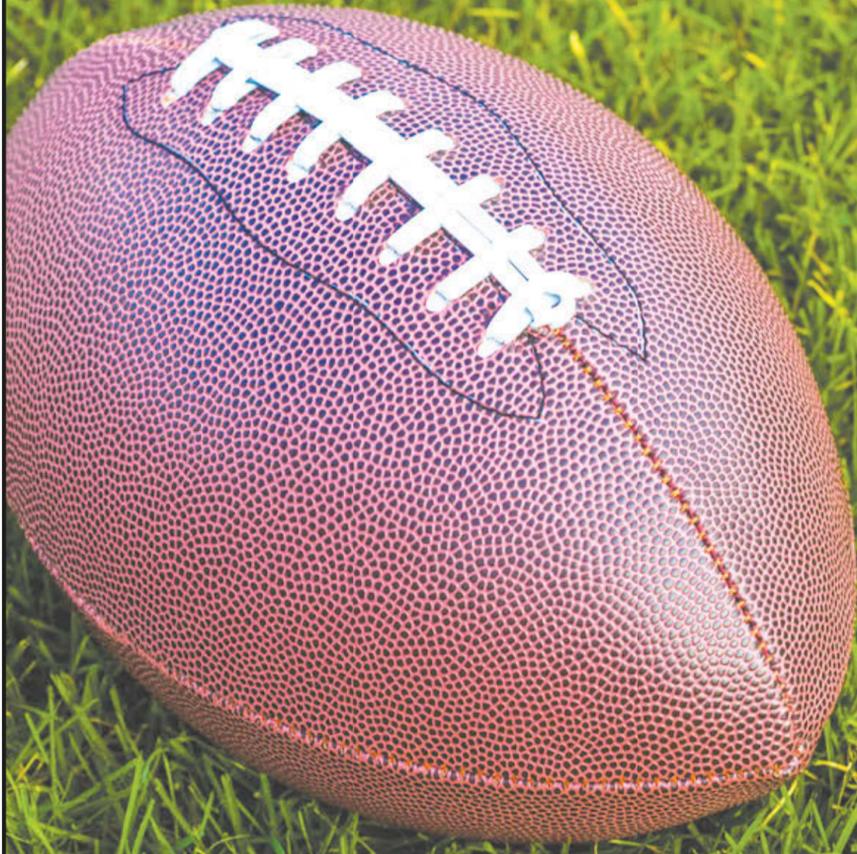


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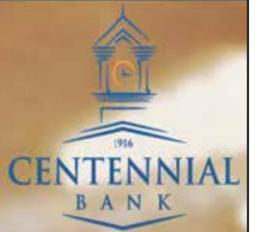


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It's Football Time In West Tennessee

Dear Banner Sports fans, Fall is quickly approaching, and that means one thing... it's football time in West Tennessee. In keeping with our long-standing area sports coverage tradition, The Banner is proud to present to you our 2019 Football Special Section.

Before the first coin is tossed on the high school field, we filled the pages of this year's football special section with team photos, schedules and rosters of area middle and high school football teams; cheerleading squads group photos and identification; coaching staff photos and identification; and insightful interviews with high school head coaches Wade Comer of McKenzie; Eric

Swenson of Huntingdon, Josh Wolfe of West Carroll and Noah Lampkins of Gleason.

The Banner Sports Team of Joel Washburn, Jason Martin, Brad Sam and Jimmy Potts look forward to roaming the sidelines and supporting every player and coach this season.

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Left, McKenzie High School Cheerleaders (L to R): Front Row — Madison Hendrix and Sydney Pate; Second Row — Tanyah Diggs, Emma Barnett, Momi DeLoach, Savannah Hill and Anna Claire Patel; Back Row — Alajah Gilbert, Jessica Moore, Lilly Sumrok, Graycie Turner and Anna Grace Spivey. Right, McKenzie High School Seniors (L to R): Front Row — Kinley Millsap, Keira Hones, West Cook, Momi DeLoach, Sydney Pate, Micah Austin, Jeremiah Moore and Carrie Becker; Second Row — Kyle Maxwell, Madison Hendrix and Jordan Barnhart; Back Row — Evan Jarrett and Witt Mitchum.



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Above Left, McKenzie High School Football Coaching Staff (L to R): Assistant Coaches Randy Thomas and Kentrell Diggs, Head Coach Wade Comer and Assistant Coaches Alex Hayes and Chris Wall. Not pictured is Assistant Coach Jerry Hayes. Above Right, McKenzie High School Football Managers (L to R): Claire Price, Carrie Becker, Meya Prather, Keira Hones and Kayla Gilbert. Not pictured is Kinley Millsap.

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Comer Looks to Lead Rebels 'Back to Where We Belong'

BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com
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The McKenzie Rebels are looking to rebound from back-to-back seasons in which they narrowly missed the postseason.

Last year, they were plagued by injuries early in the season, which, coupled with a tough non-region schedule, led to an 0-5 start. The Rebels turned things around in the second half, winning three of four to go into the final week with a shot at the playoffs. They came up just short, but the underclassmen would carry into the offseason some momentum, confidence and hunger for more winning.

Head Coach Wade Comer hopes to build on that momentum going into this season.

He's got a young squad, but despite the team's overall inexperience, Comer is pleased with the leadership of his seniors. "Kyle Maxwell has been the ringleader of that senior class and our football team. We've got good seniors. Micah Austin is doing a good job, and Evan Jarrett. I'm really proud of our leadership. It's been outstanding... We're looking for a good year."

Those seniors will be centerpieces of the Rebel offense. "Maxwell, obviously he's the leader of our offensive line. And then Evan, coming off of his injury last year, we're looking for big things out of him.

He's had a good camp so far, doing an outstanding job. Those two right there, we're gonna go how they go."

On the defensive side, Comer is relying on a lot of young players, but notes that "Kyle's anchoring that for us too on the defensive line. We're looking for Eli Surber and Will Latimer on the back end of the secondary. They've had a good camp. We're looking for some kids to step up at linebacker. Zach Chandler has had a pretty good camp, as well as [senior] Jordan Barnhart. We've got to figure out who's gonna be the linebackers, but I feel pretty good about them."

The roster features a huge freshmen class, but fortunately it's a group that just led the middle school team to a dominant, undefeated season. Asked who he thinks could be rookie playmakers, Comer said, "Obviously, the first one would be Marquez Taylor. He's a tremendous athlete. Jackson Cassidy's done a good job, and I think he'll help us on the defensive side also. Daniel Latimer and Jose Luna, both of them are showing signs that they can help us this year from an offensive and defensive line standpoint. We're excited about having them. It's a real good bunch. There will be several of them earning some playing time before the year's over with."

Overall, Comer sees the skilled positions as one of the team's biggest upsides. "There's going to be some growing pains there, but I think that will be an



advantage for us. And then, size-wise, the offensive and defensive lines, we're real young up there. They look the part, but it's up to us to get them to play the part."

Besides youth, Comer says the biggest thing they'll have to overcome is depth. "We're thin in some areas. That's the biggest issue. Getting those young kids up where they can play winning football. They've got the talent and everything, we've just got to get them ready."

For the third consecutive year, the Rebels will open the season against their biggest rivals, the Huntingdon Mustangs. Comer said, "I don't have to do much motivating to get them ready to play Huntingdon. Our kids will come out ready. They're excited about it. We've been on the wrong end of the deal for the last two or three

years, and we're looking to turn that around. Huntingdon has an excellent football team with high expectations. We've just gotta come out ready to play."

Comer says region play is the main focus, and McKenzie's Region 7-2A got just a little easier with the departure of Trinity Christian Academy. "We've got to get back to where we belong, getting in the playoffs and making deep runs every year, and that's what our kids are focused on right now."

