

Lone Star Varsity Super Team - First team defense

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LONE
STAR VARSITY

First team defense

(all stat totals are for the regular season unless otherwise noted)



Newcomer of the year

Brownfield was practically finished and knocked out of the playoffs before the first half of its opening round postseason game even ended.

Childress led 28-0 and it was gouging Brownfield's poor special teams effort early for big gains on punt and kick returns that set up short fields.

Out of nowhere, the Cubs resurgence happened: led by **Lone Star Varsity Newcomer of the Year, freshman quarterback Jaelyn Nolan**, the Cubs scored 35 straight points to pick up a 35-28 win.

"He's a tremendous athlete and he's got some really special abilities that are really hard to defend against," Childress coach Cody Chisum said. "Things that you don't see out of a 14-year old kid. He's able to move and create space for himself."

Brownfield advanced to face Wall in the second round and lost, although three rushing touchdowns from Nolan kept the Cubs in the game.

Nolan inherited the starting job ahead of schedule and distributed the ball very well, leading the Cubs to district wins over Tornillo, Slaton, Kermit and Denver City with an offense that averaged 38.8 points per game and 463 yards per game.

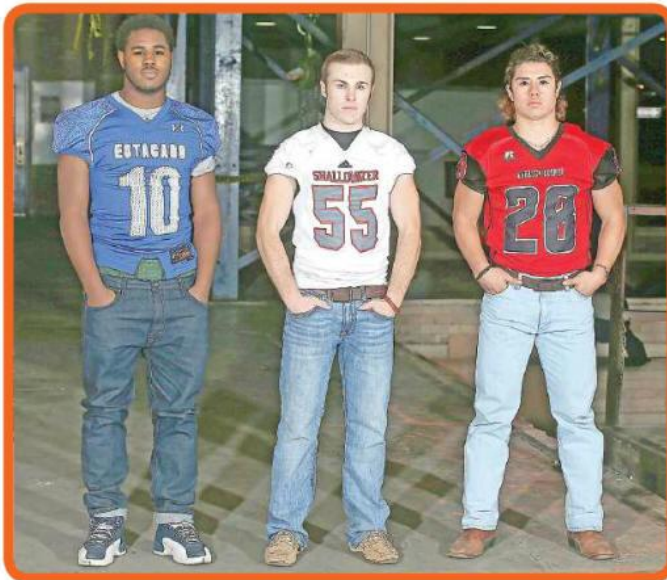
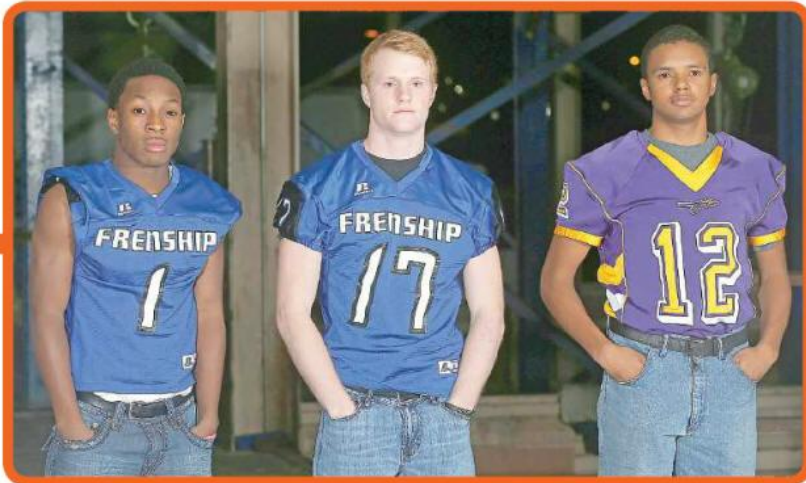
Defensive backs

DB: Elijah Ramon, Sr., Springlake-Earth (not pictured): Ramon had 107 tackles, six interceptions and eight tackles for loss.

DB: Broderick Harrell, Jr., Frenship (shown left): Harrell had 65 tackles, seven interceptions, three forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries.

DB: Jared Mannon, Sr., Frenship (shown middle): Named to the AP's Class 6A first team, Mannon had 43 tackles and seven interceptions.

DB: Bobby Childers, Sr., Crosbyton (shown right): Childers had seven interceptions in the regular season and added four in a playoff game against Quanah.



Linebackers

LB: Clay Rayburn, Sr., Coronado (not pictured): Rayburn had 126 tackles, four sacks and two fumble recoveries.

LB: D'Ante Willard, Sr., Estacado (shown left): Willard had 95 tackles, nine sacks, two interceptions and two fumble recoveries.

LB: Brenton Burgett, Jr., Shallowater (shown middle): Burgett finished with 165 tackles, two sacks, three forced fumbles and 10 tackles for loss before adding more than 50 tackles five postseason games. Against Mineola in the state semifinals, the Mustangs struggled early to stop the Yellowjackets running game because of their massive offensive line, but the Shallowater defense ended up giving its offense the chance to turn a 28-point deficit to just a single score.

LB: Ricky Mendez, Sr., Cooper (shown right): A linebacker/safety hybrid, Mendez had 110 tackles, one sack, two caused fumbles and three pass breakups. Mendez covered a lot of ground in the Pirates 4-2-5 scheme that made use of plenty of speed in the back portion of their defense.

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Defense

DL: Xavier Freeman, Sr., [Monterey](#) (shown left): Freeman had 39 tackles on a stout Plainsmen defensive front and was named to the [District 2-6A](#) All-District first team.

DL: A.B. Ramirez, Sr., [Levelland](#) (shown right): Ramirez finished with 90 tackles, three sacks, five pressures four caused fumbles, four fumble recoveries and 10 tackles for loss.

DL: Coleman Dennis, Sr., [Frenship](#) (not pictured): Dennis had 73 tackles and a forced fumble.

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