

District 7-2A Capsules, continued from Page 21

Crawford Pirates

Enrollment: 180.
Last Year's Record: 14-2, 6-0 in District 7-2A Division I.
Last Playoff Appearance: 2016.
Last District Title: 2016.
Head Coach: Delbert Kelm, 10th year at Crawford.
Coach's Record: 106-20 at Crawford.
Returning Experience: 16 lettermen, 5 offensive and 4 defensive starters.
Players to Watch: RB-DB Garrett Dutschmann, 5-8, 160, Sr.; OL-LB Koby Smith, 5-10, 190, Sr.; QB-DB Gage Pearson, 5-11, 180 Sr.; OL-DL Derrick Shaw, 6-1, 195, Sr.; OL-DL Will Worrell, 5-10, 225, Sr.; RB-DB Reed Rogers, 5-8, 150, Sr.; WR-DB Charlie Adamick, 5-9, 150, Sr.; OL-DL Seth Kohlscheen, 5-10, 250, Jr.; OL-DL James Harrison, 6-0, 200, Sr.
Strengths: Quickness, tradition, playoff

experience.

Weakness: size, must replace key play-makers at receiver and defensive front.

Key Stats: Crawford returns QB Gage Pearson, who passed for 2,052 and 26 TDs last year, along with RB Garrett Dutschmann, who ran for 1,321 yards and 21 scores in 2016. OL Seth Kohlscheen and James Harrison were all-district last year. ... LB Koby Smith made 154 tackles last year, and DL Will Worrell made 41 stops. DB Charlie Adamick had 43 tackles from the secondary.

Noteworthy: Crawford is 28-3 over the last two seasons with a state runner-up finish and a state semifinals appearance. The Pirates lost last year's Class 2A DI state championship game to Refugio 23-20 on a field goal with eight seconds to play. ... Despite losing key players, the Pirates return eight all-district selections from 2016. ... The Pirates have posted a win-

ning record in 28 of the last 29 seasons. ... Crawford has won all three meetings with Goldthwaite by an average of 36-10.

Valley Mills Eagles

Enrollment: 178.
Last Year's Record: 5-5, 2-4 in District 7-2A Division I.
Last Playoff Appearance: 2011.
Last District Title: 2010.
Head Coach: Sam Moody, first season at Valley Mills.
Coach's Record: 0-0 at Valley Mills.
Returning Experience: 8 lettermen, 4 offensive and 3 defensive starters.
Players to Watch: OL-DL Tony Gamez, 5-10, 220, Sr.; OL-DE Derrick Tanner, Sr.; QB-DB Chase Keeton, Jr.; WR-LB Ryan Jones; RB-LB Aaron Shell.
Strengths: returning QB, size.
Weaknesses: overall inexperience, 20 win in last five seasons.

Key Stats: QB Chase Keeton returns after starting on offense and at defensive back last season as a sophomore. Tony Gamez and Derrick Tanner give the Eagles two building blocks in the offensive line. The Eagles' defense played well at times last year, allowing 24 points per game. However, their offense managed only 18 points per start. ... Valley Mills started 4-1 last year, but lost to playoff qualifiers Crawford, De Leon and Goldthwaite by an average of 48-10.

Noteworthy: Valley Mills promoted defensive coordinator Sam Moody to head coach when Eric Blenden resigned to become head coach at Axtell. Blenden was 15-15 in three years at Valley Mills. ... Goldthwaite leads the all-time series with Valley Mills 7-1. The only Valley Mills win was 32-6 in 1972.

Eagles' 2017 Nondistrict Opponents Capsules

By Mike Lee
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Mason Punchers

Enrollment: 217 (Class 2A Division I).
Last Year's Record: 11-3, 4-0 in District 14-2A.
Last Playoff Appearance: 2016.
Last District Title: 2016.
Head Coach: Kade Burns, seventh year at Mason; ninth year overall.
Head Coach's Record: 86-14 overall, 71-8 at Mason.
Returning Experience: 19 lettermen, 6 offensive and 7 defensive starters.
Players to Watch: QB Otto Wofford, 5-11, 165, Jr.; RB-DB Klay Klaerner, 5-9, 180, So.; RB Americo Alvarez, 5-10, 175, Sr.; RB-LB Emanuel Martinez, 5-9, 175, Sr.; DB Bode McMillan, 6-0, 185, Sr.; OL Xavier Herrera, 5-9, 200, Sr.; DL Kason Silerio, 5-10, 205, Sr.; OL Lucas Martin, 6-3, 270, Sr.
Strengths: experience, tradition, work ethic.
Weakness: speed.
Key Stats: QB Otto Wofford passed for 1,071 yards and 8 TDs and was named the District 14-2A Offensive MVP last year as a sophomore. Klay Klaerner rushed for 493 yards and 6 TDs and was the district Newcomer of the Year last season. Americo Alvarez and Emmanuel Martinez give the Punchers a wealth of experienced runners. ... Center Lucas Martin, guard Xavier Herrera and tight end T.R. Kerr made all-district last year. ... Mason's defense returns third-year safety Bode McMillan, who had 5 interceptions in 2016. Martinez made 124 tackles at linebacker last season.
Noteworthy: The Punchers have more experience than usual, with several second- and third-year varsity contributors returning. ... With 101 wins, including 20 in the playoffs, Mason is enjoying its best nine-year run in school

history. ... Mason has won 31 straight district games, dating to a 42-7 loss to Goldthwaite in 2010. During that streak, the Punchers have outscored their district opponents by an average of 47-7. ... The Mason-Goldthwaite series is tied 23-23 after the Eagles won last year 20-13.

