

FOOTBALL PREVIEW 2020

ALCOVY • EASTSIDE • NEWTON SOCIAL CIRCLE



Jaylen Woods | Eastside

CJ Cook | Alcovy

Justin Benton | Newton

BRICK BY BRICK

Local teams frame successful programs with 'building block' players

A special publication by

The Covington News



INSIDE: Dawgs gear up for 10-game SEC schedule

winning traditions... friday night football & ACS

Winning traditions are built over the years with hard work and a determination to be the best.

For over 50 years ACS has worked to build a reputation as the area's premier HVAC contractor. Every member of the ACS team is dedicated to service excellence. Our technicians meet the highest standards and your satisfaction is guaranteed.

As our teams prepare for the fall season, so should you. Call ACS for a system tune up and meet fall and winter head-on!

FALL SYSTEM TUNE-UP – ONLY \$89*

*Restrictions apply. Call for details.



770-786-8253 • 478-454-3059
TheAirConditioningSpecialist.com



turn to the experts™ 

license # CN209904



**A new direction.
A new purpose.
A new career.**



Georgia Piedmont Technical College is your way forward!

Programs available for more than 15 career pathways right here in Newton County!

Plus, GED® Test prep classes and the new Rockwell Automation Academy for industries

Two locations in Covington

16200 Alcovy Road & 8100 Bob Williams Parkway

770.786.9522, ext. 3100

Newton Campus Admissions Office



**GEORGIA
PIEDMONT**
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

THE WAY 
FORWARD



Equal opportunity institution.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Letter from the Sports Editor | 6 |
| Contact Us | 7 |

PREP

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Alcovy Preview | 8 |
| Eastside Preview | 12 |
| Newton Preview | 18 |
| Social Circle Preview | 22 |
| Building Blocks | 28 |
| Newton County Arms Race | 33 |

COLLEGE

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Georgia Football | 38 |
| Georgia Tech Football | 40 |

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Index of Advertisers | 42 |
|----------------------|----|

On the Cover



Pictured are the “building block” players of Newton County’s high school football programs. From left are Jaylen Woods, of Eastside; Justin Benton, of Newton; and CJ Cook, of Alcovy.

PHOTOS BY
Mason Wittner |
The Covington
News

The Covington News

Football Preview 2020 magazine is published annually by *The Covington News*, of Newton Newspapers Inc. No portion of this issue may be copied, scanned or reproduced in any manner without prior written consent from the publisher.

Football Preview 2020 is available free to subscribers of *The Covington News*. To subscribe, call 770-787-6397.

Open an account | Apply for a loan | Bank online

NewtonFederal.com

DON'T PASS ON THIS PLAY, RUN!

**Rush to Newton Federal
Bank, and score with ...**

**3% Cash Back on all
debit card purchases.***

**Refunds on ATM fees
nationwide.***

Kasasa® | FREE CHECKING



*Account transactions and activities may take one or more days to post and settle to the account and all must do so during the Monthly Qualification Cycle in order to qualify for the account's rewards. The following activities do not count toward earning account rewards: ATM-processed transactions, transfers between accounts, debit and credit card purchases processed by merchants and received by Newton Federal Bank as ATM or PIN-based, signature based transactions and purchases made with non-Newton Federal Bank issued debit or credit cards. "Monthly Qualification Cycle" means a period beginning one (1) day prior to the first day of the current statement cycle through one (1) day prior to the close of the current statement cycle. When Kasasa Cash Back qualifications are met during a Monthly Qualification Cycle, you will receive (1) 3.00% cash back on up to a total of \$300.00 PIN-based/signature-based debit and credit card purchases that post and settle to the account during that cycle period. A maximum of \$9.00 cash back may be earned per Monthly Qualification Cycle. When Kasasa Cash Back qualifications are not met no cash back payments are made and ATM fees are not refunded. You will receive reimbursements for domestic ATM fees incurred during the Monthly Qualification Cycle in which you qualified. An ATM receipt must be presented within 30 days of transaction for reimbursements of individual ATM fees of \$5.00 or higher. Kasasa Cash Back payments will be credited to your Kasasa Cash Back account on the last day of Statement Cycle. Rates and rewards are variable and may change after account is opened. Fees may reduce earnings. Account approval, conditions, qualifications, limits, timeframes, enrollments, log-ons and other requirements apply. \$100.00 minimum deposit is required to open the account. Monthly access of online banking account, enrollment in online banking, receipt of electronic statements is a condition of this account. At least 12 debit card transactions, enrollment in electronic services (e.g. online banking, electronic statements) and log-ons may be required to meet some of the account's qualifications. Limit one account per primary social security number. There are no recurring monthly service charges or fees to open or close this account. Contact a Newton Federal Bank customer service representative for additional information, details, restrictions, processing limitations and enrollment instructions. Member FDIC. Kasasa and Kasasa Cash Back are trademarks of BancVue, Ltd., registered in the U.S.A

Main Office: 3175 Hwy 278 Covington, GA 30014 | Phone: (770) 786-7088



**Member
FDIC**

LETTER FROM THE

Sports Editor

Well, we finally made it. By the time this special publication makes it into your hands, dear reader, we'll likely be a few short days away from kicking off the 2020 high school football season.

Oh, what a journey it has been.

When we last saw Newton County's prep football teams, Eastside and Newton were battling in the first round of their respective state playoff brackets after Alcovy had closed out its regular season with a narrow defeat. None of the county's three programs were able to make a run for a state title, but that was OK. The offseason was approaching and carrying with it a fresh slate and a hopeful promise of greener pastures next fall.

Then the sports world came to a screeching halt in March.

The COVID-19 pandemic left everything in limbo. Seniors playing spring sports were sidelined for the final two months of their high school careers. As days turned to weeks, and weeks turned months, programs across the country were forced to tackle difficult questions regarding player safety in the midst of a global crisis.

