

SPORTS

The Chandler & Brownsboro Statesman

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Powering into the playoffs

Brownsboro blanks Athens 8-0, earns first playoff spot in four years

By Chad Wilson
Editor

Hello playoffs! With an 8-0 win over Athens on Tuesday night the Brownsboro Bears secured a spot in the playoffs. Brownsboro's last trip to the

post season was in 2004 as they finished district in third place before claiming the bi-district championship. The Bears lost to Bullard in the area round.

Prior to 2004 the last trip to

the post season for the Bears was in 1995. Brownsboro claimed the bi-district title in '95 while posting a season record of 20-12.

Coach Joe Fleming led the Bears to a 7-3 District 14-3A record this season to earn the third playoff seed.

Van defeated Chapel Hill 2-1 on Tuesday to secure the second seed in District 14-3A with a record of 7-3. Van won both games against the Bears to earn the tie-breaker.

As of press time Tuesday night it was undetermined who the Bears would face in the first round of the playoffs.

Brownsboro will face either Kemp, Eustace or Kaufman after the three teams battle it out in a District 13-3A tournament.

Due to UIL rules the first round of the playoffs must be certified by Saturday, May 5. This means that the first playoff game in four years for the Bears is likely to be played on Friday, May 3.

Keaton Parsell dominated the Athens Hornets on Tues-



Chad Wilson Photo

With a crowd waiting at home plate, Brownsboro Ryan Smith trots home after hitting a two-run homerun in the sixth inning.

day night as he pitched all seven innings allowing just three hits.

Parsell struck out 13 batters, walked one, while throwing ninety pitches. In each inning he had at least one strike out.

Brownsboro's defense played flawless in the win by not allowing the Hornets to reach base on an error.

At the plate Brownsboro displayed both small ball skills and some power.

Ryan Epperson and Ryan Smith each hit a homerun for Brownsboro. Epperson's 350 foot solo shot came in the fifth inning to increase the Bears lead to 4-0. Smith's homerun

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Chad Wilson Photo

In his final regular season high school game Keaton Parsell dominated the Athens Hornets with 13 K's.

Bearettes defeat Canton prior to season finale

By Chad Wilson
Editor

Concluding the 2008 softball season with a loss to Bullard last Friday the Brownsboro Bearettes finished the year with an 8-17 overall record and a 1-9 District 14-3A record.

In Bullard the Bearettes fell to the Lady Panthers by the score of 8-0. Brownsboro's only hit was off the bat of freshman Malea Sims.

Allison Palmer pitched all six innings for Brownsboro allowing 15 hits and one walk. She struck out two batters.

"We went through a lot of growing pains this season. We learned a ton and finished the second half of district playing well." Bearette coach James Croley said.

Croley is looking towards next season as the Bearettes will return all but one starter. "We need to take the lessons

we learned this year and move forward. I truly believe we can compete for a playoff spot in our new district," Croley said.

Next season the Bearettes will be in District 20-AAA with Athens, Crockett,

District 14-3A Standings

	Final
Bullard	10-0
Van	7-3
Athens	6-4
Canton	5-5
C.Hill	3-7
B'boro	1-9

Fairfield, Palestine and Westwood.

Brownsboro won its first District 14-3A game last Tuesday 5-1 in Canton.

Krystin Groothuis picked up the win as she struck out six batters in seven innings. She allowed just seven hits and walked two.

'KG' led the Bearettes at the plate as well. She had three hits and two RBI.

With the Bearettes leading 2-1 entering the top of the seventh inning the bats came alive. Stefani Vause singled with one out to ignite the rally.

With a runner on Danielle Bynum singled to left advancing Vause to third.

Randi Smith singled to right to score Vause and give the Bearettes a 3-1 lead. Bynum advanced to third on the hit allowing Smith to steal second with Groothuis at the plate.

Groothuis singled to left scoring Bynum and Smith to give the Bearettes a 5-1 lead entering the bottom half of the seventh inning.

Canton loaded the bases in the bottom half of the inning with one out. Groothuis induced a soft liner to Bynum at third, Bynum snagged the

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Prior to leaving the game with a lower back injury Collin Wilson dove back to first base during a pick off attempt.

Chad Wilson Photo

SWEEP: Bears defeat Canton & Bullard

By Chad Wilson
Editor

After falling to Van on April 8 the Brownsboro Bears are riding a three game winning streak aided by solid defensive play.

Last week Brownsboro defeated Canton 2-1 on Tuesday and District 14-3A champion Bullard 3-2 on Friday.

In Canton the Bears totaled just two hits; neither figured into the Bears two run fifth

inning.

Trailing 1-0 entering the fifth the Bears window to score was expiring. Brownsboro left three runners on base in the first four innings.

Brett Tidwell drew a walk to lead off the fifth before advancing to second on a bunt by Bret Ralson. Canton attempted to throw Tidwell out at second on the fielder choice but was unsuccessful. Ralson

reached base safely.

With runners on first and second with one out DeAndre Taylor stepped to the plate. In his first varsity plate appearance Taylor drove the runners into scoring position with a ground ball to first.

Ryan Smith worked the count before hitting a fly ball toward second base. Canton's Phillip Brown could not catch the fly ball allowing Smith to

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Chad Wilson Photo

Brownsboro defeated Canton 5-1 last Tuesday in Canton as Krystin Groothuis led the Bearettes at the plate with three hits and two runs batted in.

Attention parents of student athletes

State looking into high school athletics credit change

By D.W. Rutledge
Executive Director

Texas High School Coaches Association

Thanks to the efforts of Craig Agnew, an assistant coach at Brenham High School, the State Board of Education (S.B.O.E.) has initially approved a petition to allow Texas High School students to apply up to four (instead of the maximum two) Credits towards graduation by taking athletic-related courses.

Coach Agnew said that the problem became clear to him last year as he was helping his eighth-grade son determine

what would be needed to complete the Distinguished Graduation Plan in high school.

Craig added that his son's problem is further exacerbated by the nature of the block scheduling system used in his district's high school, which schedules two back-to-back block schedule class periods per subject. This leaves little time for courses that do not provide graduation credits.

Coach Agnew presented his petition at the March S.B.O.E. meeting. Against the Commissioner of Education's recommendation, the petition

was initially approved 13-2.

It is now to be reviewed by the T.E.A. (Texas Education Agency) and will once again be brought before the S.B.O.E. at their meeting on May 22nd and 23rd. This will be the third of five steps in the process.

I don't believe this critical petition will go any further unless our coaches spread the word regarding the unfair situation Athletics is in that no other elective experiences.

That is why we need to jump on board with this petition and encourage people to call, write,

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Bear of the Week

4/14/08 - 4/18/08

DeAndre Taylor

Called up to the varsity after the JV season ended, he manned CF with the injury to Collin Wilson. He had key plays in both Bear wins last week.

Bearette of the Week

4/14/08 - 4/18/08

Krystin Groothuis

At Canton 'KG' pitched seven strong innings allowing 7 hits while striking out 6 Eageletes. She had three hits and drove in two runs.

This week

Friday:
Regional Track Meet
TAMU-Commerce

Saturday:
Regional Track Meet
TAMU-Commerce

Next week

Coaches Show:
Starts on April 30.
Regular schedule is
Wednesdays at 11am
online: Bear Radio



All sports photos, even those that do not appear in the paper, are available online.

** District 14-3A