

## District 7-2A Capsules, continued from Page 19

### Valley Mills Eagles

Enrollment: 206.  
Last Year's Record: 0-10, 0-6 in District 7-2A Division I.  
Last Playoff Appearance: 2011.  
Last District Title: 2010.  
Head Coach: Sam Moody, second season at Valley Mills.  
Coach's Record: 0-10 at Valley Mills.

Returning Experience: 8 lettermen, 4 offensive and 5 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: QB-DB Chase Keeton, 6-1, 175, Sr.; WR-DL Jayson Jones, 6-1, 185, Sr.; RB-LB Spencer Eccleston, 5-8, 170, Jr.; FB-LB Javieon Robinson, Jr.; RB-DB Albert Franco, 5-10, 155, Sr.; OL-LB Dalton Martin, Jr.

Strengths: returning skill players, sec-

ond year in Coach Moody's system.

Weaknesses: inexperienced linemen, lost 26 of last 30 district games.

Key Stats: Valley Mills returns plenty of offensive playmakers, including third-year QB Chase Keeton. Many of the Eagles' top returnees played last year as sophomores ... Valley Mills last year averaged 9 points per game and allowed 43.

The Eagles' highest-scoring game was 17 points against Blooming Grove.

Noteworthy: Over the last six seasons, Valley Mills is 19-41 overall and 4-26 in district games. The Eagles enter this season with 8 consecutive district losses ... Goldthwaite leads the all-time series with Valley Mills 8-1, with the eight wins by an average of 35 points.

## Eagles' 2018 Nondistrict Opponents Capsules

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### Winters Blizzards

Enrollment: 164 (Class 2A Division I).  
Last Year's Record: 5-6, 4-1 in District 6-2A DII.  
Last Playoff Appearance: 2017.  
Last District Title: 2014.  
Head Coach: Matt McCarty, fourth year at Winters.  
Head Coach's Record: 9-22, all at Winters.

Returning Experience: 17 lettermen, 7 offensive and 8 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: OL-DL Cameron Perkins, 6-3, 240, Sr.; OL-DL Patrick Reyes, 5-9, 225, Sr.; RB-LB Slater Lindley, 5-6, 160, Sr.; QB-DB Jovan Young, 5-10, 150, Sr.; OL-DL Hunter Duggan, 6-2, 230, Jr.; FB-LB Nick Brown, 5-7, 175, Sr.

Strengths: experienced linemen, fourth year in Coach McCarty's system.

Weaknesses: speed, inexperienced skill players.

Key Stats: Slater Lindley had almost 1,000 all-purpose yards last year, including 500-plus yards rushing and 420 yards on kickoff and punt returns. He scored four TDs. Projected QB Jovan Young had 273 total yards and 2 TDs passing last year. Patrick Reyes made 84 tackles in 2017 ... Winters last year averaged 22 points per game and allowed 32.

Noteworthy: Goldthwaite leads its all-time series against Winters 14-7. The Eagles won their last meeting 33-7 in 2013. The last Winters win was 36-20 in 2011 ... Winters made the playoffs last year after back-to-back 2-8 finishes in 2015 and 2016. The Blizzards lost 38-22 to Wink in bidistrict last year.

### Junction Eagles

Enrollment: 173 (Class 2A Division I).  
Last Year's Record: 3-8, 2-2 in District 14-2A DI.  
Last Playoff Appearance: 2017.  
Last District Title: 2003.  
Head Coach: Rob McAdams, second year at Junction.

Coach's Record: 3-8, all at Junction.

Returning Experience: 13 lettermen, 5 offensive and 5 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: LB William Rose, 5-11, 185, Sr.; WR Kyle Lumpkins, 6-8, 170, Sr.; QB-DB Julian Saucedo, 5-10, 150, Sr.; OL-DL Brady Herbst, 5-10, 250, Sr.; OL-DL Dax Simon, 5-9, 245, Sr.; LB Jaden Hardesty, 5-10, 170, Sr.

Strengths: size, four straight playoff berths.

Weaknesses: depth, speed.

Key Stats: LB William Rose made 125 tackles last year. Kyle Lumpkins, a 6-foot-8 receiver, had 40 catches for 620 yards and 4 TDs ... Junction last year averaged 24 points per game and allowed 37.

Noteworthy: Junction lost five of its first six games last year, but regrouped to make the playoffs. The Eagles lost 48-7 to Thorndale in bidistrict. ... Junction's win total has dropped from eight in 2015 to six in 2016 to three in 2017 ... Goldthwaite has won four of its five all-time meetings with Junction, including a last year's 32-12 decision.

