

Football team overcomes adversity, begins season on a high note



by Alex Miller
Managing Editor

The football team won two of its three non-district games, despite losing highly-regarded junior quarterback Ty Brock for the season in a scrimmage.

In the season-opener against Rosenberg Terry, the Cougars led 38-0 going into halftime, and dominated all four quarters, winning 45-0. Junior Reece Easterling made his debut as the new starting quarterback, going 14-20 for 206

yards and 2 touchdowns in the air.

The team hit a road block in Week Two, losing a close battle to Waco 21-20. After racing out to a 14-0 lead with 7:23 in the first quarter, the offense stalled allowing the Lions to tie the game at 14 going into the half. The Cougars were unable to finish several drives in the second half, settling for two field goals, while a costly penalty allowed the Lions to pull ahead on the first play of the fourth quarter, giving them a lead they would not relinquish.

The Cougars responded well in Week Four, spoling Homecoming for Elgin, by means of a 64-0 victory. The team raced out to a 27-0 lead with 7:32 in the first quarter and never looked back. Easterling and sophomore Marquez Perez combined for only 8-9 passing, but for 211 yards and 4 touchdowns. The defense pitched a shutout yet again, holding the Wildcats to only 159 yards of total offense.

The team begins district play tonight at home against the Willis Wildkats, with kickoff set for 7:30 p.m. •

◀ Junior Ian Wooley and sophomore David Hahn congratulate junior Chris Monroe after he scored a touchdown in the first quarter of the game against Rosenberg Terry on Aug. 28. Monroe finished the game with 173 rushing yards on 8 carries and 3 touchdowns. *PHOTO BY RACHEL GRANT*

LOOKING AT THE ROAD AHEAD

*HOMECOMING

**SENIOR NIGHT

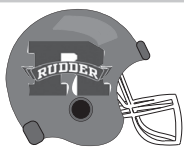
SEPT.
25



WILLIS (2-1)

The Wildkats return 17 starters from last year's team, which finished fifth in district. Coming off a close 42-35 win over Houston Chavez, the Wildkats look to continue their early success into district play.

OCT.
2



@ RUDDER (1-2)

Despite their record, the Rangers come off an impressive 59-20 win over Cedar Creek. Senior defensive end, Josh Peoples, leads the way, and the Rangers have a much improved team, looking to contend for their first playoff berth in school-history.

OCT.
9



LIVINGSTON* (1-2)

After struggling in non-district play, the Lions have nowhere to go but up. Bright spots appeared in their lone victory over Cleveland, but it may be another long season for the green and white.

OCT.
16



@ HUNTSVILLE (2-1)

The Hornets are flying into district play with their potent offense led by senior quarterback Ricko Bennett. Bennett leads 18-5A in passing yards and is averaging 337.7 total yards per game. Expect Huntsville to contend for the district crown.

OCT.
23



A&M CONSOLIDATED (1-2)

Consol was tested in non-district, losing tough battles to highly-regarded 5A teams Fort Bend Elkins and Richmond Foster. Led by senior running back, Tyri Merchant, the Tigers like to score points. Get ready for Oct. 23.

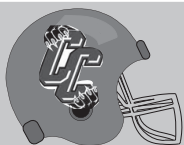
OCT.
30



@ BRYAN (1-2)

The defending-district champs are ready to repeat in 2015, and senior quarterback BJ Ross has the skills to do so. With a target on their back, we will see if the Vikings can power their way to the district crown for the second year in a row.

NOV.
5



CANEY CREEK (0-3)**

The Panthers had little success in non-district, losing all three games by a reasonable margin. The Panthers look to the ground game for success while relying on younger players to step up big for the team.