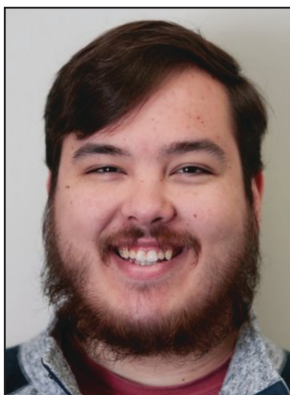
The GHSA pushed back the start of the varsity football season to September.

The league refused to enforce a state-wide cancellation, but the door was left open for individual counties to suspend athletics due to COVID-19, and several selected that option.

However, after months of uncertainty and confusion, the time has finally come to return to the field. High school football — albeit in limited capacity this year — has returned at last.

This season promises to be one of the most bizarre we've ever seen. As programs continue to adjust to their new forms of normal, questions remain about how players and coaches will adapt to the adversity COVID-19 throws their way. And yet the playing field remains even. At the end of the day, it's uncharted territory for every program.

Inside this special publication of The Covington News, you will find detailed



previews of the 2020 football seasons for Alcovy, Eastside, Newton and Social Circle high schools. You'll also find feature stories on the players being used as "building blocks" for each of Newton County's programs, as well as a trio of first-year quarterbacks eager to take the area by storm.

There's no getting around it — this season will be different. But the staff at The Covington News promises to continue providing the most comprehensive coverage of athletics Newton County has ever seen. We'll continue telling the stories that go beyond the box score and keeping the readers engaged with the weekly happenings inside our county.

While player safety remains at the forefront of everyone's concerns, we can all find solace in a welcomed distraction returning to us for a few hours every Friday night this fall.

So sit back, take a deep breath and remember that brighter days are ahead. I hope you'll enjoy reading this magazine half as much as our staff enjoyed putting it together, because we had a ball.

Mason Wittner
Sports Editor
The Covington News



CONTACT US



Taylor Beck
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER
TBECK@COVNEWS.COM



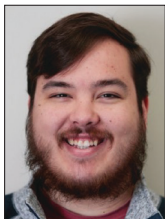
Cynthia Blackshear-Warren
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
CBWARREN@COVNEWS.COM



Tom Spigolon
NEWS EDITOR
TSPIGOLON@COVNEWS.COM



Kaylyn Hopper
ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE
KHOPPER@COVNEWS.COM



Mason Wittner
SPORTS EDITOR
MWITTNER@COVNEWS.COM



Amanda Ellington
CIRCULATION DIRECTOR
AELLINGTON@COVNEWS.COM



Lee Ann Avery
LEGALS CLERK
LAVERY@COVNEWS.COM

DID YOU KNOW?

A portion of every subscription to
The Covington News goes to the
Covington-Newton County United Way.



 THE COVINGTON NEWS

**SUBSCRIBE AT
WWW.COVNEWS.COM**

Take the Natural Path to Health & Wellness

- Whole Food Vitamins & Minerals
- Whole Body Cleansers & Detoxifiers
- Natural Sweeteners • Personal Care Items
- Herbal Teas • Essential Oils

Professional & Knowledgeable Staff

**We are committed to providing the highest quality
services and products available including Nature's
Sunshine and Nature's Plus for children.**

**10% Off Orders of \$25 or More
20% Off Orders of \$50 or More**

With coupon. Cannot be combined with other offers. Expires 10-31-19. CN



NUTRITION CENTER
3144 HWY. 278 NW
COVINGTON
(KROGER SHOPPING CTR)
770-787-3400
MON-FRI 10AM-6PM
SAT 10AM-4PM



2133 HWY. 20 SE
SUITE 250
CONYERS
(PUBLIX PLAZA)
770-760-0433
MON-WED 9AM-6PM
THURS-SAT 9AM-7PM

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

ALCOVY TIGERS



Team hungry for playoff berth in Dukes' second season

By GARRETT PITTS

news@covnews.com

It was no surprise that the Alcovy High School football team would run into issues as it began the transition to a new head coach going into the 2019 season.

After going 2-8 in his inaugural season with the Tigers, head coach Jason Dukes is entering his second season continuing to rebuild and reshape the Alcovy football program as it looks to capture the winning atmosphere that has escaped the program for years.

"[I feel] more confident [going into the second year]," Dukes said. "I have had a lot more time to spend with them, and now you understand more about their individual abilities, personalities, backgrounds and their families. It makes you more comfortable as a coach."

Junior Jamel Johnson and the Tigers have their sights set high for the 2020 season.
(Mason Wittner | The Covington News)

Now having a year under his belt in the Alcovy program, Dukes plans on making changes throughout the team and putting a different emphasis on both sides of the ball. It starts with the Tigers handing the key to the offense to the sophomore quarterback Ashton Evans as Alcovy transitions into a new offense.

Evans' first start at the varsity level came in the 2019 season finale against Greenbrier, but the work he's put in during the offseason sealed the started spot for the rising sophomore.

Before handing the ball to Evans last season, sophomore MJ Stroud was the quarterback for the Tigers. Though Stroud is no longer under center, Dukes saw potential in Stroud's athleticism to be used elsewhere in the offense, as he plans to line up out wide as a receiver in the 2020 season.

"We have had time this offseason to develop Ashton at the quarterback position," Dukes said "MJ [is now] in a more suitable position for him as an athlete, but we still have the ability to move him around to multiple positions, including back at quarterback."

This change in quarterbacks allows the Tiger offense to experiment with different sets and allows the best athletes to reach the field, creating a more creative and dynamic attack for Dukes.

"It's one thing to throw a green freshman in at the beginning of the year and expect him to be successful. There's another thing to have him kind of be a backup for the majority of the year and then feel comfortable putting him in at the end of the year," Dukes said. "He is a good player."

Evans will go into the season with his fair share of weapons, both on the outside and in the backfield. Dukes credits senior wideout Caleb Brown as a big leader both on and off the field for the Tigers.