The Rebels open region play September 6 against the defending state champions. "We start off with Trenton Week 3... That's the thing about our region. It is tough. The last two years, the state champions came out of our region. And in the last ten years, somebody in our region has been in the state championship game. So, when you come out of our region, you're well-conditioned for the playoffs. I can promise you."

McKenzie's overall schedule will have a much different look as they replace TCA, Scotts Hill and Waverly with Stewart County, Dresden and Obion County.

The latter of those, unbeknownst to the two schools when they first scheduled the game, will offer an added layer of intrigue. Coincidentally, former MHS Principal Tim Watkins was recently named the director of schools at Obion County, a position held at McKenzie by his brother, Lynn, making the contest not only a battle of the Rebels, but a battle of brothers.

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2019 MCKENZIE REBEL FOOTBALL ROSTER

#	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Grd	#	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Grd	#	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Grd
1	Kaden Allen	R/DB	5'6"	136	11	22	Marquez Taylor	RB/DB	5'8"	151	9	66	Ryan Christian	OL/DL	6'	266	11
2	West Cook	R/DB	5'10"	176	12	25	Ralph Dennie	RB/LB	5'10"	167	9	68	David Cheney	OL/DL	5'9"	200	9
3	Will Latimer	RB/DB	5'9"	155	11	26	Rashad McCreary	RB/LB	6'	175	9	70	Witt Mitchum	OL/DL	6'7"	255	12
4	Eli Surber	QB/DB	6'	160	11	28	Levin Adrom	R/DB	6'2"	190	10	72	Hayden Hudson	OL/DL	5'10"	327	10
5	Logan Lyles	R/DB	6'1"	180	11	30	Bryant Haynes	R/DB			9	73	Hunter Johnson	OL/DL	6'2"	289	9
7	Micah Austin	RB/DB	5'10"	170	12	34	Ty Anderson	R/LB	5'6"	162	9	74	Jose Luna	OL/DL	5'10"	349	9
9	Jeremiah Moore	RB/DB	5'7"	170	12	36	Jaden Brewer	R/DB	5'9"	141	9	76	Elijah Edmonson	OL/DL	5'6"	210	9
10	Evan Jarrett	QB/DB	6'6"	160	12	40	Chris Barnett	RB/DL	6'3"	224	11	77	Daniel Latimer	OL/DL	5'10"	263	9
11	Jackson Cassidy	QB/DB	5'11"	160	9	43	Bryan Snead-Soto	R/DB	5'8"	130	9	82	Trey Cook	R/LB	6'2"	162	10
13	Will Essary	R/DB	6'1"	160	10	52	Jordan Woods	OL/DL	5'9"	185	11	83	Matthew Garriott	R/DB	5'6"	125	9
14	Etiay Tharpe	RB/LB	5'8"	134	9	54	Brandon Hatley	OL/DL	5'9"	187	10						
17	Zach Aird	R/DB	5'5"	125	9	56	Jordan Barnhart	OL/DL	5'10"	219	12						
18	Jordan Gilbert	R/DB	5'10"	135	10	60	Gage Moon	OL/DL	5'8"	180	10						
19	Bryson Steele	R/DB	5'9"	147	9	63	Kyle Maxwell	OL/DL	5'8"	250	12						
20	Wes Bynum	R/DB	5'7"	140	10	64	Chuck Potts	OL/DL	5'6"	208	10						
21	Jaden Johnson	RB/LB	6'	223	10	65	Taylor Richardson	OL/DL	5'5"	269	10						

MCKENZIE REBEL 2019 SCHEDULE

Aug. 16	Jamboree
Aug. 23	Huntingdon
Aug. 30	@ West Carroll
Sept. 6	@ Trenton
Sept. 13	BYE
Sept. 20	Halls
Sept. 27	@ Stewart Co.
Oct. 4	@ Gibson Co.
Oct. 11	@ Dresden
Oct. 18	Union City
Oct. 25	Obion Co.
Nov. 1	Adamsville

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McKENZIE MIDDLE SCHOOL • REBELS



McKenzie Middle School Managers (L to R): Miles Beeler, Cole Brown, Christopher Eason and Westin Brown.



Above, McKenzie Middle School Football Coaching Staff (L to R): Assistant Coaches Zach Renfro and Zach Tippitt, Head Coach Paul Carroll and Assistant Coaches Kerrick Owens and Ty Riggins. Right, MMS Cheerleaders — Front: Ava Warman and Belle O'Brien Middle: Ava Jones, Macey Mayo, Skylor DeLoach, Brett Toombs, Abbie Young, and Kamryn Brewer. Back: Taylor Rawls, Emily McMullin, Leslie Sullivan, Abbi Sumrok, Reese Carroll, Lydia Pate, and Laila Scott.



McKENZIE MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL 2019 SCHEDULE

Aug. 8	@ Dresden
Aug. 15	@ Huntingdon
Aug. 22	Henry Co.
Aug. 29	West Carroll
Sept. 5	BYE
Sept. 12	@ Milan
Sept. 19	@ Henderson N.
Sept. 26	Camden

GO, FIGHT, WIN!

2019 McKENZIE MIDDLE SCHOOL REBEL FOOTBALL ROSTER

#	Name	Pos	Grade	#	Name	Pos	Grade	#	Name	Pos	Grade	#	Name	Pos	Grade	#	Name	Pos	Grade				
1	Brady Brewer	RB/DB	8th	11	Ace Fisher	WR/DB	8th	23	Carson Hill	RB/DB	7th	43	Lane Anderson	TE/LB	8th	56	Andrew Marr	OL/DL	8th	74	Mason Epperson	OL/DL	7th
2	Will Blue	WR/DB	7th	12	Skyler Stenberg	WR/DB	7th	24	KD Cunningham	FB/LB	7th	45	Denver Brush	FB/DB	7th	57	Jake Mayberry	OL/DL	8th				
4	Jake Cassidy	WR/DB	8th	13	Stafford Roditis	WR/DB	8th	30	Dalton Hatley	TE/LB	8th	50	Braxton Sullock	OL/LB	8th	58	Aidan Sisemore	OL/DL	8th				
5	Hayden Garrett	WR/DB	8th	14	Tate Surber	QB/DB	7th	31	Ryan McCreary	FB/LB	7th	51	Chaz Flippin	OL/DL	8th	59	Trey Gilbert	OL/DL	7th				
6	Ian Ownby	RB/DB	8th	15	Drew Chappell	RB/LB	8th	32	Dawson Brush	FB/LB	8th	52	Chris Hollowell	OL/DL	8th	60	Craegen Travis	OL/DL	7th				
7	Landon Brown	QB/FB/DB	7th	20	Coit Norden	WR/DB	7th	36	Martez Teague	RB/DB	7th	53	Christopher Beck	OL/LB	8th	65	Austin Luci	OL/DL	7th				
8	Holden Puckett	WR/DB	7th	21	Brent Odum	WR/DB	8th	40	Ethan Harwell	WR/DB	7th	54	Cameron Flippin	OL/DL	8th	68	Aiden Heath	OL/DL	7th				
10	Landyn Smith	WR/DB	7th	22	Cordell Orgain	WR/DB	7th	42	Brooks Waugh	FB/LB	7th	55	Luis Tellez	OL/DL	8th	73	Jacob Smith	OL/DL	7th				

Head Coach: Paul Carroll; Asst. Coaches: Kerrick Owens, Zack Renfro, Ty Riggins, and Zack Tippitt; Principal: Dorethea Royle; Asst. Principal: George Ognibene

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GLEASON HIGH SCHOOL • BULLDOGS

GLEASON HIGH SCHOOL ROSTER

#	Name	Pos	Grade
1	Mason Fuzell	CB/WR	10
5	Isaac Denton	CB/WR	10
10	Jack Blassingame	CB/WR	9
13	Carson Tidwell	CB/WR	10
18	Kolton Crochet	QB/LB	10
32	Dawson Arnold	ATH	12
42	Brady Witherspoon	LB/RB	10
45	Austin Clark	OL/LB	9
50	Cody O'Callaghan	DL/OL	12
51	Hagen Hodges	C/LB	10
52	Cayden Hughes	DL/OL	11
57	Cheyenne McKeithan	RT	10
58	Layne Fowler	OL/LB	9
61	Lance Montgomery	DL/OL	11
62	Kaidan Jones	DL/OL	9
64	Blake Inman	DL/OL	9
65	Joe Witherspoon	DL/OL	10
72	Aaron Lawson	DL/OL	9
76	Andrew Willis	DL/OL	10
89	Elijah Young	ATH	11

Principal: Lee Lawrence; Assistant Principal: Monica Rollins; Head Coach: Noah Lampkins; Assistant Coaches: Mike Bennett, Albert Collins, Avery Orr, Archie Rich and Bryan Sanders.



