

# PREVIEW DISTRICT 6-5A, DIV. I

>> CENTENNIAL TITANS >> FRISCO RACCOONS >> HERITAGE COYOTES >> LEBANON TRAIL TRAIL BLAZERS  
 >> LIBERTY REDHAWKS >> LONE STAR RANGERS >> REEDY LIONS >> SHERMAN BEARCATS >> WAKELAND WOLVERINES

The past athletics season was the year of Reedy, as a number of different teams made history in their own ways.

The football team was one of those that set the tone, embarking on an undefeated regular season en route to the district championship as the Lions advanced to the regional semifinals, finishing with a 12-1 record.

Reedy will once again be a factor in the 6-5A Division I race, but if it wants to come out on top of the standings, it will need to replace much of its skill position talent.

If there is a favorite to take over the top spot in the district, it is likely Lone Star, which has won at least nine games in eight of the last nine years and returns

11 starters to last season's area finalist team.

Though Wakeland has not won a district title since 2015, it has made 10 consecutive playoff appearances and it also has 11 returning starters back in the fold, meaning it will be a contender, as well.

Heritage will also be a team to keep an eye on, with 14 returning starters back on a team that made the playoffs last season for the first time since 2014.

Frisco was edged out of the playoffs on a tiebreaker last season and its wing-T offense gives it an edge because it is a different look than teams are used to, but the Raccoons must also replace nine starters on defense.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLENN GUNN

## THE TOP FIVE: WHICH GAMES TO WATCH THIS YEAR

### REEDY AT LONE STAR, SEPT. 7

The battle between the two district favorites just happens to take place in the opening week of the 6-5A Division I season. As much as this era of football is defined by scoring, last year's meeting was a defensive battle, as the teams combined for less than 400 yards of total offense, with the Lions coming out on top in a 13-7 slugfest. Both teams enter the season with questions, but the winner of this contest will assume the driver's seat in the district title race.

### SHERMAN AT CENTENNIAL, SEPT. 7

These two teams are not projected to make the playoffs, but the race is settled on the field and if either is going to climb the ranks, this district opener could be the launching point. The Titans have seven returning starters on offense, including one of the top running backs in the state in Harry Stewart, who missed half of last season with an injury. Sherman has a solid ground game of its own, led by two-way standout Kane Bowen.

### LONE STAR AT WAKELAND, SEPT. 22

Many of the expected marquee matchups in 6-5A Division I take place early in the season and this is another, as the Wolverines are considered to be a sleeper in the district title race. In fact, a season ago, Wakeland handed the Rangers one of their worst losses in recent memory in a 38-10 rout. The key last year, and what could be again, is Wolverines quarterback Brennan Myer, who was 21-of-28 for 277 yards and three touchdowns last season.

### FRISCO AT HERITAGE, OCT. 12

The Raccoons and Coyotes are expected to be among those battling for the final playoff spot, as they were a year ago, when they finished as part of a three-way tie for third place. Frisco actually won the head-to-head meeting with Heritage, edging out a 20-17 victory, but it was Heritage that had the tiebreaker edge at the end, to secure its first playoff berth since 2014 and just the second in program history. This game could have similar playoff implications.

### HERITAGE AT REEDY, OCT. 27

This late-season encounter could have huge playoff and district title implications, with both expecting to be in the middle of the hunt. A year ago, this was one of the most exciting games of the district slate, with the teams trading punches for four quarters. Reedy appeared out of it, but with less than 30 seconds left, they blocked a punt that was recovered in the end zone by Josef Fuksa for what proved to be the game-winning score in a 32-31 victory.

## HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT TODAY!



**Pablo from Spain, 17 yrs.**  
Loves soccer and would like to learn to play baseball. Pablo is a boy scout and enjoys the outdoors.



**Julie from Denmark, 16 yrs.**  
Enjoys gymnastics, swimming and photography. She's positive, fun loving and easy to get along with.

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