"[Brown] has recognized his ability to be physically dominant at the receiver position, he is one of the best perimeter blocking receivers I have had the opportunity to coach" Dukes said. "He has emerged as one of the senior leaders, and that is something that has been needed in our program."

Brown will be partnered with juniors Mathias Height and Jamel Johnson in the receiver core. Both of the juniors pose a threat to be used on the out wide as well as in the slot.

After a season plagued by injuries, senior Jamarius Strong-Williams will get his chance to lead the Tigers' backfield in 2020, and Dukes and the rest of the coaching staff are expecting big things from the senior tailback.

"I know there was a lot of frustration



Alcovy will look to replace the production of standout running back Andrae Robinson.
(File Photo | The Covington News)



Jason Dukes is entering his second season at the helm for Alcovy.
(File Photo | The Covington News)

ALCOVY TIGERS

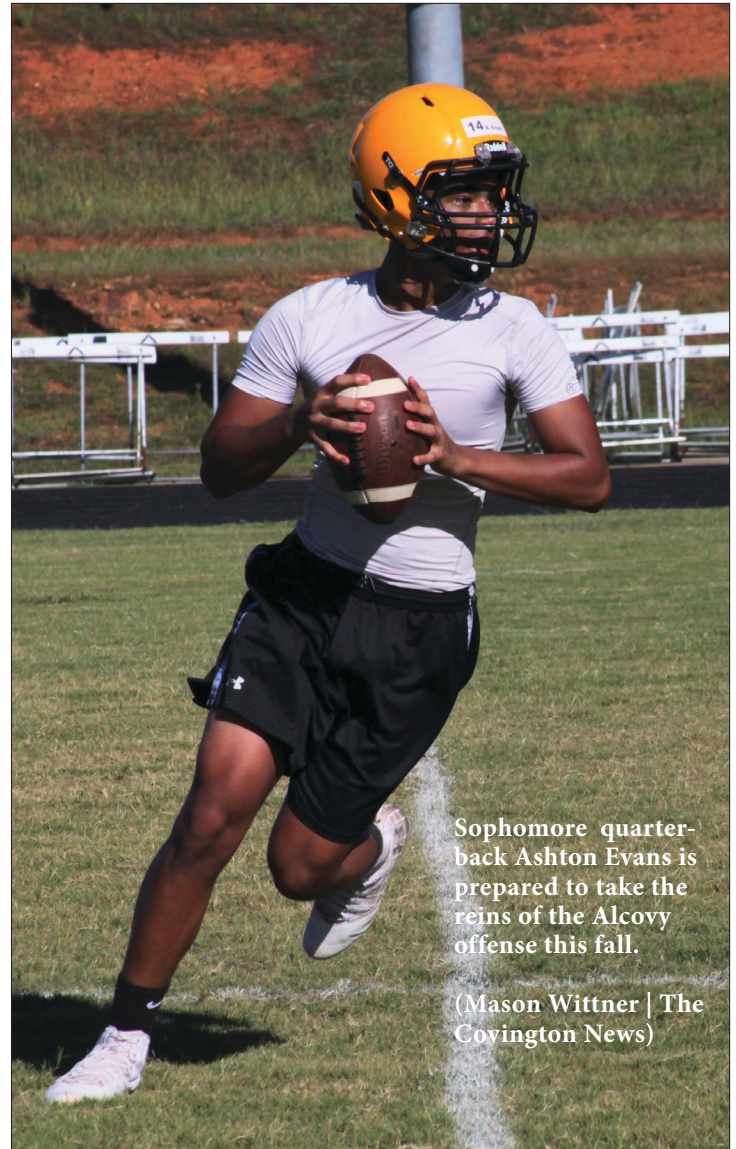
2020 ROSTER

Name – Grade

Danny Moore - 11th
 Caden Cook - 11th
 Javier Martinez - 12th
 Jaquaveous Robbins - 11th
 Bernard Johnson - 9th
 Taylor Richardson - 9th
 Anthony Eason - 9th
 Ashton Evans - 10th
 Armani Russ - 11th
 Caleb Brown - 12th
 Rontravious Perry - 11th
 Antonio Best - 12th
 Mathias Height - 11th
 CJ King - 11th
 Bobby Smith - 11th
 Jamel Johnson - 11th
 Ethan Guillot - 11th
 Eric Johnson - N/A
 Ahmad Love - 12th
 MJ Stroud - 11th
 Alex Mitchell - 11th
 Brandon Williams - 10th
 Anthony Burgess - 12th
 Malik Goodson - 12th
 Melvin Mapp - N/A
 Devin Clark - 11th
 Jordan Hawkins - 10th
 San Carlo Rollins - 9th
 Lynel Jones - 12th
 Malik Kirkland - 11th
 Lamarion Hammonds - 9th
 Tyson Prueter - N/A
 Jamarius Strong-Williams - 12th
 Artravious Woods - 10th
 De'ante Wilcher - 11th
 Reginald Boyd - 11th
 Reggie Boyd - N/A
 Brandon Woods - 12th
 Alonzo Hardy - 12th
 Mikah Goodson - N/A
 Braxton Crawford - 10th

Name – Grade

Cameron Jones - 10th
 Alliston Aaron - 12th
 River Triguero - 11th
 Justin Buchanan - 11th
 Anthony Preston - N/A
 Collin Forrester - N/A
 Ethan Mahaffey - 11th
 Jibri Johnson - N/A
 Mekhi Cook - 12th
 Otravion Benson - 9th
 Jeremiah Brannon - 10th
 Jaden Thrower - 12th
 Andrew Bussey - 12th
 Duval Hill - 11th
 Keenon Davis - 12th
 Caleb Phillips - 10th
 Dylan Bishop - 12th
 Dawson Inscore - 9th
 CJ Cook - 10th
 Treyston Johnson - 11th
 Alex Jimenez - 11th
 Yahir Coronado - N/A
 Dawson S. Blake - 12th
 Desmond Page - 11th
 Ksai Wood - 12th
 Nathan Chaney - N/A
 Courtney Burrell - N/A
 Isaiah Kairy - 11th
 Sylvester Brown - 10th
 Giovanni Wilson - 9th
 Omarion Watson - 12th
 Raymir Brown - 11th
 Kadin Keophy - 11th
 Brandon Lee - 12th
 Jayjay Minoia - N/A
 Tyjay Reid - 10th
 Michael Oliver - 9th
 Quincy Vinson - 10th
 James Moore - 11th
 Khamari Dowdell - 12th
 Christian Lewis - 10th



Sophomore quarterback Ashton Evans is prepared to take the reins of the Alcovy offense this fall.