Above, Gleason High School Cheerleaders (L to R): Front Row — Cammie Sutton, Keely Spain, Cheyenne Lamb, Darcie Bell, Amberlee Watson and Haley Harrison (co-captain); Back Row — Paige Smith, Kiley Corbin, Mikenna Stegall, Belle Fowler (captain), Madison Fuzzell and Gracie Long. Cheer sponsor is Lori Wilson. Below Left, Gleason High School Seniors (L to R): Haley Harrison, Dawson Arnold, Cody O'Callaghan and Madison Fuzzell. Below Right, Gleason High School Football Coaching Staff (L to R): Assistant Coach Avery Orr, Head Coach Noah Lampkins and Assistant Coach Bryan Sanders. Not pictured are Assistant Coaches Mike Bennett, Albert Collins and Archie Rich.

Lampkins' Bulldogs Will 'Look Different' This Season

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com
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Gleason Head Coach Noah Lampkins is looking to shake things up this season, promising in an interview with The Banner that his Bulldogs will "look different than we've ever looked."

With just 20 on the roster, Lampkins is pleased that about half of them have starting experience. He describes the "nucleus" of the team, seniors Dawson Arnold and Cody O'Callaghan, junior wide receiver Elijah Young and sophomore quarterback Kolton Crochet, as "as good as any four anybody has."

He says the team has been working hard and have good team chemistry and good attitudes. "They're the best team we've had in probably six years."

And to back up the claim, the

team has had an impressive pre-season with a 6-0 record in 7-on-7s.

Arnold and O'Callaghan are the only seniors, and there are just three juniors. Lampkins said, "We'll have to play some freshmen, but they don't have freshman bodies."

The Bulldogs will open the season on the road against Fulton County on Friday, August 23. Kick-off is 7 p.m.

GHS 2019 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 16	Jamboree	Sept. 27	Bruceton
Aug. 23	@ Fulton Co.	Oct. 4	@ Lake Co.
Aug. 30	@ Fulton City	Oct. 11	Humboldt
Sept. 6	BYE	Oct. 18	@ Greenfield
Sept. 13	Halls	Oct. 25	Dresden
Sept. 20	@ West Carroll	Nov. 1	South Fulton



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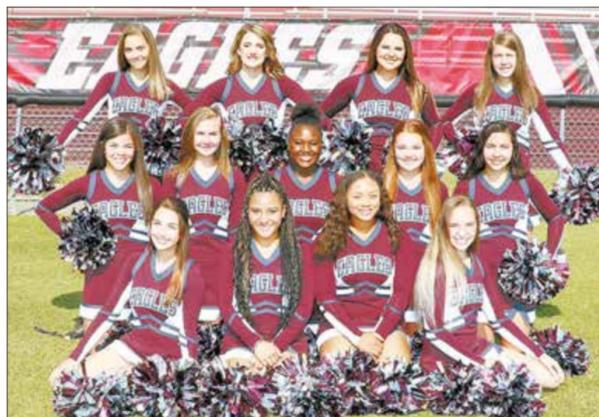
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WEST CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL • WAR EAGLES



West Carroll High School Football Coaching Staff (L to R): Assistant Coach Trey Cantrell, Head Coach Josh Wolfe and Assistant Coaches Shane DePriest and Tyler Wadley.



Above, West Carroll High School Seniors (L to R): Kneeling — Bryce Bolton, Jeremiah Bryant, Zach Perry, Wyatt Baker and Jarrius Weatherford; Standing — Sathina Gaskins, Gracie Cunningham, Ashton Worrell, Ashley Myles, Shatara Brooks, Asia Emerson, Aleisha Annis, Macey Cunningham and Celia Townsend. Not pictured is Kamryn Hillsman. Right, WCHS Cheer Sponsor Christy Martin. Far Right, West Carroll High School Cheerleaders (L to R): Front Row — Rebekah Draper, Asia Emerson, Ashley Myles and Alyssa Butler; Second Row — Sydney Bosley, Virginia Knott, Shatara Brooks, Natalie Moore and Alyssa Kirby; Back Row — Kaylee Butler, Aleisha Annis, Ashton Worrell and Jayden Rader. Not pictured is Kamryn Hillsman.

Wolfe's War Eagles Hope to Build on Breakout 2018 Season

BY BRAD SAM

brad@mckenziebanner.com
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The West Carroll War Eagles shocked a lot of people last year, beginning early in the season with statement wins against McKenzie and Dresden. They would end the season with a 7-3 overall record and 4-2 in Region 7-1A, good enough for third and a postseason berth. After a dominant win in their playoff opener at Hillcrest, the War Eagles saw their season come to an end in the second round against powerhouse Lake County.

As the next season approaches, Head Coach Josh Wolfe told The Banner, "A season like we had last year is hard to replicate, but the things that you did to get there, you can mimic that. So that's what we're trying to do. We obviously lost some really good kids [the War Eagles fielded a dozen seniors last year], and we're trying to replace them with some upcoming juniors that didn't have to play a whole lot. We're just trying to do the things that we did to get out of the mud, so to speak, those first couple years [since he arrived in 2015]."

Wolfe is looking for his five seniors to lead on the field and in the locker room. "They had 12 seniors last year, they didn't have to do as much leadership in the locker room. So they're gonna have to try to pick up the torch and run with it."

Among the seniors are Jere-

miah Bryant and Jarrius Weatherford, who saw plenty of playing time last season. Wolfe said, "They're obviously going to be a huge part of our offense." Senior Zach Perry and junior Jack Barrow also have experience, and the coach is "looking for those kids to have a breakout." He added, "We've got some quality skill guys back, we're just going to have to replace a lot of our guys up front this year."

Bryant will be the full-time quarterback this year after splitting time at the position last year. "Hopefully he can lead us on offense."

On defense, the coach is pleased to note that, "We've pretty much got our core line-backing group back: Perry, Cody Wildridge, Barrow. Jacob Blankenship is gonna play some at linebacker. Jeremiah's in the back with Devin Rader. We're gonna have corner by committee, Dylan Cox, C.J. Ray, Kaleb Brittain, [senior] Bryce Bolton. Being 1A football, you just don't have a lot of those big kids, so you will see a lot of people up front. Just rotating guys in, trying to create some depth, especially early on."

Wolfe is also optimistic about his rookie class. "I've got a good freshman bunch. I don't want to say right now [who may see playing time]. It's early on in camp, and a lot of them are showing good signs. We're 1A football, so it's just one of those deals, it's a catch-22. Freshmen

get to play early, but they're freshmen, so you get a bad play for every good one most of the time. But they're showing a lot of improvement."

Overall, he sees speed as one of the team's strengths, as well as experience in the skill group. "But on the flip side of that, we don't have as much experience up front. We're gonna have to try to create some experience and some depth up front with those juniors that didn't have to play a lot last year."

Wolfe is looking for consistency to take the next step forward. "You've got to embrace the grind. We're trying to get to that point where we enjoy coming to work every day. We try to get one percent better every day at practice and then carry it over to the game."

