

SPORTS

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District play is here and the Bears are ready

By Melissa Gaona
Statesman Sports

The Brownsboro Bears will play the first district 20-3A game, Friday, October 10, against Westwood in the Panther Stadium. Kickoff will begin at 7:30p.m.

Westwood is currently 2-3. Their losses came up against Chapel Hill, Bullard and Arp. They defeated Madisonville and Groesbeck. Quarterback Tevin Watson is leading the Panthers in rushing yards with 275 and 6 touchdowns. Watson has completed 613 yards passing for five touchdowns. Runningback D.J. Morrow was said to be one of the players to watch out for. Even though Morrow has set out for the past three games he is expected to play in the district opener Bears vs. Panthers game Friday night. Still, defensive end Sam Dunnam and Rodney Watson are just some of the powerhouse players. They combined for nine sacks in their last game against Groesbeck.

The Bears have five games left to play, that is of course, unless they take it to the playoffs. The five teams the Bears will go up against are the Westwood Panthers, the Fairfield Eagles, the Palestine

Wildcats, Crockett's Bulldogs and the Athens Hornets. Out of these teams Brownsboro and Athens have the winning records so far. Brownsboro with 4-1 and Athens at 3-2.

The records so far really don't matter and that was evident in the game Bears vs. Wildcats two weeks ago, when Brownsboro fell to Rains. Rains went into that game winless with a record of 0-3 and the Bears were 4-0.

The Bears look prepared in both the passing and running game. Bailey has already passed for 1,081 yards with the help and protection of offensive linemen like, Colton Croley, Matt Bouchillon, Glen Devlin and Chance Parks. The Bears have rushed for a total of 1,158. Currently leading in rushing yards is Bear Runningback Cameron Warren.

Last year Quarterback Zach Bailey passed for 1,935 yards, completed 154 of 294, with 14 touchdown passes and 15 interceptions.

Defensively, the Bears make their opponents work for the touchdown. For example, Bear Jared Bray, who thrives on pressuring the quarterbacks and if not watched carefully, he will

get the sack. Defensive players Michael House, Tyler Rogers, Charlie Stringer, Daniel Suggs, Will Jones, Peyton Williams, Dustin Lackey, Jose Hernandez and Adam Dingler like to simply drill into the offensive line and at times have allowed no yardage on a series.

The Bears are scheduled to host the Fairfield Eagles on October 17, at the Bears Stadium. The Eagles are currently 2-2. The losses were to China Spring and Gatesville, while the wins were against Ferris and Crandall. The team has a new coach this year; Coach Darrell Piske. Fairfield's Quarterback Dalton Piske has thrown for 476 yards and four touchdowns. Piske is also leading the Panthers in rushing yards with 319 and three touchdowns.

The third district game, Brownsboro vs. Palestine, will take place Friday, October 24, at the Wildcat Stadium. Palestine has won only one game against Rusk and fell to Navasota, Van, Jacksonville and Kilgore, giving them good preparation for district play and a current record of 1-4.

Crockett, who was ranked the highest coming into the 2008 season, will visit Brownsboro on Halloween night. The Bulldogs

are currently 2-2 with victories over Coldspring and Mexia and losses against Corrigan Camden and Waco LaVega. Crockett will be absent of Runningback Tyler Tabor who was injured in the Bulldogs first game against Coldspring. Players to watch for are linebacker Mark Leediker and free safety Jagared Davis.

The Bears will then travel to Athens to take on the Hornets, Friday, November 7. Athens has won against Wills Point, Mabank and Bullard. The losses came up against Mexia and Chapel Hill making them 3-2. The Hornets district opener will be against Crockett. With Athens at a non-district winning record and Crockett going into the season ranked the highest, this should give Brownsboro fans something to observe before the Bears play both of these teams. Linebacker Stephen Blackmore and Defensive back Randall Gamble have led the Hornets running game. Blackmore has rushed for 307 yards and five touchdowns, while Gamble has rushed 306 yards and one touchdown.

So, forget the non-district game records because each of these teams has something to bring to the table. It's all fair game from here.



Melissa Gaona photo
Top: Bear Charlie Stringer dodges the opponents offense and gets the Bears a first down

Varsity Bears ranked 4-1 going into district play



Nathan Straus Photo

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Current Bear stats

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RUSHING

Cameron Warren	63-490-6
Zach Bailey	40-414-8
Jon Jon Thompson	8-88-2
Ryan Owens	4-47-1
Sir'Shea Bowman	8-42-1
Tristain Warren	4-31-0
O.T. Moore	4-30-0
Will Jones	5-16-0

PASSING

Zach Bailey	109-71-1081-11-4
Ryan Owens	19-10-128-1-0

RECEIVING

Keith Johnson	21-408-4
Tristain Warren	16-242-2
Cameron Warren	18-219-3
Seth Martin	6-144-1
Will Jones	4-57-1
Brad Mcdonald	1-20-1
Sir'Shea Bowman	3-26-0
Jon Jon Thompson	5-25-0
Bret Ralson	2-27-0
Adam Dingler	1-24-0
Tyler Rogers	2-11-0
Ryan Cawthon	1-6-0

PUNTING

Dustin Edgar	12-464-37.75-0-0
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EXTRA-POINTS

Ryan Smith	26-21-1
Dustin Edgar	4-1-0
Seth Martin	2-1-0

PUNT RETURNS

Tyler Rogers	6-23-0
Tristain Warren	3-22-0
Austin Adair	1-16-0

KICKOFF RETURNS

Tristain Warren	7-234-1-0
Cameron Warren	3-43-0-0
Daniel Suggs	1-54-0-0
Seth Martin	2-21-0-0
Will Jones	1-16-0-0
Austin Adair	2-5-0-0
Sir'Shea Bowman	1-0-0-0

A look back at Bears first game



Melissa Gaona Photo
Dustin Lackey showed great coverage in the Bears first non-district game against the Kemp Yellowjackets.

NASCAR Rear View

Talladega win for Stewart, Talladega tease for Smith

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you don't want to do that, either."

Rookie Regan Smith must have got a little too excited on Sunday, October 5, in the Amp Energy 500 and accidentally forgot about the rules when passing on the final lap.

According to Jim Hunter, NASCAR's vice president of corporate communications, "You cannot improve your position anytime you go below the yellow line. At the drivers' meeting, we clearly state that you cannot improve your position by going below the yellow line."

With only three laps left in the race Smith, in second, tried to fake leader Tony Stewart by acting like he was going to pass the #20 car on the outside. Tony, a two-time champion, didn't fall for it. Smith then quickly passed Stewart on the inside but drove over the yellow, out-of-bounds, line.

"They always tell us in the drivers' meeting, if you get forced to the inside, you can go for it, especially on the last lap," Smith said. "I saw the replay when I was pulling in here (to pit road), and I felt like we won that race. I could have caused a big pileup, and

Officials ruled Stewart did not force him out-of-bounds.

Even though it was evident Regan crossed the finish line first, officials ruled it illegal and Stewart, who started 34th, headed to victory lane instead. Regan was given a penalty for pass-through and was moved back to the 18th position.

This victory is not only Stewart's first win of the 2008 season but it is also his first win at Talladega in a NASCAR Sprint Cup car. Stewart has placed second at this track six times and almost finished second again. He has not won a race since Watkins Glen in 2007.

Talladega is one of the most interesting races to watch for reasons like, it is the fastest, the biggest and it makes marks in history. Talladega stuck to its guns and history was made, Sunday, when 31 lead changes set a new record.

You just never know what's going to happen at Talladega. Anything is possible. For example, in 2003 Dale Earnhardt

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