(Mason Wittner | The Covington News)

on [Williams] part, [because of the injuries] last season,” Dukes said. “This year he has really come back strong and embraced our new offense and is doing a good job.”

Just like on the offense, there is a great deal of youth on the defensive side of the ball. Dukes had his work cut out for him this offseason as he had had to replace a defense full of seniors by turning loose almost a full defense of first-year starters.

With all the first-year starters expected to see the field this season on defense, there are two returning seniors on the defensive line, Jaden Thrower and Andrew Bussey. Dukes is looking for both men to play a big leadership role in the defense.

“We are expecting to see a lot out of [Thrower]. He is sound, and we are expecting him to lead that group,” Dukes said. “[Bussey] is a high motor kid, he makes a lot of hustle plays, and we are expecting a lot out of him.”

Thrower and Bussey are expected to play a big part in the success of the defense, and Dukes, a former NFL lineman, understands the importance of developing the trenches and how they can play a large role in the team’s success.

Some of the other faces on the Tiger defense that have earned praise from Dukes and the rest of the Alcovy coaching staff are juniors Armani Russ, Justin Buchanan and Reggie Boyd.

Dukes sees a lot of potential in Buchanan’s and Boyd’s

versatility based on their ability to be able to play well in the secondary as well as down in the linebacker position.

Looking at the 2020 schedule for the Tigers, it shows them being introduced to Region 3-AAAAAA, where they will be next to familiar foes such as Evans and Grovetown. The non-region schedule will prove to be the toughest part for Alcovy as they will have to travel to state powerhouses Lowndes and Colquitt County, as well as take on county rivals Eastside and Newton.

"We believe that in developing our program [we must] play better competition," Dukes said. "There is nothing like playing Lowndes and Colquitt, that [non region] schedule is going to bode well for our confidence."

This young group is going to be put to the test this year, but by season's end Dukes feels this team can become something special based on the level of play they have to match week by week.

With the right mindset and plan going into the season, Dukes feels he has the right guys for the job and believes this group will be the one to break the wall that has blocked Alcovy from post-season play since 2013.

"How [this young team] steps up and how they respond is going to tell a lot of how successful we are this year," Dukes said. "If we be that, and we step up and play, I believe strongly that we will go to the playoffs."



Junior MJ Stroud will transition into a utility role for the Tigers after starting at quarterback last season.

(Mason Wittner | The Covington News)

ALCOVY TIGERS 2020 SCHEDULE

9/4 @ North Forsyth

9/11 @ Newton (Sharp Stadium)

9/25 Eastside (Sharp Stadium)

10/16 @ Lowndes

10/23 @ Colquitt County

10/30 @ Grovetown

11/06 Lakeside, Evans

11/20 @ Evans

Note: Schedule is subject to change.

Region 3-AAAAAA

Alcovy

Evans

Grovetown

Heritage, Conyers*

Lakeside, Evans

Rockdale County*

*Rockdale County announced in August that it would be suspending all high school fall athletics until the second semester of the 2020-21 school year. As a result, Heritage and Rockdale County high schools will not be fielding football teams this fall.



Jason Dukes

Alcovy Head Coach

Enters second season leading the Tigers program.
2019 Record: 2-8 (1-4)



EASTSIDE EAGLES



Eagles adapting to change in 2020

By MASON WITTNER

mwittner@covnews.com

If the Eastside High School football team was asked to compile a soundtrack to its offseason, there's a considerable chance Bob Dylan's soothing voice would be found on the first track. For the times, they are a-changin'.

The Eagles have faced a considerable amount of change since they were eliminated from the state playoffs in the opening round last November.

They were bumped up a classification by the Georgia High School Association and placed in Region 8-AAAAA alongside the likes of local foes Loganville and Walnut Grove, as well as perennial powerhouse Clarke Central. They also bid farewell to three-year starting quarterback Noah Cook and top wideout Jeffery Haynes, a formidable duo that sparked the offense.

Then came COVID-19, bringing with it an abundance of complications that plagued teams at all levels across the nation throughout the spring and summer.

Eastside has demonstrated great resilience in the face of uncertainty. As the Eagles prepare to navigate their way through a novel region and classification this fall — doing so with new faces in key spots on both sides of the ball — they appear unperturbed.

Instead, they've only grown closer with one another.

"With the adversity, uncertainty and everything out there, I really feel like our guys have done an excellent job adapting to it," Eastside head coach Troy Hoff said. "There's been an excitement to come to workouts, and I think when you have that much change in a relatively short amount of time, we're now seeing the positive result of being able to get back together."

The first question mark Hoff and his staff were forced to address this offseason was how they would fill the hole at quarterback. They tabbed rising senior Jaylen Woods, who started at wide receiver for the Eagles last fall while serving as a backup quarterback, to take the reins of the offense.

Woods isn't going to replicate the production value of Cook overnight, but nobody is asking that of him. He's excelled in managing expectations and taking control of the offense day by day rather than all at once.

"When you're replacing a kid that's won a lot of football games and played at a high level — and obviously that why Noah's going off to play college ball — that's always a concern. Especially when it's the quarterback," Hoff admitted. "Jaylen's done a great job stepping into a new role. He's really taken it on and stepped up."

