

# Recent win much needed for ailing Cy Creek

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Cypress Creek went from being a player in the race for the District 17-5A title to trying to salvage its season.

It hasn't been a pretty 2011 for the Cougars.

Cy Creek started the season 2-0 overall and looked like it could be in the running for a district title and a playoff spot. That isn't the case now. The Cougars lost four straight until a 25-14 win over Cy Lakes on Saturday.

"At the very minimum, we feel a little bit better about ourselves and maybe we can use this as a springboard to move on to better things," Cy Creek coach Greg McCaig said.

Granted, two of those four consecutive losses came to Cypress Falls and Cy-Fair — two of the tougher teams in the district. One came to a hot Cypress Ranch team and the loss to Jersey Village could be considered an upset.

Still, the fall has been a bit shocking for a team that won nine games and went three rounds deep in the playoffs in 2010.

One persistent problem for the Cougars is injuries. McCaig said his players have suffered more injuries this season than in recent memory. Most notably, star running back and Boise State commit Devan Demas has been hindered by injuries.

Demas missed the Cy Falls game because of a rolled ankle, which was considered minor, but then he suffered a concussion, forcing him to miss the Cy Lakes game. Quarterback Brandon Pryor and a handful of others have been out with concussions, too.

McCaig said Demas could be back next week against Cypress Woods, but it may take Pryor a little more time to return to action.

In Pryor's absence is Dylan Pugliese, who completed 27 of 37 passes for 233 yards and three scores against Cy Lakes. Running back Detrich Hornsby, who is no slouch, had 110 yards rushing, too.

The Cougars aren't using the injuries as an excuse, though. McCaig said he's tried to let his players know it's best to stay the course and keep trying to improve no matter what happens.

"You just have to keep plugging away," he said. "If there's anything that the game teaches us it's that it's not always fair. One man's loss is another man's opportunities. When somebody goes down, somebody gets an opportunity to play that may have not gotten one before. Maybe we'll find somebody that we've overlooked."

"It's difficult sometimes when you go through a tough stretch like this. You start doubting yourself. It's real important that you stick to your core values and things you believe in. The tendency is to try to fix problems and sometimes when you do that, you actually create more problems."

At 3-4 overall, 2-4 in 17-5A play, the playoffs are a little bit out of reach for the Cougars. Most likely, they would have to win out to have a shot at stealing a berth. But anything could happen in the next few weeks.

McCaig said no one is talking playoffs in the locker room, although it's easy to fall into that trap and look ahead. The plan is to take it one week at a time. After Cy Woods this week, Cy Creek faces Langham Creek and Cypress Ridge to finish the season.

If the Cougars do miss the playoffs, it would be the first time since 2007, when they went 2-8.

([http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/cypresscreek/sports/recent-win-much-needed-for-ailing-cy-creek/article\\_438d4eb8-fa91-11e0-bd2f-001cc4c03286.html](http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/cypresscreek/sports/recent-win-much-needed-for-ailing-cy-creek/article_438d4eb8-fa91-11e0-bd2f-001cc4c03286.html))