The War Eagle's schedule is nearly identical to last year. They've swapped a trip to Fulton City for a trip to Houston County in their non-region contests. They'll look to repeat against McKenzie in Week 2 to follow up what was an instant classic last year, and West Carroll fans will all have September 13 circled on their calendars as the Dresden Lions will come to Atwood. Last year's contentious barn-burner in Dresden gave the War Eagles a 2-0 region start and put them on everyone's radar.

West Carroll opens the season on the road, Friday, August 23 at Hollow Rock-Bruceton. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.



Left, West Carroll High School Football Managers (L to R): Front Row — Macey Cunningham, Shatara Brooks and Gracie Cunningham; Back Row — Sathina Gaskins, Ashley Hughes, Celia Townsend and Virginia Knott. Not pictured is Summer Wren. Above, WCHS Head Coach Josh Wolfe

2019 WEST CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL ROSTER

#	Name	Grade	#	Name	Grade
3	Devin Rader	11	56	Hunter Barber	9
5	Xander Moon	10	60	Hayden Hilliard	10
6	Bryce Bolton	12	61	Timothy Gilford	11
7	Dylan Cox	11	62	Grant Green	11
9	Tyler Smith	11	65	Joseph McKeller	9
12	Jeremiah Bryant	12	68	Brendan Knight	9
16	Hunter Walters	9	70	Logan Winberry	10
18	Zach Perry	12	71	Wyatt Hays	10
19	Wyatt Baker	12	75	Hunter Holmes	9
20	Shooter Nelson	9	77	Nick Blankenship	11
22	Tyler Shaddon	9	78	Jessie Mounts	11
24	Jarrius Weatherford	12	79	Kilan Emerson	11
33	Cody Wildridge	11	80	Kaleb Brittain	11
34	Jack Barrow	11	88	Brendan Todd	10
35	C.J. Ray	10			
40	Seth Edwards	9			
41	Jay Long	9			
46	Jacob Blankenship	11			
50	Hunter Reynolds	9			
53	Joseph Bortz	9			
54	Dakota Saunders	11			
55	Hunter Lindsey	10			

Head Coach: Josh Wolfe
Assistant Coaches: Shane DePriest, Trey Cantrell, Tyler Wadley
Managers: Ashley Hughes, Virginia Knott, Summer Wren, Macey Cunningham, Gracie Cunningham, Shatara Brooks, Celia Townsend, and Sathina Gaskins.

WEST CARROLL 2019 SCHEDULE

Aug. 16	Jamboree
Aug. 23	@ HR-Bruceton
Aug. 30	McKenzie
Sept. 6	Humboldt
Sept. 13	Dresden
Sept. 20	Gleason
Sept. 27	Gibson Co.
Oct. 4	BYE
Oct. 11	@ Houston Co.
Oct. 18	@ Lake Co.
Oct. 25	@ South Fulton
Nov. 1	@ Greenfield

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Bryce Bolton

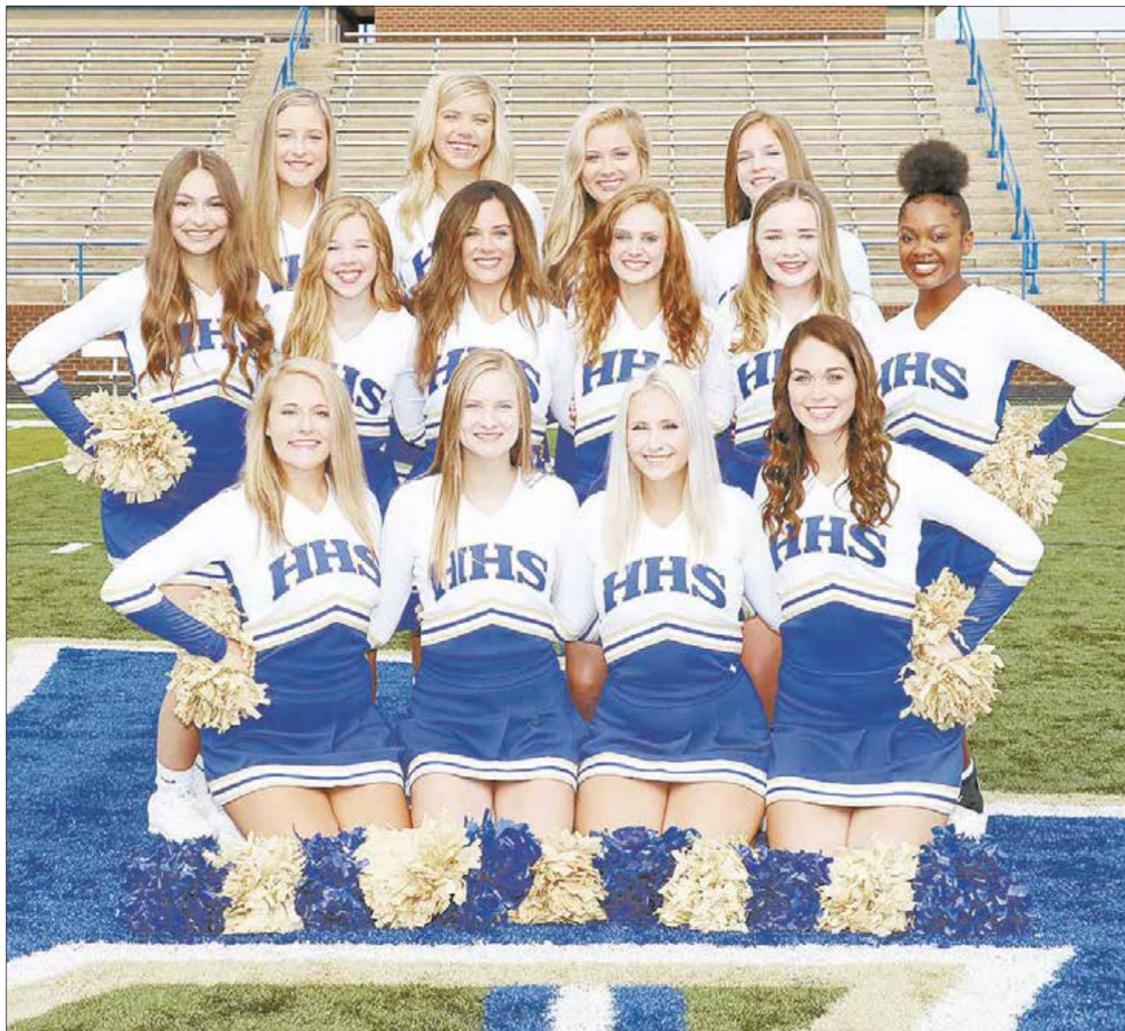
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HUNTINGDON HIGH SCHOOL • MUSTANGS



Above, Huntingdon High School Seniors (L to R): Kneeling — Diamond King, Daniel Sullenger, Nathaniel Cran-Lowe, Jaylen Williams, Skyler Chandler, Brandon Lawton, Bo McLemore, Konnor Pearson, Sebastian Kee and Knoa Thompson; Standing — Jordan Davis, Dylan Armour, Corieon Nance, Brett Huss, Cole Edwards, Drake Butler, Reed Jones, Devin McClerkin, Quinton Williams, Noah Belew, Austin Baker and Timothy Walls; Cheerleaders — Katie Coleman, Kensley Crossno, Abby Ballard and Katie Simpson. Not pictured is Hunter Ensley. Below, Huntingdon High School Cheerleaders (L to R): Front Row — Katie Simpson, Katie Coleman, Abby Ballard and Kensley Crossno; Second Row — Madison Noonan, Abby Lewis, Adyson Shands, Ellia Lewis, Matti-Claire Roberts and Nevaeh Carruthers; Back Row — Lydia O'Bryant, Tatum Nolen, Sadie Shands and Jenna Magee.



LET'S GO MUSTANGS!

