By Rich Fisher  
Fish4Scores.com

**Sep. 9:** Dan Caruso may have summed up this year's Klockner Klash perfectly.

"Isn't it nice to have the two best quarterbacks in the league both be from Hamilton Township?" said the Steinert coach as he prepares his team for Saturday's 1 p.m. home opener against visiting Nottingham. "Both young men have great talent but both are also great leaders and workhorses for their team."

Steinert will feature fourth-year starter Adam Riese behind center, while Nottingham counters with senior Esayah Obado, who became the third quarterback in Mercer County history to throw for over 2,000 yards last season.

"With all due respect to the other quarterbacks in the conference," said Northstars coach Jon "Big Dawg" Adams, "these guys are the best in my opinion."

In last year's opener between the same two teams, Obado was 10-for-16 for 237 yards and four touchdowns. Riese finished 12-for-23 for 164 yards and two touchdowns, and rushed for 64 yards and a TD.

But the Spartan was slowed by a knee injury in the final quarter that left him out of the next two games.

Entering this year's tilt, Adams was incredulous when asked about his main concern with Steinert. . . as if it

*Nottingham's Esayah Obado will be part of an outstanding quarterback duel when the Northstars open at Steinert today in the Klockner Klash (Photo by Mary "Mom" Malone).*

needed to be asked.

"Wow, I mean, really?" Adams said. "Adam Riese! He is a stud. We can not allow him to get it going early. He is a great passer as we all know. But the dude is a tank and we have to contain him.

"He hurt us just as bad with his legs last year. He is a warrior and we respect the hell out of the kid."

But the Dawg is happy to take his chances with his own QB as well.

"I think Ayoub is going to have a big year and people will find out about some of our young guys who will make nice targets for Esayah," Adams said. "We're going to ask more from No. 7 this year and I know he is ready for the challenges."

Caruso feels the same way, even though Obado has a set of new, young receivers this season.

"Of course it is nice to not have to defend (Robert) Wiggs and (Chris) Burton," the Spartans coach said. "But they have a new cast of players that are extremely dangerous and let's not forget, they still have the quarterback that got those two the ball last year. Obado is a special quarterback that can carry a game himself."

Caruso feels the same about his guy.

It should be one heck of a show.