

Eagles' 2021 Nondistrict Opponents Capsules

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Crawford Pirates

Enrollment: 174 (Class 2A Division I).

Last Year's Record: 13-2, 5-1 in District 7-2A Division I.

Last Playoff Appearance: 2020.

Last District Title: 2020.

Head Coach: Greg Jacobs, second year as head coach.

Returning Experience: 17 lettermen, 6 offensive and 6 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: RB-DB Breck Chambers; QB-LB Ty Williams; QB-DB Luke Torbert; FB-LB Cameron Walker; WR-DB Trey Dobie; WR-DB Ben Baker; OL-DL Dillon Compton.

Strengths: tradition, experience, skill positions.

Weaknesses: speed, depth.

Key Stats: RB Chambers, a third-year starter, was a first-team all-district last year. LB Williams was the district Defensive MVP last year. In the playoffs last year, Crawford beat Kerens (49-14), Rivercrest (44-6), Alvord (55-13), and Bosqueville (48-0) before falling to Post (28-14) in the state semifinals.

Noteworthy: The consistent Pirates have had only two losing records in the last 33 seasons ... Crawford drew a No. 4 preseason ranking in Class 2A DI by Texas Football magazine ... Crawford is 7-0 all-time against Goldthwaite, with all seven meetings since 2014. The Pirates have beaten the Eagles by an average of 32-6, including last year's 14-0 decision.

Cross Plains Buffaloes

Enrollment: 100 (Class 2A Division II).

Last Year's Record: 8-3, 4-1 in District 8-2A DII.

Last Playoff Appearance: 2020.

Last District Title: 1994.

Head Coach: Daniel Purvis, 11th year at Cross Plains.

Head Coach's Record: 59-50, all at Cross Plains.

Returning Experience: 11 lettermen, 7 offensive and 7 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: QB-DB Cason Allen; OL-DL Riley Conlee; WR-LB Ryan Hopkins; WR-DB Spade Koenig; RB-DB Noah Moses; WR-DB Ryan Reed.

Strengths: line experience, coaching continuity.

Weaknesses: skill-position experience, overall depth.

Key Stats: With QB Allen returning, the Buffaloes may look to pass more with receivers Hopkins, Koenig, and Reed. DL Conlee has been the Buffaloes' leading tackler the last two seasons. The Buffaloes' only losses last year were to Haskell (20-16), Albany (35-0) and Petrolia (28-27) in bidistrict.

Noteworthy: Goldthwaite leads its all-time series against Cross Plains 17-11. The Buffaloes won last year's game 28-14 in their first meeting with the Eagles since 2005. The Eagles had won the previous eight meetings between 1982 and 2005 ... The Buffaloes have made the playoffs six straight seasons, but have only one postseason win during that time.

Olney Cubs

Enrollment: 161 (Class 2A Division II).

Last Year's Record: 5-5, 2-2 in District 6-2A DII.

Last Playoff Appearance: 2020.

Last District Title: 2000.

Head Coach: Jody Guy, 17th season overall, third at Olney.

Coach's Record: 39-124 overall, 7-22 at Olney.

Returning Experience: 16 lettermen, 6 offensive and 7 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: QB Gatlin Guy; LB A.B. Marquez; RB James Coleman; RB-DB Keller Knight; RB-DB Cyler Sosa; OL-DL Luis Marquez.

Strength: ended playoff drought, 4th year in system.

Weaknesses: overall depth, inexperience.

Key Stats: LB Marquez made 128 tackles last year, and DL Luis Mar-

quez added 61 stops. QB Guy rushed for 907 yards and 11 TDs last year as a freshman in the flexbone offense. RB Coleman rushed for 401 yards and 8 TDs last year.

Noteworthy: The Cubs last year ended a 13-year playoff drought after finishing fourth in District 6-2A DII. Before last season, Olney had lost 76 of 79 games in eight seasons. The Cubs beat district opponents Electra (58-7) and Munday (38-0) to secure last year's playoff berth. Olney lost to Hamlin 45-6 in bidistrict ... Last year's 48-8 Goldthwaite win was its first-ever game against Olney.

Florence Buffaloes

Enrollment: 347 (Class 3A Division II).

Last Year's Record: 0-10, 0-6 in District 13-3A DII.

Last Playoff Appearance: 2017.

Last District Title: 1958.

Head Coach: Drew Bridges, fifth season overall; third at Florence.

Coach's Record: 2-38 overall, 1-19 at Florence.

Returning Experience: 16 lettermen, 8 offensive and 9 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: QB-RB Victor Bonilla; RB-DB Levi Martin; OL-DL Said Reyes; QB-LB Ryland Carlile; OL-DL Angel Maldonado; TE-DE Jared Jimenez.

Strength: overall experience.

Weakness: lack of tradition.

Key Stats: QB Bonilla rushed for 846 yards and passed for 621 yards last year as a junior. RB Martin will join Bonilla in the backfield. The Buffaloes enter this season having lost 36 of 39 games over the last three years. Despite last year's 0-10 finish, Florence had competitive district losses to Lexington (13-7) and Riesel (25-15). Florence last year averaged 11 points per game and allowed 41.

Noteworthy: Goldthwaite and Florence have played five times, with the Eagles winning all five games.

Florence is in a brutally tough District 13-3A DII that includes 2020 state runner-up Franklin and state quarterfinalist Buffalo ... While Flor-

ence made the playoffs in 2017, the Buffaloes have not won district since 1958. The Buffaloes' last winning season was 8-3 in 2001.

Christoval Cougars

Enrollment: 163 (Class 2A Division II).

Last Year's Record: 12-2, 5-0 in District 14-2A DII.

Last Playoff Appearance: 2020.

Last District Title: 2020.

Head Coach: Casey Otho, sixth year, all at Christoval.

Coach's Record: 42-17.

Returning Experience: 18 lettermen, 8 offensive and 9 defensive starters.

Players to Watch: WR-DB Beau Jolly; RB-LB Josh Fava; QB-DB Kyle Loehman; OL-DL Brendon Wilcox; LB Jake Boness; TE-DL Ketcher Joiner.

Strengths: experience, 22 wins in the last two years.

Weakness: must replace dual-threat QB.

Key Stats: The Cougars lost dual-threat QB Brayden Wilcox, who last year amassed 4,028 total yards and was responsible for 55 TDs. But the Cougars return RB Fava, who rushed for 1,192 yards and 16 TDs last year. WR Jolly caught 54 passes for 1,071 yards and 17 TDs last year. Junior Kyle Loehman will take over at QB. Defensively last year, DB Jolly intercepted 4 passes while LB Boness logged 160 tackles and 5 sacks. DL Joiner had 65 tackles and 3 fumble recoveries while DB Fava made 62 tackles.

Noteworthy: Despite making the playoffs eight straight years, the Cougars last year won their first district championship in 13 years ... Christoval beat Goldthwaite 49-19 last year in their first-ever meeting ... The Cougars last year won their five district games by an average of 40 points. In last year's playoffs, Christoval beat Burton (forfeit), Bruni (72-30), and Snook (56-6) before losing to Falls City (27-18) in the 2A DII state quarterfinals.