

District 4-2A Division I Team Capsules

By Mike Lee
Eagle Contributor

Goldthwaite Eagles

Enrollment: 177.
Last Year's Record: 2-8, 1-4 in District 7-2A Division I.
Last Playoff Appearance: 2017.
Last District Title: 2015.
Head Coach: Keith Virdell, second year at Goldthwaite; third year overall.
Coach's Record: 11-10.
Returning Experience: 11 lettermen, 7 offensive and 5 defensive starters.
Returning Seniors: OL-DL Slade Sutherland, 6-1, 180, Sr.; RB-DB Angel Morales, 5-4, 160, Sr.; OL-DL Scott McCoy, 5-11, 220, Sr.
Other Returnees: QB-DB Jackson Patrick, 5-8, 160, Jr.; RB-DB Dusty Partin, 5-8, 150, Jr.; OL-LB Kody Roberts, 5-9, 175, Jr.; OL-DL Saul Vaquera, 5-6, 202, Jr.; RB-DL Aaron Anzua, 5-8, 165, Jr.; TE-LB Mitchel Hopper, 5-11, 185, Jr.; TE-DL Cason Guthrie, 6-1, 170, Jr.; WR-DB Seth Gardner, 5-8, 155, Jr.
Varsity Newcomers: WR-DB Cole Hermesmeier, 6-0, 165, Jr.; WR-LB Kyler Shelton, 5-11, 150, Jr.; OL-DL Calix Mensch, 6-0, 250, Jr.; OL-DL Jacob Valdez, 5-9, 260, Jr.; WR-DB Adrean Martinez, 5-10, 160, Jr.; WR-DB Owen Bryson, 6-1, 155, Jr.; OL-LB Jessie Anzua, 5-7, 150, Jr.; OL-DL A.J. McCoy, 6-1, 255, So.; OL-DL Quentin Oosthuizen, 6-3, 240, Fr.; OL-DL Deon Oosthuizen, 6-2, 170, Sr.
Strengths: experience, team chemistry, second year in Virdell's system.

Weaknesses: small senior class, depth, speed.

Key Stats: The Eagles return their top three tacklers from last year in DB Patrick (75 tackles), LB Roberts (72) and LB Hopper (58). At QB last year, Patrick rushed for 428 yards and 3 touchdowns, and he passed for 308 yards and 3 TDs. RB Partin averaged 7.3 yards per carry and added 3 rushing TDs last year while TE Guthrie caught 3 scoring passes.

Noteworthy: After making the playoffs for a school-record 14 straight years from 2004-2017, the Eagles have now missed the playoffs two straight seasons ... Despite expected improvement this year, the Eagles still have a lot of ground to make up. Last year, they lost to current district opponents San Saba, De Leon, Coleman and Winters by an average of 37-3.

Cisco Loboes

Enrollment: 223.
Last Year's Record: 11-2, 7-0 in District 4-3A DII.
Last Playoff Appearance: 2019.
Last District Title: 2019.
Head Coach: Kevin Stennett, first year as head coach.
Returning Experience: 14 lettermen, 4 offensive and 4 defensive starters.
Players to Watch: WR-DB Stephen Bird; RB-LB Jerrod Fisher; TE-LB Dawson Hearne; QB Hunter Long; OL-DL Trevor Fox; OL-DL Jalen Harding.
Strengths: line experience, drop from Class 3A to 2A, minimal transition in coaching change.
Weakness: loss of 14 starters from last year.
Key Stats: The Loboes must replace a 1,000-yard passer and a 1,200-yard rusher from last year. RB Fisher rushed for 232 yards and 3 TDs in a backup role last year. LB Hearne made 83 tackles

last year, including 8 for losses. Texas Football magazine tabbed WR Bird as the District 4-2A DI Preseason Offensive MVP.

Noteworthy: Assistant Kevin Stennett was promoted to head coach in December. Former head coach Brent West posted a 203-42 record with 16 playoff appearances in 19 seasons at Cisco. West's Loboes won district in their final nine years in 3A. They also won the state championship in 2013 and finished as the state runner-up in 2011, 2008, 2006 and 2002. ... Cisco and Goldthwaite have played 11 times, but not since 2003. Each team has won five games, with one tie.

De Leon Bearcats

Enrollment: 203.
Last Year's Record: 4-8, 2-3 in District 7-2A DI.
Last Playoff Appearance: 2019.
Last District Title: 2017.
Head Coach: Andy Dickson, second year at De Leon.
Coach's Record: 4-8.
Returning Experience: 7 lettermen, 3 offensive and 3 defensive starters.
Players to Watch: QB-DE Trey Lopez; RB-LB Ruben Silva; RB-LB Kallen McIlvain; WR-DE Ethan Salinas; OL-DL Ethan Dyson; OL-DL Zack Sides.
Strengths: five-year playoff streak, running game.
Weakness: experience.
Key Stats: De Leon's top two returning rushers are sophomores. Kallen McIlvain ran for 338 yards last year, and he'll be joined by fellow soph Ruben Silva, who also logged 55 tackles at linebacker last year. QB Lopez ran and passed for a combined

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