Making the transition from wide receiver to starting quarterback is no small task, but Woods has shown gradual progression in workouts and practices all summer.

"The more reps he gets," Hoff suggested, "the better we will be, the more we can play at a high level around him and help increase his confidence and work together as an offense. I think we'll continue to help him improve throughout the year."

Senior running backs Sincere Johnson and Terrence Reid will help alleviate some of the pressure that will be placed on

EASTSIDE EAGLES 2020 SCHEDULE

9/11 @ Winder-Barrow

9/18 Newton (Sharp Stadium)

9/25 @ Alcovy (Sharp Stadium)

10/02 @ Johnson, Gainesville

10/08 Apalachee (Sharp Stadium)

10/16 @ Clarke Central

10/23 @ Loganville

11/05 Jackson County (Sharp Stadium)

11/13 Walnut Grove (Sharp Stadium)

11/20 @ Greenbrier

Note: Schedule is subject to change.

Region 8-AAAAA

Eastside

Apalachee

Clarke Central

Greenbrier

Jackson County

Johnson, Gainesville

Loganville

Walnut Grove



Troy Hoff

Eastside Head Coach

Enters sixth season leading the Eagles program.
2019 Record: 7-4 (6-1)



Shametria Dixon

Agent

2008 Eastview Parkway, Suite 600
Conyers, GA 30013
770-761-8035

Here to help life go right.™
Let's talk.



shametria.dixon.rnle@statefarm.com • www.shametriadixon.com

EASTSIDE EAGLES

2020 ROSTER

Name – Grade

Devin Brown - 12th
 Sam Button - 12th
 Rodarius Cobb - 12th
 Dayton Green - 12th
 Milton James - 12th
 Sincere Johnson - 12th
 Austin King - 12th
 Garrison King - 12th
 Grayson Malcom - 12th
 Seth Martin - 12th
 Vaughn Mattox - 12th
 Kevin Napier - 12th
 Trace Nicholson - 12th
 Jatarus Reid - 12th
 Terrance Reid - 12th
 Carson Smith - 12th
 Jaylen Woods - 12th
 James Amos - 11th
 James Anglin - 11th
 Christian Benson - 11th
 Nick Benton - 11th
 Ronald Chen - 11th
 Hayward DeRouen - 11th
 Russell Dollar - 11th
 Khaliz Evans - 11th
 Jaydon Fain - 11th
 Jalen Farmer - 11th
 Ramon Hernandez - 11th
 Dallas Johnson - 11th
 Erickson Leach - 11th
 Montarius Reed - 11th
 Clayton Schutte - 11th
 Cole Shannon - 11th
 Kyle Shivers - 11th
 David Walker - 11th
 Rodney Williams - 11th
 Jonathan Wright - 11th
 Johnathan Adams - 10th
 E'Sean Arnold - 10th
 Saabir Berrian - 10th
 Austin Brown - 10th

Name – Grade

Eryis Brown - 10th
 Peyton Cason - 10th
 Levi Chaffin - 10th
 Cooper Coody - 10th
 D'Von Duplessis - 10th
 Aeron Gresham - 10th
 Kenai Grier - 10th
 Matt Hall - 10th
 Stevie Hall - 10th
 Benjamin Hise - 10th
 Josh E. Johnson - 10th
 Jean Claude Joseph III - 10th
 Marcus Metcalf - 10th
 Kam'Aron Patterson - 10th
 Jonathan Ray - 10th
 Johnny Salter - 10th
 Aubree Shaifer - 10th
 Michael Simmons - 10th
 NyTravious Smith - 10th
 Tra Stanford - 10th
 Ejay Weaver - 10th
 Jayson Yao - 10th
 Stephen Anglin - 9th
 Latwaan Calles - 9th
 Austin Campbell - 9th
 Marsaan Clayton - 9th
 Anquez Cobb - 9th
 Jaquez Cobb - 9th
 Kaden Elkins - 9th
 Daizon Epps - 9th
 Colton Fincher - 9th
 Torin Hooper - 9th
 Peyton Ivester - 9th
 Wyatt Joyner - 9th
 Kendarius Lane - 9th
 Aiden Singleton - 9th
 Greg Swink - 9th
 Bryston Williams - 9th
 Robert Williams - 9th

Woods to run Eastside's spread attack. Out wide, he's developed a strong relationship with senior receiver Dayton Green, who was impactful for the Eagles a season ago.

"We've still got a lot of opportunities for guys to earn spots and make plays at the skill positions," Hoff said. "We're really excited about our depth."

The Eagles are bringing back a strong core of experienced players on the defensive end, led up front by senior linemen Seth Martin, Kevin Napier and Sambo Button, as well as junior Christian Benson.

"Those guys have really set the tone for us," Hoff said. "Those guys have been there, they've done it. Now the challenge is taking their game to another level and bringing those around them — those young guys helping them out — because we know we have depth at those spots."

Eastside is strong at linebacker as well, with the group being headlined by reigning defensive MVP and leading tackler Trace Nicholson. He and fellow senior linebacker Devin Brown exude explosiveness and physicality that the rest of the unit feeds off.

Intentionally or not, last year's squad played out the season under a shadow. The 2018 campaign saw the Eagles finish out the regular season undefeated, win its first region title in nine years and advance to the quarterfinal round of the state playoffs. But while they were unable to produce an encore performance in 2019, Hoff believes they're not far off.

"The 19 team, I think, did a great job. It came down to the end in the playoffs, but we were one snap away from being right there going for it again. I like the experience that they had," he said. "I don't know if we can draw off any team, but I'll tell you last year the way they handled themselves and we moved forward was a real positive sign."

So, what needs to happen for Eastside to rekindle the magic of 2018 and power its way to another region title? Hoff believes the



Serving Newton, Rockdale & surrounding counties for over 36 years!