Jim Ned Indians

Enrollment: 335 (Class 3A Division I).
Last Year's Record: 3-7, 2-3 in District 3-3A.
Last Playoff Appearance: 2015.
Last District Title: 2004.
Head Coach: Jerod Womack, third year at Jim Ned; third year overall.
Coach's Record: 8-13.
Returning Experience: 18 lettermen, 10 offensive and 11 defensive starters.
Players to Watch: QB-WR-DB Coalby Rives, 5-11, 155, Sr.; WR-DB Brandon Amidon, 5-10, 160, Sr.; TE-DL Preston Freeman, 6-1, 180, Sr.; WR-DB Casey Hall, 5-10, 165, Jr.; OL-DL Jacob Turner, 6-1, 205, Jr.; QB-LB Dylan Martin, 6-1, 170, So.; FB-LB Josh Richey, 5-9, 190, Jr.; OL-LB Alex Humecki, 5-7, 180, Sr.
Strengths: experience, improved numbers.
Weaknesses: inexperienced QB, size, lack of tradition.

Key Stats: Coalby Rives could play multiple positions on offense and defense. He has made 127 tackles the last two years in the secondary. DE Preston Freeman made 68 tackles last year while DB Brandon Amidon had 32 stops. The Indians allowed 29 points per game last year and averaged 18. Nondistrict opponents Coleman, Goldthwaite, Anson and Sonora combined for 38 wins last year.

Noteworthy: Jim Ned returns 10 offensive starters from last year, but opened practice with three players competing at quarterback in senior Coalby Rives, junior Casey Hall and sophomore Dylan Martin. ... The Indians are

hoping good numbers (90 players overall) can overcome their lack of tradition. Jim Ned has missed the playoffs in seven of the last eight years and hasn't had a winning season since 2009. ... Goldthwaite leads its series with Jim Ned 6-2. Goldthwaite won last year 24-20.

LR Academy Bumblebees

Enrollment: 406 (Class 3A Division I).
Last Year's Record: 4-6, 1-5 in District 10-3A.
Last Playoff Appearance: 2015.
Head Coach: Mike Nichols, eighth year at Academy.
Coach's Record: 30-44 at Academy.
Returning Experience: 20 lettermen, 6 offensive and 6 defensive starters.
Players to Watch: RB-DB Jake Nichols, Sr.; RB-LB Caden Costa, Sr.; DL Chad Pajestka, Sr.; OL Boone Denton, Sr.; RB Hunter Douzat, Sr.; TE-DL Kyler Schreier, Sr.; WR-DB Britt Mauldin, Jr.
Strengths: defensive front, overall experience and numbers.
Weaknesses: overall defensive inexperience.
Key Stats: LB Caden Costa has made 256 tackles over the last two seasons. DL Chad Pajestka logged 71 tackles, including 13 for losses, last year. ... Academy had its two-year playoff streak ended last year after entering a district with Cameron Yoe, Franklin and Rockdale. ... The Bumblebees started 3-0 last season, but lost their last five games and allowed 44 points per game in district. Academy's offense averaged 20 points per game last year.
Noteworthy: Academy's offense figures to be led by RB Hunter Douzat and RB-WR Jake Nichols. ... Academy has won three of four all-time games against Goldthwaite, including last year's 21-14 decision in overtime. In last year's game, Goldthwaite lost despite out-gaining Academy 351-224 in total yardage.

Academy stopped Goldthwaite on fourth-and-1 in overtime to win it.

Junction Eagles

Enrollment: 207 (Class 2A Division I).
Last Year's Record: 6-6, 3-1 in District 14-2A.
Last Playoff Appearance: 2016.
Last District Title: 2003.
Head Coach: Rob McAdams, first year at Junction; first year as a head coach.
Coach's Record: 0-0.
Returning Experience: 12 lettermen, 3 offensive and 4 defensive starters.
Players to Watch: RB-LB Hudson Hearn, 6-1, 205, Sr.; OL-DL Brady Herbst, 5-10, 170, Jr.; OL Dax Simon, 5-8, 190, Jr.; WR-DB Quentin Schulze, 5-10, 170, So.; QB Brian Black, Sr.; WR-DB Trevor Humiston, Sr.; OL-DL Jacob Wilham, Sr.
Strengths: minimal transition with coaching change, three straight playoff berths.
Weaknesses: experience, depth, speed.
Key Stats: Hudson Hearn led the Eagles in tackles last year with 100, plus he is their top returning rusher. Brady Herbst and Dax Simon both started in the offensive line last year as sophomores. Senior Brian Black will take over at quarterback, and sophomore WR Quentin Schulze has play-making ability. ... Junction averaged 27 points per game last season and allowed 26.

Noteworthy: The Eagles promoted special teams coordinator Rob McAdams, who has been at Junction for 13 years, to head coach after Mitch McLemore resigned in January to take the Big Spring job. McAdams plans to keep the spread offense that McLemore used to guide the Eagles to a playoff win in 2015 and 2016. ... Junction rallied from an early four-game losing skid last year to finish 6-6. ... Goldthwaite has won three of its four all-time meetings with Junction, including last year's 30-10 decision.