### Coleman Bluecats

Enrollment: 241 (Class 3A Division II).  
Last Year's Record: 3-8, 2-3 in District 4-3A DII.  
Last Playoff Appearance: 2017.  
Last District Title: 2014.  
Head Coach: John Elder, fifth year at Coleman.

Coach's Record: 34-15, all at Coleman.  
Returning Experience: 10 lettermen, 2 offensive and 2 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: OL-LB Khutter Sanchez; OL-DL Robbie Berry; OL-DL Massio Sanchez; WR Jared Nall; OL-DL John Deraemus; OL-DL Kayden Castleberry.

Strengths: line depth and experience.

Weaknesses: inexperienced skill players.

Key Stats: After winning 31 of 38 games from 2014-2016, including five playoff wins, Coleman slipped to 3-8 during last year's rebuilding process. Still, the Bluecats were able to extend their playoff

streak to five straight years after posting district wins over Bangs and Dublin. Coleman averaged just 7 points per game last year, didn't score until the fourth week of the season, and was shut out six times overall. The Bluecats allowed 34 points per game last year.

Noteworthy: The Bluecats' rebuilding figures to continue this year since only one of their 2017 all-district selections returns. Coleman and Goldthwaite haven't played since 2003, when the Eagles won 15-10. Coleman leads the all-time series 11-7-2.

### Tolar Rattlers

Enrollment: 238 (Class 3A Division II).  
Last Year's Record: 7-5, 3-2 in District 4-3A DII.  
Last Playoff Appearance: 2017.  
Last District Title: 2009.  
Head Coach: Jeremy Mullins, second year at Tolar.

Coach's Record: 7-5 at Tolar.  
Returning Experience: 14 lettermen, 8 offensive and 8 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: RB-LB Mason King, 6-0, 215, Sr.; WR-LB Brice Scott 6-3, 170, Sr.; QB-DB Kannen Adams, 5-11, 160, Sr.; RB-LB Rhody Duncan, 5-11, 180, Sr.; OL-DL Gunnar Butler, Sr.; OL-DL Ethan Cooper, Sr.; OL-DL Jacob McNab, Sr.

Strengths: Line experience, six straight playoff berths.

Weaknesses: must replace top playmakers on offense.

Key Stats: Tolar lost its leading passer, rushing and receiver from 2017. Still, the Rattlers return several players who posted notable stats last year. Offensively, RB Mason King rushed for 420 yards, averaging 10 yards per carry, and 6 TDs. WR Brice Scott caught 28 passes, including 5 TDs. WR Derian Morphew had 20 catches and 3 TDs. Defensively, LB King made 121 tackles while DB Morphew had 3 INTs and 7 pass breakups last year. DL Gunnar Butler logged 66 tackles and 11 sacks, DL Ethan Cooper had 76 tackles and LB Rhody Duncan made 53 tackles last year.

Kannen Adams had 42 stops from the secondary in 2017, but will focus more on quarterback this year.

Noteworthy: Tolar and Goldthwaite split their only two meetings in 2014 and 2015. The Rattlers last year averaged 29 points per game and allowed 20.

### Hamilton Bulldogs

Enrollment: 240 (Class 3A Division II).  
Last Year's Record: 5-4, 2-4 in District 7-2A DI.  
Last Playoff Appearance: 2011.  
Last District Title: 2001.  
Head Coach: Casey Jones, first year at Hamilton.

Coach's Record: 0-0 at Hamilton.  
Returning Experience: 12 lettermen, 4 offensive and 6 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: LB Daniel Bottlinger, 5-10, 160, Sr.; FB-LB Kain Kunkel, 6-0, 210, Sr.; RB-DB Blake Pettit, 6-0, 170, Sr.; WR-DB Jett Cortez, 5-7, 150, Sr.; LB Ian Noth, 5-10, 215, Sr.; OL-DL Astin Carr, 5-9, 240, Sr.

Strengths: offensive skill players, fresh start under new coach.

Weaknesses: inexperienced linemen, no proven QB, lost 33 of last 43 games.

Key Stats: RB Pettit rushed for 736 yards and 9 TDs last year while FB Kain Kunkel added 314 yards and 2 TDs. LB Daniel Bottlinger was a first-team all-district pick last year. Pettit, Kunkel, DB Jett Cortez and LB Ian Noth also earned all-district mention ... The Bulldogs last year averaged 24 points per game and allowed 26 while competing in District 7-2A DI.

Noteworthy: Goldthwaite won last year's game, 49-21, but Hamilton leads the all-time series 24-22 ... Hamilton's new coach is Casey Jones, a former assistant at Class 3A state power Brock. Mike Reed, the Bulldogs' former coach and a multi-time state champion in six-man, finished 13-26 in four seasons at Hamilton. He returns to the six-man ranks this year at Gordon.