We meet or beat any price you have in writing.





12 Months Same as Cash Financing Available

We specialize in Brand Names of:
 Carpet, Vinyl, Hardwood, Laminate, VCT, Luxury Vinyl Tile, Rugs, LVP Luxury Vinyl Plank
 Residential & Commercial

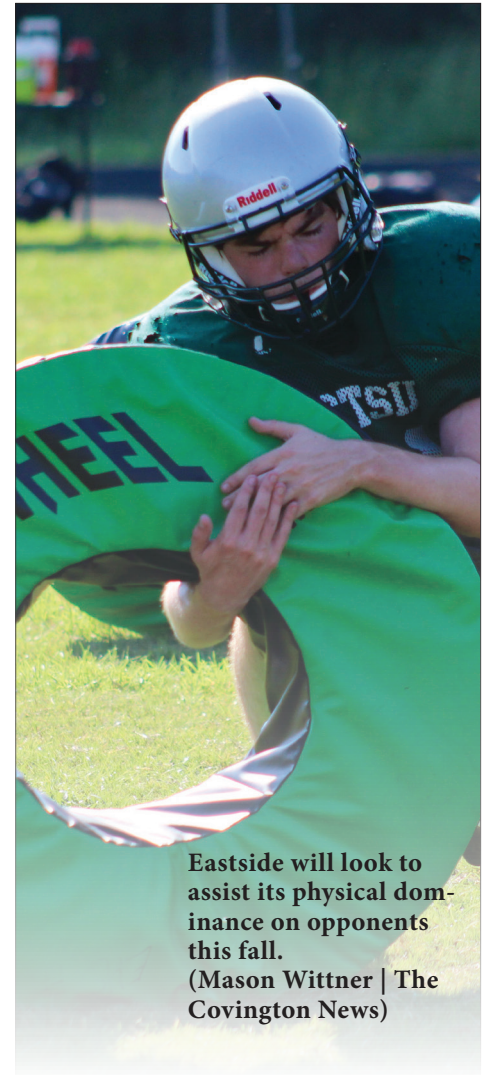
770-786-9245
 hardysfloors.com • sales@hardysfloors.com
 2227 Emory Street NW • Covington, GA



The Eagles are loaded with talent in the backfield in 2020.
(Mason Wittner | The Covington News)



Eastside will replace three-year starting quarterback Noah Cook with senior Jaylen Woods.
(Mason Wittner | The Covington News)



Eastside will look to assist its physical dominance on opponents this fall.
(Mason Wittner | The Covington News)

key will be consistency.

In a year where everything has been fluid, it may very well be the team who can best adapt to change that will be standing alone in the end.

"I think it will be who can play consistent, fundamental football early on," Hoff said when asked the determining factor of a champion in 2020. "Those teams that maybe can have com-

munication and efficiency of executing early into the season may have the jump on some teams. That may be because of returning players, more experience coming back, maybe because of being able to get more practice time in.

"I don't know what all those things will be, but I think that's going to be an early indicator."




3198 Elm St. NE
Covington, GA 30014
770-786-1150



Golden's Deli and
High School
Football...
it doesn't get any
better than that!





1160 Church Street
770-786-1140
www.bradleysbbq.com

Monday-Wednesday 11am-8pm
Tuesday - Saturday 11am-9pm





TOUCHDOWN DIRECTORY

PC AfterDark Computers

WE REPAIR CELL PHONES AND TABLETS
WE SPECIALIZE IN UPGRADES,
COMPUTER & PRINTER REPAIR,
SERVICE & NETWORKING!



6157 HWY. 278 NW, SUITE 14
COVINGTON, GEORGIA

770.788.7000

WWW.PCAFTERDARK.COM

Leapin' Lizards Pet Shop

2165 Pace St • Covington, GA 30014

770-787-2888

Monday – Friday 11 am – 6 pm

Saturday 11 am – 5 pm

"Quality Pets at Affordable Prices"



Skrimp Shack app
available for online orders

GRUBHUB™ DOORDASH

5334 Highway 20 S
Covington, GA
770-728-0132

theskrimpshack.com

f Skrimp Shack Covington



Complete Automotive TIRE CENTER

Servicing Vehicles,
Satisfying Customers!

10500 Eagle Drive
Covington, Georgia 30014
(1 Mile South of Eastside High School)

470-444-1607

Monday-Friday 7:30am-6:00pm

Saturday 7:30am-12:00pm

RestEasy



Covington's Most Trusted
& Respected Bedding Store.
Always Fair Prices!

770-786-8777

www.resteasymattress.com

2185 Pace St • Covington GA

Mon.-Sat. 10am-6pm • Sun. by Appointment

Locally Owned For 29 Years



Hines Home of Funerals, Inc.

"Dignified, professional, affordable and
friendly service within the means of all."

404-792-2400

595 West Lake Dr. • Atlanta, GA 30318



2123-A Pace Street
Covington, GA 30014

770-787-0421

rudyboosbuffalocafe.com

Covington AUTO COLLISION

Covington Auto Collision Team have many years of
experience repairing automobiles damaged in collisions.
We are fully trained and certified in what we do. We are a
family owned business and will put your needs first.

3172 Hwy 278 NE • Covington, GA 30014
470-444-1111 • www.covingtonautocollision.com



10698 Covington Bypass
Covington, GA 30014

678-712-6623

Tuesday – Friday 10 am – 6 pm

Saturday 10 am – 5pm

BEST OF LUCK ON A GREAT WINNING SEASON!

Good luck on a winning season!



We Support Local Farms & Vendors



1116 Clark Street | Covington, GA 30014

770-728-1670

M-Thur 11am-9pm | Fri & Sat 11am-10pm

Sunday 11am-9pm

www.mysticgrill.restaurant

Mystic Grill Restaurant

**Good Luck on a
Great Football Season!**



Alcovy Tigers



Eastside Eagles



Newton Rams



***We're proud to be your
local school system!***



Newton County School System

2109 Newton Drive NE • Covington

770-787-1330

www.newtoncountyschools.org



Our mission is to provide educational excellence for all students!

