

ELLIS COUNTY EXTRA Sports

Wynn's
Since 1987
JEWELERS
NO CREDIT CHECKS - 6 Months No Interest!
Lifetime Warranty on Wedding Bands
Over 30 yrs experience • Fast Jewelry & Watch Battery Repair
1012 E. Ennis Ave. Ste. L • 469-881-1188

Century 21
JUDGE FITE COMPANY
Helping People with their homework since 1971
RAYMOND CALDWELL
Broker - Associate
Cell: 214.448.5658
Email: realtorray@aol.com



No. 8 Palmer (11-1) produces best-team ever

Bulldog tail-waggers earn All-District

Mark Warde
mark@ennisdailynews.com

When a team is ready for the season to be over, it's not a good indicator. When players are incredibly disappointed that they've played their last game, like Palmer on Nov. 22, it reveals a very successful campaign. That the Bulldogs were 11-0 before suffering a year-ending loss in the playoffs is a major statement about the best team in school history. These guys never wanted this year to stop.

Head Coach Don Waddle, whose 2014 team (8-3) won the school's first-ever district championship, added another this fall with a team that rose to No. 8 in the state Class 3A rankings. The Bulldogs crushed Hamilton, 49-7, in the Bi-District round, and then endured a heartbreaking 17-14 upset defeat at the hands of Holliday the following week.

Palmer then reaped the benefits of its outstanding campaign when a whopping eight players received Superlative recognition by the eight league coaches. Compared to Ennis, who also won their district crown, the Lions had three players earn similar honors.

The Black-and-Gold swept the first five of the highest awards, including District MVP - Carson Cisneros, Offensive Player of the Year - Adrian Cisneros, Defensive POY - Marc Zagala, Utility POY - Ben Waddle, and Offensive Lineman of the Year - Henry Martinez. All are seniors.

Additionally, Gabe Bolden, a junior, was tabbed as the Offensive Newcomer of the Year, sophomore Collin Graves received Defensive Newcomer and senior Alan Mata was the Kicker of the Year.

Waddle and his entire staff of assistants, including Defensive Coordinator David Blakley and OC Matthew Moose, garnered Coaching Staff of the Year.

Twice in his six years at the helm the Bulldogs have been top dogs in the district, and have finished below .500 only two times. During the prior six seasons the Hounds enjoyed just one winning year. This year's senior-laden Barkers, 7-3 as juniors, gave credence to a group whose camaraderie and work-ethic well exceeded their considerable talent.

While running the table in District 7-3A, they faced four teams with winning records, routing Buffalo 38-19, Mildred 48-13, Edgewood 41-16, and Rice, 39-0. Buffalo and Edgewood were coming off 12-1 and 9-2 seasons. In the process the Bulldogs averaged 46.6 ppg and allowed just 11.8.

Balanced offense; D had 24 takeaways

Palmer moved the ball very well through the air, gaining 190.0 passing yards per game and 27 TD's. They threw only four interceptions. On the ground they rolled for 219.4 ypg, 43 TD's while losing just four fumbles. That's 409.4 ypg, 70 TD's and a scant 8 turnovers.

DC Blakley had his unit post three shutouts and held 10-of-12 teams under 20 points. Collectively they swiped 12 interceptions as well as recovering a dozen fumbles. Palmer was +16 in turnovers.

In their only setback, 17-14 to Holliday (10-4), they allowed only 235 yards on 43 plays. Meanwhile, Palmer racked up 320 yards, 71 plays and an 18-12 advantage in first downs.

The Bulldogs committed zero turnovers and three penalties. They were,



Carson Cisneros catch vs Edgewood.



Marc Nagala fends off Buffalo blocker while reading the play.



Dylan Tyree powers through a would-be tackler.

however, stopped on downs five times, four of them deep in their opponents territory.

District MVP Cisneros does double-duty

On a team known for sharing the glory, any one of four or five players could have easily been named the Most Valuable Player. League coaches, however, agreed that senior Carson Cisneros, who excelled as a two-way player, was most deserving.

His cousin, three-year starting QB Adrian Cisneros, had a sensational season, and a case could easily be made for Waddle and Zagala. But it was Carson (6'0, 165) who seldom ever left the field. He played full-time at both wide receiver and cornerback.

Carson was second in receiving with 31 catches, which were good for 6 TD's. His average yards gained by grab was 17.4. At cornerback he had height, speed and agility, which enabled him to make 79 tackles, third most on the team, though his 50 solo stops was tops. He had two interceptions, returned punts for a 14.2 average.

"We couldn't have accomplished what we did without him," said Coach Waddle. "He never left the field except when we punted. Carson made big plays on both sides of the ball and was especially huge at free safety."

The coach mentioned a few others who were worthy of the award, though Cisneros likely deserved the honor. QB

Waddle's Bow-Wow

Year	District	Finish	Overall
2019	First	(7-0)	11-1*
2018	Third	(5-2)	7-3*
2017	Fifth	(3-4)	5-5
2016	Seventh	(1-6)	1-9
2015	Tied for Third	(3-2)	3-8*
2014	First	(5-0)	8-3*
	District	(24-14)	35-29

*Record includes playoffs

All-District Football HONORS



Don Waddle exits pre-game huddle.



Adrian Cisneros throws from the pocket.

Courtesy Photo/AyD Photography

Courtesy Photo/AyD Photography

PALMER, cont from page 1B

Cisneros, Inside Receiver and Defensive Back Waddle, lineman Zagala and receiver / DB Mason Carvalho all had eye-catching numbers, though Carson, Waddle, Zagala and Carvalho played both ways throughout. In old-school football two-way players was common, though their efforts were known as one-platoon system or iron-man players.