HUNTINGDON HIGH SCHOOL MUSTANG FOOTBALL ROSTER

#	Name	Grade	Pos	#	Name	Grade	Pos
5	Eddie Woods	9	RB/DB	60	Colton Bush	11	OL/LB
6	Jacob Robertson	10	RB/DB	61	Cole Ballard	9	OL/LB
8	Elijah Flowers	9	RB/DB	62	Nate Kolwyck	9	OL/DL
9	Hunter Ensley	12	RB/DB	63	Dylan Armour	12	OL/DL
10	Blane Fields	10	WR/DB	66	Seth Hughes	10	OL/DL
11	Malek Cannon	11	RB/DB	67	Matthew Pelonero	10	OL/LB
13	Brandon Lawton	12	RB/DB	68	Andrew Taylor	9	OL/DL
14	Grant Bartholomew	11	RB/DB	70	Reed Jones	12	OL/DL
15	Konner Pearson	12	RB/LB	71	Christian Myles	11	OL/DL
16	Caleb Balentine	9	RB/LB	72	Dillon Mann	11	OL/DL
18	Ty Kelly	9	RB/DB	73	Daniel Sullenger	12	OL/DL
19	Cade Wood	9	RB/LB	74	Drake Butler	12	OL/DL
20	Bo McLemore	12	RB/LB	75	Nathaniel Cran-Lowe	12	OL/DL
21	Ethan Reliford	11	RB/DB	76	Nathan Smith	10	OL/DL
23	Devin McClerkin	12	RB/LB	77	Jaylen Williams	12	OL/DL
24	Noah Smothers	9	WR/DB	78	Carter Cary	11	OL/DL
25	Aden Hutcherson	10	RB/DB	79	Ben Livingston	10	OL/DL
26	Blake Bradley	11	RB/DB	81	Ethan Peevhouse	9	TE/DB
27	Noah Belew	12	TE/LB	82	Corieon Nance	12	TE/DB
28	Sean Magee	10	RB/LB	84	Cole Edwards	12	TE/DL
31	Landon Gordon	9	RB/DB	85	Austin Baker	12	TE/LB
32	Luke Furr	11	TE/LB	87	Blake Reeves	10	TE/LB
33	Nate Ricketts	10	RB/DB	89	David Downs	10	WR/DB
35	Sebastian Kee	12	RB/DL	Head Coach: Eric Swenson			
37	Kaden Gibson	9	RB/DB	Asst. Head Coach: Robbie Miller			
42	Quinton Williams	12	RB/DL	Assistant Coaches: Rick Wallace, Nathan Wallace, Jake Warbritton, and Zac Crocker			
50	Luke Cooper	9	OL/DL	Managers: Jordan Davis, Knoa Thompson, Diamond King, Anna Ruth White, Taylor Mosteller, and Timothy Walls.			
51	Hunter Britt	10	OL/DL	Ball Boys: Gray Eubanks and Easton Byars			
52	Jake Stokes	11	OL/DL	Statistician: Geno Dill			
53	Sam Parish	11	OL/DL	Film Crew: Steve Morgan			
54	Brett Huss	12	OL/LB	Principal: Jonathan Kee			
55	Aidan Ninness	10	OL/LB	Director of Schools: Pat Dillahunty			
56	Deoca Braxton Montes	9	OL/LB				
57	Darius Gordon	10	OL/DL				
58	Skyler Chandler	12	OL/DL				

HHS FOOTBALL 2019 SCHEDULE

Aug. 16	Jamboree	Sept. 27	Milan
Aug. 23	@ McKenzie	Oct. 4	@ Collinwood
Aug. 30	@ Waverly	Oct. 11	Wayne Co.
Sept. 6	HR-Bruceton	Oct. 18	@ Perry Co.
Sept. 13	Camden	Oct. 25	Middleton
Sept. 20	@ McEwen	Nov. 1	BYE

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HUNTINGDON HIGH SCHOOL • MUSTANGS



Left, Huntingdon High School Football Coaching Staff (L to R): Kneeling — Head Coach Eric Swenson; Standing — Assistant Coaches Rick Wallace, Nathan Wallace and Zac Crocker; Assistant Head Coach Robbie Miller; and Assistant Coach Jake Warbritton. Above, HHS Head Coach Eric Swenson. Below, Huntingdon High School Football Managers (L to R): Knoa Thompson, Jordan Davis, Timothy Walls, Diamond King and Anna Ruth White. Not pictured is Taylor Mosteller.

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Swenson's Senior-Heavy Mustangs Looking to Breach Quarterfinal Wall

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com
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The Huntingdon Mustangs are coming off of back-to-back undefeated regular seasons and state quarterfinals appearances. Successful seasons by any measure, but no more than bitter appetizers for a program eager to feast at the big table.

The two season-ending defeats were by a combined seven points, both to the same opponent and both in dramatic, last-minute fashion. In 2017, the Cornersville Bulldogs edged out the Mustangs 21-20 in double-overtime. The two teams met again last year, and Cornersville broke a 7-7 tie with 17 seconds remaining for a 13-7 victory.

Huntingdon's quest for vengeance will be spearheaded by the core leadership of 19 seniors, all hungry for one last shot at ultimate glory.

In an interview with The Banner, Head Coach Eric Swenson said his seniors lead more through their effort and actions than verbally. He noted that the team has been without one of its senior leaders for most of the preseason. Quarterback Hunter Ensley has been away from camp playing baseball. "He's missed some football time, some weight room time. He's also just a really good athlete. He'll pick right back up where he was whenever he gets back. He's a good leader. He had a really good year last year. The thing about Hunter is, he's a competitor. He competes

in practice, he competes everywhere he goes. That's why you don't have to worry that he's not been here. When he comes back in, he competes instantly. He picks right back up where he was. That's the kind of athlete he is."

Swenson spoke about other playmakers on the offensive side. "We have Brandon Lawton back from last year. He's got an injury, we're hoping that gets better. We have Konnor Pearson who ran the ball for us last year. We expect big things out of him. He's always just solid. We have Corieon Nance who we've moved to running back. He can fly. He's one of the fastest kids in the state, he's just never played running back. A young man named Ethan Reliford who we're trying to get to step up, and Malek Cannon who we're trying to get to step up at the running back position. At receiver, we've got Noah Belew and Austin Baker. We're trying to get those guys to step up. They both started some last year. There's a lot of skill back on this team, a lot of guys who played. There's not a lot of depth at those skill positions, but we've got some guys that can run."

On the defensive side, he said, "We've got eight back on that side of the football, and we've got some guys that are thoroughly capable of stepping up. We've got this many seniors, a lot of those guys are gonna go both ways. We should be really good on defense."

Swenson addressed hitting the wall in the postseason. "I felt

like the last two years, when we got beat, we got beat up front. Cornersville had like 19 or 20 seniors, and we've never had that many until this year. I felt like we were never quite as strong overall as what they were. They just beat us physically up front. I thought it was two great football games, obviously. What we try to do to take care of that is to get stronger up front and more aggressive. We always took a lot of pride in the fact that we were physical, and to be honest, I thought we got out-physical-ed. Especially last year. I thought we played great defense, but I felt like our offensive line got out-physical-ed. That's been a point of emphasis this year. Now, I don't know if we've made much progress, maybe we have, but if you want to get to the state championship game, if you want to get out of that third round, you've got to make plays and you've got to be physical."

For the third straight year, the Mustangs will open up the season against their biggest (or at least longest-standing) rivals, McKenzie. Swenson says he's happy to get that one out of the way. "Yeah, I like us going ahead and doing it. It does get it out of the way. And it's a good rivalry game. You've just really got to push yourself to get ready. A lot of people open with somebody that's a little easier team. It's good though, it keeps you focused. And then right on top of that you've got Camden. That back-to-back, there's no time to tarry around. You've got to be

on your stuff from the get-go."