K&D SHOES

Georgia's Largest Shoe Store

**We
specialize in
size & width!**

Over 35,000 Pairs of Shoes and Apparel

2240 Dogwood Drive | Conyers, Georgia



770-483-9037

20% OFF

Any Single Ladies Item

**K&D
SHOES**

One coupon per visit. Must present original coupon.
Cannot combine with other offers. Expires 9/30/20. CN

NEWTON RAMS



Rams locked in, reloaded for 2020

By **MASON WITTNER**

mwittner@covnews.com

There's cautious optimism brewing at Newton High School ahead of the 2020 football season.

On one hand, the Rams will be forced to reload talent at several key positions this fall. Newton graduated 25 seniors from last year's club, more than a dozen of whom will now be playing on Saturdays. And yet, at the same time, the coaching staff has found it difficult not to be excited about the new crop of players who are primed to step in and take their spots under the Friday night lights.

When asked how he plans to replace the abundance of talent he lost from the Class of 2019, Newton head coach Camiel Grant Jr. allowed a smile to slowly spread across his face.



Audavion Collins and the Newton Rams are prepared to reload for the 2020 season.
(Mason Wittner | The Covington News)



"I think there's going to be some surprises this year. Some young kids are going to step up; some names that people haven't heard of," Newton head coach Camiel Grant Jr. said. "From what we've seen so far, they're ahead of where we expected them to be, and that's a surprise — a pleasant surprise.

"We lost a lot in terms of talent on both sides of the football, and any time that happens, you end your season and your thoughts immediately go to, 'Wow, how do you replace fill-in-the-blank?' But I've been pleasantly surprised that we're further along than I thought we would be."

Perhaps the most notable revelation of the offseason has been the progression of junior quarterback Jevarra Martin Jr.

Standing at 6 feet, 4 inches, the left-hander has piled on muscle and grown into his frame. Consequently, he's seen an increase in both the strength and precision of his throws. Martin Jr. entered the spring already in the driver's seat for the quarterback job, but he quickly earned the rights to the gig and never looked back.

Now, as he prepares to engineer Newton's spread offense this fall, he possesses the potential to become Newton County's next elite quarterback.

"I think Jevarra is right on track to be able to do some huge things," Grant Jr. said. "Not to get too far ahead, but with his size and with his arm strength, he has the potential to be a big-time



NEWTON RAMS 2020 SCHEDULE

9/4 Woodward Academy (Sharp Stadium)

9/11 Alcovy (Sharp Stadium)

9/18 @ Eastside (Sharp Stadium)

10/2 @ McEachern

10/9 @ Houston County

10/16 @ Parkview

10/30 Brookwood (Sharp Stadium)

11/6 @ Mill Creek

11/13 @ Grayson

11/20 South Gwinnett (Sharp Stadium)

Note: Schedule is subject to change.

Region 4-A-A-A-A-A-A-A

Newton

Brookwood

Grayson

Parkview

South Gwinnett



Camiel Grant Jr.

Newton Head Coach

Enters second season leading the Rams program.
2019 Record: 7-4 (3-2)

NEWTON RAMS

2020 ROSTER

Name – Grade

Komi Agbozo - 12th
 Malachi Arnett - 12th
 Oro Avery - 11th
 Justin Benton - 10th
 Nick Bibbs - 12th
 Keyshawn Blackstock - 12th
 Jaden Blackwell - 12th
 Anthony Bynum - 10th
 Romeo Carson - 11th
 Audavion Collins - 11th
 Quincy Cullins - 12th
 Damni Dumas - 11th
 Alex Durden - 12th
 Charles Earwood - 11th
 Jaborri Evans (11th
 Terrence Fagan Jr. - 12th
 Kaden Farley - 12th
 Tyrell Floyd - 12th
 Isiah Foster - 10th
 Darius Green - 12th
 Nyland Green - 12th
 Jevarra Martin - 11th
 Nolan McCamy - 11th
 Riquorious Patterson - 12th
 Sean Pellew - 11th
 Rontravious Perry - 11th
 Hagen Phillips - 12th
 Jan Pollard - 12th
 Jehden Robinson - 9th
 Olan Robinson - 10th
 Richard Rockett - 12th
 Riley Scruggs - 9th
 Brandon Smith - 10th
 Jonathon Smith - 11th
 Will Standard - 12th
 Glendarius Steward - 12th
 Tyson Stone - 12th
 Nate Sutherland - 12th
 Eugene Tavarres - 12th
 Sean Thompkins Jr. - 10th
 Malachai Tolliver - 11th
 Joshua Underwood - 12th
 Abidel Velasquez - 12th
 Tanner Westbrook - 11th
 Malecahi Williams - 12th
 Andre Williams - 11th
 Shatee Wilson - 11th
 Elijah Zollicofer - 11th

Coveted recruit Nyland Green will be a threat
 on both sides of the ball for the Rams.
 (Anthony Banks | The Covington News)



quarterback. It's been a long time since we've had one in this area; a guy that can be a legitimate Power 5 guy. The tools are there, for sure."

Martin Jr. will be joined in the backfield by dynamic senior running back Quincy Cullins. The former Eastside Eagle quickly adjusted to life as a Ram last fall, rushing for 904 yards and 11 touchdowns en route to being named to the All-TCN First Team Offense.

Senior Nyland Green, who's touted as one of the country's best cornerbacks, is also a perennial deep ball threat at wide receiver. Other weapons in Newton's offense that Grant Jr. and his staff are expecting impactful seasons out of include senior receiver Tyrell Floyd, junior running back Romeo Carson and sophomore H-back Olan Robinson.

"Our offense will, like, be different in terms of personnel, but it won't be a lack of talent," Grant Jr. said. "There is no drop-off in talent. These kids have different skill sets, yes, but they're still very talented."