Palmer has a proletariat, blue-collar spirit that permeates the roster, and it's all about "team." The Black-and-Gold wear it as a badge of honor, with several players as Big Dawgs who were difficult to keep off the field. Once there, they were playmakers on both sides of the ball.

Offensive POY, QB Adrian Cisneros

The point-man to the Bulldogs offense was easily the catalyst from anywhere on the field. Adrian Cisneros (6'0, 185), who led Palmer to the state finals in 7-on-7 this summer, was the triggerman for an offense that eclipsed 40 points on seven occasions. He accounted for 43 touchdowns.

He passed for 2,412 yards (201.0 ypg) and 27 TD's while attempting 19.0 passes per game. When he tucked the ball and dashed upfield, Cisneros gained 580 yards and 16 rushing TD's. A strong leader, he paced the team in total yards with 249.3 ypg.

Cisneros led the district in passing, topping Brett Hoffman (Buffalo) and Carson Rucks (Blooming Grove). Those two were credited with 1,952 and 1,646 yards, respectively. Hoffman's TD pass to interception ratio was 15-8, while Rucks was 16-9. Carson best both, easily, at 27-4.

Zagala led the defensive charge

Unchained along the defensive front, defensive end Marc Zagala (6'1, 222) was a relentless force. Named the Defensive POY, he totaled 63 tackles (5.3 tpg), 12.0 for lost yards. At the opposite end of the D-Line, junior Damian Gonzalez (6'3, 212) led the district with 13.0 TFL. His ability to shuck would-be blockers and get to the ball carrier made him a havoc to be reckoned with.

Utility POY – Ben Waddle

He could and he did. Ben Waddle (6'2, 185), the Utility Player of the Year, was a consummate workhorse. He was eaten-up with "want to."

On offense he played at tight-end and H-Back, wide receiver and running back. He caught a district and team-leading 58 passes for 855 yards (14.7 ypc) and 9 TD's. Only Buffalo's Jamaul Randle (who caught 50 balls) had more yards (933) and TD's (10).

Waddle registered 382 yards rushing on 42 carries (9.1 ypc) and 3 TD's. Defensively, he was credited with 27 tackles and was second in passes defended.

Though he was called on just 14 times in 12 games, his punting average was 31.0. He also caught nine two-point conversion passes en route to scoring 90 points.

It's appropriate that he wore No. 27 for his years. It is the atomic number for cobalt, which is used in lithium-ion batteries, and in the manufacture of magnetic, wear-resistant and high-strength alloys. Waddle was durable, energetic and strong.

Rushing beyond 1,000 yards

Contributing hard-nosed running akin to Bronco Nagurski was Dylan Tyree (5'11, 170). Fearless, his M.O. was hard, physical and dead ahead. Knowing to reach pay dirt, he quickly set his compass north posthaste. Tyree often punished would-be tacklers like a battering ram.

His style perfectly complimented the team's play hard or go home attitude. Tyree averaged 14.3 carries per game and his 1,229 yards was second in the district to Mildred's Bishop Harris (2,134 yds). Coincidentally, Palmer held Bishop to 36 yards.

Cisneros and Waddle finished No. 7 and No. 9 in the district to give the team Top 10, a fitting result of four offensive linemen earning First Team status – led by Henry Martinez (5'10, 265), Damon Herrera (6'1, 255), Trey Bone (6'1, 222), and Eddie Vargas (5'9, 225).

Victors get the spoils

An 11-1 season and Top 10 ranking brought recognition to many. Four others reaped Superlative or First Team honors, including kicker Alan Mata. He booted 37-of-43 PAT's (point after touchdowns). A pair of speedy receivers in Mason Carvalho and Gabe Bolden caught 17 and 14 passes, respectively. Carvalho doubled as a ball-hawk in the secondary where he intercepted 7 balls and returned them for 148 yards, and defended 13 passes.

Sophomore linebacker Collin Graves (5'10, 170) made quite the impact as a newcomer. His 107 tackles in 10 games paced the squad, reaching double figures 6 times.

Bulldog Offense

Palmer QB	GP	Att	Comp	Int	Pct.	Yds	YPG	TD's
Adrian Cisneros	12	228	143	4	62.7	2,412	201.0	27

Palmer WR

	GP	Rec.	Yds	YPC	YPG	TD's
Ben Waddle	12	58	855	14.7	71.3	9
Carson Cisneros	12	31	538	17.4	44.8	6
Mason Carvalho	12	17	306	18.0	25.5	4
Dylan Tyree	12	17	233	13.7	19.4	4
Gabe Bolden	12	14	371	26.5	30.9	3

Palmer Rushers

	GP	Att	Yds	YPC	YPG	100+	TD's
Dylan Tyree	12	173	1,229	7.1	102.4	8	17
Adrian Cisneros	12	116	580	5.0	48.3	1	16
Ben Waddle	12	42	382	9.1	31.8	0	3

PALMER ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Ryan Zaidle

Boys Basketball



Staff Photo/Mark Warde

Junior shooting guard Ryan Zaidle had a pair of solid outings last week. He scored 15 against Itasca and topped that with 16 versus Marlin in a 45-43 setback.

The 31-point outburst was an exercise from the perimeter as Zaidle connected on 10 three-pointers in the two games according to Head Coach Ryan Fortenberry.

Palmer had an away game at Dallas Gateway Academy on Tues., Dec. 17. Their next game is Friday, Dec. 20, at home against Maypearl (5-5). Tipoff is set for 6:15 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
on Country Club Road
 Minister: Scott Brazell
972.875.7484
 ennischurchofchrist.org
 1503 Country Club Rd. • Ennis, TX 75119

Solving business objectives through technology.

CALIBER
 SOLVES IT

301 S. Rogers | Suite 207 | Waxahachie, TX 75165
 972-996-2413 • www.caliberveiceanddata.com