Huntingdon has had no trouble in Region 6-1A the last few years, but Swenson predicts some of the teams could show some improvement. "Wayne County graduates 20 or 21 every year. They have a lot of numbers that come out, which is a great thing. But they don't have but a couple back on each side of the ball. But they're picked to finish one of the top two or three teams in the region. I think Collinwood will be better. I don't know about Bruceton. I think Wayne County will always be Wayne County. I don't know a whole lot about Middleton and Perry County. That's the bad thing about being here, and then being way over there. We don't hear a whole lot about them."

Swenson says the biggest thing to overcome this year in order to make that next step is, "We can't have injuries. Our depth at the running back position is good, but it's not great. If you were to start getting injuries, then that's gonna be catastrophic, because we're so senior top-heavy. That's the thing about it, if we have ten seniors every year, we're gonna be pretty even all the way through. That's what we've always been. We're always right there. You want a big senior class, but when you have that, the depth behind you is going to be less. That's been the biggest thing, is it drops off pretty good once you get past the second group. Those guys are just real young and they're not ready to play yet."

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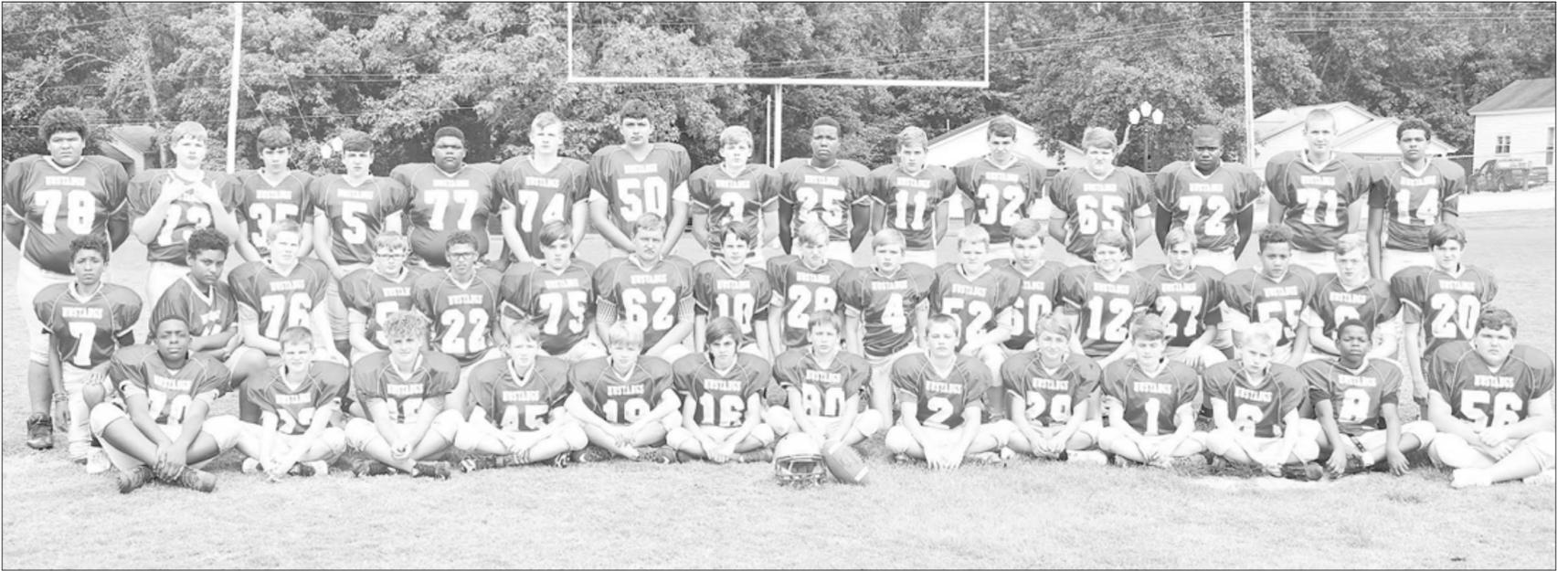
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HUNTINGDON MIDDLE SCHOOL • MUSTANGS



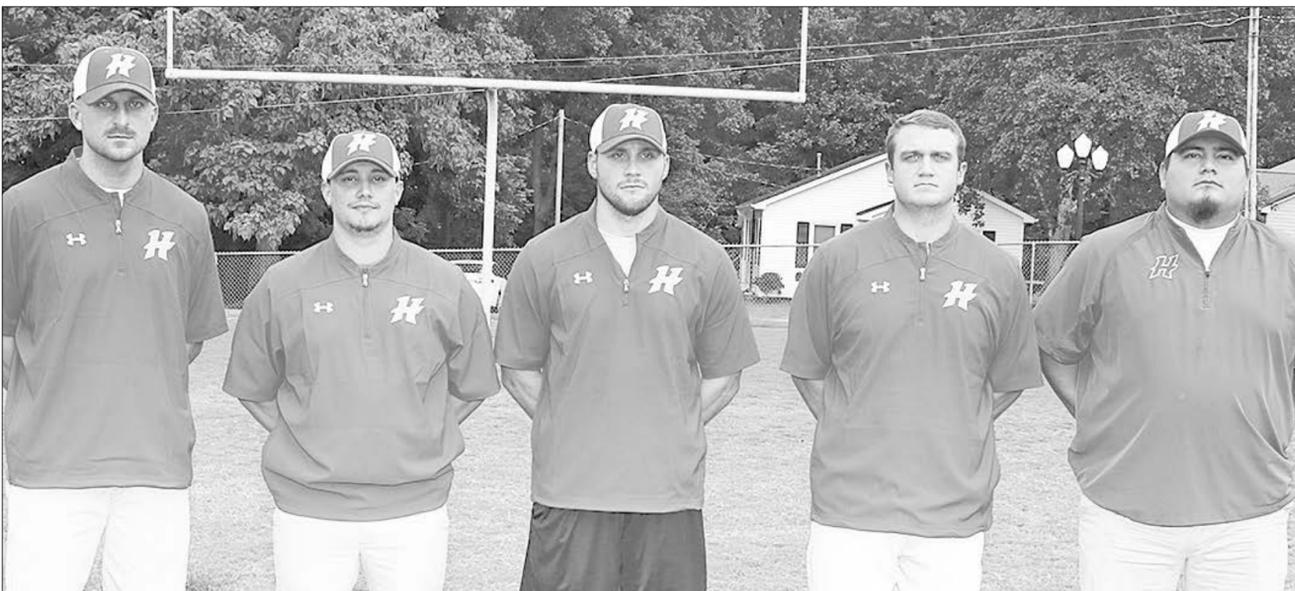
Above, Huntingdon Middle School Cheerleaders (L to R): Front Row — Lainey Bales, Grace Smothers, Lincoln Dodd, Makayla Douglas, Kaida Walton and Mackenzie Dunbar; Back Row — Emily Tippitt, Kayla Price, Ava Williams, Jazalyn McCord, L.G. Parish, Kennedy Tharpe and Ella Beamon. Not pictured is Madison Mann. Below Left, Huntingdon Middle School Football Coaching Staff (L to R): Assistant Coaches Scott Hampton, Cody Ezell and Trevor Burlison; Head Coach Ben Carter; and Assistant Coach Frank Villalobos. Below Right, HMS Head Coach Ben Carter.

2019 HMS MUSTANG FOOTBALL ROSTER

#	Name	#	Name
1	Wesley Williams	35	Connor Kothe
2	Brady Warbritton	45	Evan Blakeman
3	Ashton Hutcherson	50	Eli Mota
4	Graham Bartholomew	52	Easton Byars
5	Gray Eubanks	54	Blake Brown
6	Braden Douglas	55	Dayshawn Tynes
7	Rayshaun Bailey	56	Chris Carter
8	Micah Allen	60	Braylon Rich
9	Easton Butler	62	Austin Byrd
10	Pate Tippitt	65	Cayden Brewer
11	Kaleb Pearson	70	Ty Willis
12	Jax Bennett	71	Ayden Furst
14	Jaden Willis	72	Davion Parker
15	Tayshawn Rivers	73	Grant Livingston
16	Chase Mayfield	74	Robert McCaig
18	Tyler Relfford	75	Grant Evans
19	Gabe Smothers	76	Wyatt Forbess
20	Bailey Strop	77	Tirrell Willis
22	Alec Jordan	78	Dante Pearson
23	E.J. Lewis	80	Austin Mays
27	Landon Bryant	Head Coach: Ben Carter	
28	C. J. Pelonoro	Asst. Coaches: Trevor Burlison, Scott Hampton, Cody Ezell, Frank Villalobos	
29	Jace Crossett	Manager: Tylan Johnson	
32	Talon Warman		

HUNTINGDON MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL 2019 SCHEDULE

Aug. 8	Milan	Sept. 5	@ Dresden
Aug. 15	McKenzie	Sept. 12	@ Union City
Aug. 22	@ Martin	Sept. 19	@ West Carroll
Aug. 29	Camden	Sept. 26	Decatur Co.



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WEST CARROLL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL • WAR EAGLES



Above Left, WCJH Cheerleaders — Bottom Row (L to R): Hannah Pinson, Kahli Baum, Grace Newsome, Makayla Polinski, Lesley Baker, Madison Polinski, and Brylan Antwine. Top row (L to R): Alexa Kerby, Claire Bradley, Kennedy Hillsman, Ashley Smith, Mayce Mitchell, Autumn Houston, Macie Nelson, and Jolie Lowery. Top Right, West Carroll Junior High Football Coaching Staff (L to R): Head Coach Doug McCaslin and Assistant Coach Tyler Wadley. Not pictured is Assistant Coach Jared Mims. Bottom Right, West Carroll Junior High Football Managers (L to R): Caleb Vermillion, Haylee Knight, Brendan Knight and Shaylin Pruitt.

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2019 WEST CARROLL JR. HIGH ROSTER

#	Name	Grade	#	Name	Grade
1	Titus Taylor, Jr.	8	51	Jacob Goodrum	6
2	Brannon Black	8	52	Cornelius Cannon	8
3	Jaxon Mims	8	55	Nick Andre	8
4	Jameson Bortz	7	56	Michael Adkins	8
5	Jordan Morris	7	57	Tyce Reed	7
6	Ben Pruitt	6	60	Peyton Baum	8
7	Lelan Cox	8	62	Isaac Mueller	8
8	Daelon Drasal	8	64	Hayden Holley	8
9	Hudson Bolton	8	70	Mark Thompson	7
18	Jayden Milton	7	72	Nathan Nelson	6
20	Prayden Shumate	7	74	Clayton Merriman	7
21	Joseph Brogdon	6	75	Robert Burr	7
23	Jon Coleman	8	77	Joe Vermillion	8
24	Ethan Haney	6	Coaches: Doug McCaslin, Jared Mims, Tyler Wadley; Managers: Haylee Knight, Brendan Knight, Shaylin Pruitt, Caleb Vermillion		
25	Will Rogers	8			
44	Bladen DePriest	8			
50	Justin Mealer	8			

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2019 WEST CARROLL JR. HIGH SCHEDULE

Aug. 8	Lexington Middle	Sept. 5	@ Henderson Co. S.
Aug. 15	St. Mary's	Sept. 12	@ Bruceton
Aug. 22	Gleason	Sept. 19	Huntingdon
Aug. 29	@ McKenzie	Sept. 26	@ Greenfield

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GLEASON JR. HIGH SCHOOL BULLDOG FOOTBALL ROSTER

#	Name	Pos	Grade
3	Kyzer Crochet	QB/CB	8
4	Noah Aschbacher	WR/CB	6
5	Baker Atkins	WR/CB	8
6	Kursin Gustafson	RB/SS	8
7	Wylan Gustafson	FB	6
10	Garrett Pinkston	WB/S	8
12	Bryce Pettit	WR/RW	6
14	Brody Sanders	QB/MLB	6
15	Blaine Harrison	C	6
18	Drake Lehmkuhl	TE/DE/FB	6
20	Christian Goad	DE	7
25	Drake Lovell	WB/CB	8
26	Tristan Chandler	TE/DE/G	7
31	Eli Barber	TE	6
34	Brock Dilday	RB/LB	6
40	Layne Jones	FB/DL	7
43	Harley Todd	FB	7
50	Kane Butler	LG	7
51	Caleb Jones	RG	6
52	Mack Lawrence	C	8
54	C.J. Buechler	LT	8
55	Dalton Wade	RG	7
58	Sam Bridgeman	LT	7
74	Lucas Snider	RT/DT	7
79	Travis Surratt	NG	8

Principal: Lee Lawrence; Assistant Principal: Monica Rollins; Head Coach: Noah Lampkins; Assistant Coaches: Mike Bennett, Albert Collins, Avery Orr, Archie Rich and Bryan Sanders.

**GO BULLDOGS!
PLAY HARD
& HAVE FUN!**



Gleason Junior High Cheerleaders (L to R): Front Row — Fran Caire, Susana Solares, Olivia Perry and Casey Sutton; Back Row — Zowie Tipton, Paris Smith, Alex Pineda, Cadence Bailey and Brooklyn McDowell. Cheer sponsor is Jess Hames.



Gleason Junior High Football Coaching Staff (L to R): Assistant Coach Avery Orr, Head Coach Noah Lampkins and Assistant Coach Bryan Sanders. Not pictured are Assistant Coaches Mike Bennett, Albert Collins and Archie Rich.

2019 GLEASON JR. HIGH SCHOOL BULLDOG FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 8	South Fulton	Sept. 5	@ Hillcrest
Aug. 15	@ HR-Bruceton	Sept. 12	Lake Road
Aug. 22	@ West Carroll	Sept. 19	@ Dresden
Aug. 29	Greenfield	Sept. 26	Fulton Co. HC

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BETHEL UNIVERSITY • WILDCATS



Editor's Note: The Bethel University 2019 football roster was unavailable at press time.

Bethel University Football Preview

McKENZIE — For the second year in a row the Bethel Wildcat football program will begin a season under the guidance of a new head coach. After the departure of Brent Dearmon, who left for a position at the University of Kansas, Michael Jasper assumes the reins of a program he is very familiar with.

Coach Jasper said it is an honor to be named coach of the Wildcats. "What an honor to be named head football coach of Bethel University. My history with this university runs deep from my years

of playing football for Bethel, being the first player to be drafted to the National Football League, my return back in 2016 to coach offensive line, and, mostly recently, the 2018 historic, 10-0 regular season coaching the defensive line. The fact that I'm able to lead this program now means everything. McKenzie has become home for my wife and me. This community has embraced us, and we love it here. My wife, Allison, and I are thrilled to continue to pour love and our family values into the young men of character that make



Bethel University Coaching Staff (L to R): Eric Knight, Dylan Benson, Kevin Wewers, Dustin Kincaid, Chris Springer, Mike Jasper, Richard Hutchings, Justin Brown, Cody McCallister, Morgan Cruce, Wesley White and Brody Reeves.

up this football program." He added, "I want to thank Coach Dearmon for the foundation he laid in rebuilding this football program last year. I'm thrilled to take the reins and continue the momentum into a great 2019 season." Jasper is the 12th head coach in Bethel football history.

The Wildcats are coming off the most successful regular season in program history. The Cats ran the table at 10-0 before falling to Baker in first round action of the NAIA Championships.

The Wildcats will need to replace several key standouts. Quarterback Sam Castronova was named the MSC Offensive Player of the Year. He finished his career with 4,639 passing yards, which is third all-time in program history. He had 39 career touchdown passes, which is also third in program history. Castronova passed for 2,453 yards this past season. He threw 28 touchdown passes, which is a new single-season record at the school. Karrheem Darrington was named First Team MSC on defense. He finished with eleven career interceptions, which ranks fourth all-time in Wildcat history. Tave Davis was second team all-conference and rushed for 31 career touchdowns, which is fourth all-time in program history. Devante Jimenez was named First Team All-Conference. He was also named Second Team NAIA All-American. He led Bethel in receptions at 34 with eight of those for touchdowns.

Coach Jasper said, "We have our hands full trying to replace men like Castro, Davis, Jimenez and Darrington. Those Cats were the backbone of our team, along with guys like Jaylen Montague, Tristan Wood, Tito Hunter, Malek Holman and Anthony Patrick, but we feel we made great headway

this spring."

The Wildcats will lean on several key returners. J'Kobi Reddick was named NAIA First Team All-American as a specialist. He was No. 1 in the nation in punt return yards per attempt at 20.9. He had 355 total yards in returns. Reddick returned four for touchdowns. Jeremy Beaulieu was named to the NAIA All-American Honorable Mention squad. Beaulieu led the Wildcats in total tackles with 96. He also had 8.5 tackles for losses. Jeremy Johnson was a First Team MSC All-Conference performer and was tied with Chris Beavers with 5.5 sacks on the season. The Wildcats also return First Team All-Conference offensive lineman Trace Pierce. Coach Jasper commented, "We are extremely happy about these young men as well several other all-conference players and performers at various positions." He added, "Along with these returners we feel great about new personnel coming in who we feel will contribute greatly to our desired goals. Some of those include wide receivers Dieuly Aristilde, Jr. and Dayzell Wilson. On defense we are excited about defensive lineman Jared Gentry and defensive back Afiz Bhados. These are just a few of the young men we will count on to come in and be impactful players. Whether it was signing new young talent or through the development of guys already in the program during spring practice, I feel good about the roster we have been able to put together moving forward."

Bethel returns 34 lettermen while losing 34. The Wildcats return ten players who started at various times on offense and nine who started on defense. They lost eleven on offense and eight on defense who started at various times last year. Two return on Bethel's special teams.

The Cats will run a spread gun offense while playing the 4-2-5 defense.

2019 Coaching staff:

- Chris Springer — Assistant Head Coach/ Defensive Coordinator
- Kevin Wewers — Associate Head Coach/ Offensive Coordinator
- Richard Hutchings — Run Game Coordinator/ Offensive Line
- Dustin Kincaid — Director of Player Development/ Linebackers
- Morgan Cruce — Spiritual Development Coordinator/DFO/

H-Backs and Tight Ends

- Cody McCallister — Co-Special Teams Coordinator/ Safeties
- Justin Brown — Co-Special Teams Coordinator/ Wide Receivers
- Wes White — Defensive Assistant
- Dylan Benson — Defensive Graduate Assistant
- Eric Knight — Offensive Graduate Assistant
- Brody Reeves — Offensive Graduate Assistant/Running Backs

Coach Jasper commented on the staff as a whole. "I am so blessed to go to work every day with this young, energetic and talented staff. These men of God take so much pride in developing young people. They are relentless and honest recruiters. They are phenomenal teachers of the game and its techniques. But most of all they love these kids and it shows."

The staff and their No. 16 ranked Wildcats face a challenging schedule in 2019.

The Wildcats play five home games and six road game this fall. The Wildcats will meet three teams for the first time in program history. Bethel plays four of their first six games on the road.

The Cats open the season on the road Thursday, August 29 at FCS and first-time opponent Lamar University. Kick-off is slated for 7 p.m. in Beaumont, Texas.

Second-week action on September 7 will find the Cats visiting Bluefield College in Bluefield, Virginia for a MSC affair at 5 p.m. Former Bethel Head Coach Dino Kaklis serves as the Rams Associate Head Coach and Defensive Coordinator. He coached Coach Jasper while at Bethel.

Bethel's first home game will be a conference game against Warner University on September 14 with kick-off slated for 1:30 p.m. at Wildcat Stadium. It will mark the first meeting ever between the two programs.

After an open week the Cats hit the road again traveling to West Point, Georgia to battle the Point University SkyHawks at 12:30 p.m. It will be the first meeting ever between the Cats and the Hawks.

Another Thursday night game awaits the Wildcats as they host MSC Bluegrass Divisional foe No. 13 Lindsey Wilson on October 3. Kick-off is scheduled for 6 p.m.

Williamsburg, Kentucky will find the Wildcats in a MSC Bluegrass match-up against the No. 17 Patriots of the University of the Cumberland on October 12 with kick-off at 12:30 p.m.

The Wildcats jump back into

MSC Divisional action hosting the No. 21 Tigers of Georgetown on October 19. Kick-off at Wildcat Stadium will be at 1:30 p.m.

The Wildcats travel to Lebanon, Tennessee on October 26 to meet the (RV) Cumberland Phoenix. It will be the 30th meeting between the two programs. The Wildcats have met CU more than any other opponent in program history. It will be another Bluegrass Divisional battle.

A second time opponent will come calling on November 2 as the Thomas More Saints will tangle with the Cats in another Bluegrass Divisional showdown beginning at 1:30 p.m. It will be Homecoming for the Wildcats.

The Cats travel to the Eastern Mountains of Kentucky to play the always tough Bears of the University of Pikeville on November 9 at 5 p.m.

(RV) Campbellsville University and Bethel will close out the regular season with a Bluegrass match-up at Wildcat Stadium on November 16 at 1:30 p.m.

Coach Jasper expressed his thoughts about the schedule. "I am excited, the staff is excited, and the kids are excited. We get an amazing opportunity to drive down to Beaumont, Texas and play against Lamar. They're an FCS team that, like us, had a big turnaround year last season. It will be a great challenge to get the season rolling. We jump right into conference play after that. Every week playing in the Mid-South Conference is tough, especially in the Bluegrass division. We have a bullseye on our chest after last season. In order to repeat, we have to go through the front door now. It is going to be fun."

The Wildcats are in the Bluegrass Division with Georgetown, Campbellsville, Lindsey Wilson, Cumberland (KY), Pikeville, Thomas More and Cumberland games being divisional affairs. The opening game against Lamar marks the 448th game in Wildcat history. The program sports a 167-271-8 record.

Bethel is ranked 16th in 2019 NAIA Football Coaches' Preseason Top 25 Poll. The Wildcats were picked third in the Mid-South Conference Bluegrass Division Preseason Coaches' Poll.

Selected games can be heard this season on WEIO, 100.9 and at www.thefarmradio.com. Home action will be televised on Wildcat Vision at www.bethelathletics.com. Several home games will be aired on a delayed basis by WLJT-TV, Channel 11.

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2019 BETHEL UNIVERSITY WILDCAT FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 29	@ Lamar University	7 p.m.	Beaumont, Texas
Sept. 7	@ Bluefield College	5 p.m.	Bluefield, Virginia
Sept. 14	Warner University	1:30 p.m.	Wildcat Stadium
Sept. 21	BYE		
Sept. 28	@ Point University	12:30 p.m.	West Point, Georgia
Oct. 3	Lindsey Wilson College	6 p.m.	Wildcat Stadium #
Oct. 12	@University of the Cumberland	12:30 p.m.	Williamsburg, Kentucky
Oct. 19	Georgetown College	1:30 p.m.	Wildcat Stadium #
Oct. 26	@ Cumberland University	1:30 p.m.	Lebanon, Tennessee #
Nov. 2	Thomas More University	1:30 p.m.	Wildcat Stadium # *
Nov. 9	@ Pikeville University	5 p.m.	Pikeville, Kentucky
Nov. 16	Campbellsville University	1:30 p.m.	Wildcat Stadium #

*Denotes Homecoming

Denotes MSC Divisional Game

All Times - Central Standard Time