The departure of last year's senior class will be felt most by the Rams' defensive unit. Fortunately for Newton, it's also the unit with the most depth.

The Rams are oozing with Division I prospects throughout their defense. Leading the charge is Green, a 4-star corner with offers from the likes of Georgia, Auburn, Clemson and LSU, among others. He's a member of a loaded secondary that also features Minnesota commit Darius Green, who coaches laud as one of the most explosive safeties in the state.

Of course, most conversations about Newton's defense will begin with Justin Benton, and rightfully so. Benton's name will be bolded, highlighted and starred on opponents' scouting reports for years to come.

Listed at 6-3 and 245 pounds, the defensive end captured the attention of college coaches around the country as a freshman by recording 76 tackles, seven sacks and two forced fumbles.



Newton will be racing into a new region this fall.
(Anthony Banks | The Covington News)

Benton now enters his sophomore season as one of the most highly-touted linemen in the state, if not the nation. He'll be joined along the defensive line by senior nose guard Malachi Arnette, who excelled in anchoring the unit last fall.

"It's going to be tough to be as good as that defensive line was last year. That's a tall order," Grant Jr. admitted. "But I think that we can still be pretty good. I still think the strength is going to be on the back end, but we'll be solid up front. We'll have more depth."

Regardless of the talent Newton will be fielding in 2020, the Rams will have their hands full with one of the toughest schedules in the state. After opening the season against Woodward Academy, they'll play back-to-back rivalry games against Alcovy and Eastside. They'll follow that up with back-to-back road trips to non-region powerhouses in McEachern and Houston County before taking on a pair of formidable Region 4-AAAAAAA adversaries in Parkview and Brookwood.

It's a six-game gauntlet that rivals any

others in the state, but Grant Jr. and his staff appear to be up for the challenge.

"Obviously you go into every game with the intention and expectation to win, but I think more so now it's about increasing our ability to compete each week. These teams are going to force you to do that," Grant Jr. said. "That's not a knock against previous schedules. These are just some of the elite teams across the state of Georgia."

BULLDOG TIRE & AUTOMOTIVE



Your Complete Car Care Center
Since 1982!

4108 N. Elm Street • Covington, Georgia

770-787-6030

Monday – Friday 7:30am – 6:00pm

Visit our website for coupons & specials

www.bulldogtire.net



Reserve

470-441-5250

1149 Hendricks Street SW

Covington, GA 30014

With a new coaching staff in place, Eric Taylor (2) and the Social Circle Redskins are eager to show off their new air raid offense this fall. (File Photo | The Covington News)





SOCIAL CIRCLE REDSKINS

Redskins eager to usher in Patton era

By MASON WITTNER

mwittner@covnews.com

There will be fresh faces abound in Social Circle this fall.

The changes inside the Redskins football program begin at the top. Following the departure of Chad Estes, Social Circle tabbed former Collins Hill High School defensive coordinator Rob Patton to usher in a new era as head coach. Estes posted a 16-44 record in six seasons before stepping down last November.

Patton, a product of Grayson High School, has spent the majority of his coaching career in Gwinnett County as an assistant at Grayson and Collins Hill.

Looking for a chance to cut his teeth as a head coach, he was drawn to Social Circle in large part because of the program's top-tier athletic facilities and admirable reputation.

"I talked to coaches that were in the area, guys I've worked with in the past, and they thought that it was a place that had a lot of potential," Patton said. "I also like the idea of the smaller school system. Having a middle school, high school, rec department all tied together — I'm just excited about being a part of that."

Patton was ecstatic about the new gig, but it didn't take long for adversity to strike.

SOCIAL CIRCLE 2020 SCHEDULE

9/04 @ George Walton Academy

9/11 @ Providence Christian

9/18 Walnut Grove

9/25 Putnam County

10/02 @ Oglethorpe County

10/16 Washington-Wilkes

10/23 @ Lincoln County

11/06 Commerce

11/13 @ Towns County

11/20 Greene County

Note: Schedule is subject to change.

Region 8-A Public

Commerce

Greene County

Lincoln County

Social Circle

Towns County

Washington-Wilkes



Rob Patton

Social Circle Head Coach

Enters first season leading the Redskins program.

2019 Record: 1-9 (0-7)

At the end of his second week on the job, the COVID-19 pandemic shut the school down. Consequently, he was forced to interact with his new players through Zoom meetings and phone calls rather than face-to-face interaction for the first couple months of his tenure.

The new leader of the program preserved.

"It's kind of tough whenever you don't have that relationship built with the kids yet," Patton admitted. "But it's been nice with summer time to be up here and put a name with all the faces, let them meet our new coaching staff and kind of get to know each other's expectations."

Patton recruited Nate Etheridge, who spent the past two seasons as the ninth grade football coach at Collins Hill, to be his defensive coordinator. Etheridge spent nearly two decades as a defensive coordinator in Michigan and will focus primarily on the Redskins' defensive line while Patton works with the secondary.

Etheridge has also been assigned to lead Social Circle's strength and conditioning program— an area the Redskins believe will be vital to their success.



What does Logan Cross have in mind for an encore? As a freshman, the gunslinger threw for 1,460 yards. (Brett Fowler| The Walton Tribune)



The Redskins will try to navigate a new classification in 2020.
(Brett Fowler | The Walton Tribune)

"We tried to give our weight room a facelift and kind of change the culture in there," Patton said. "Every scheme works, but strength is going to be the biggest thing. How strong and how fast can you get?"

"We're trying to revamp what we're doing in there."

Under Etheridge's guidance, the Redskins will run a multiple defense this fall. They'll base out of a 3-4, but will mix up fronts with various blitz packages to keep offenses guessing.

For now, though, they're more focused on executing sound defensive mechanics than putting together complicated schemes.

"Whether we're in a three-man front or a four-man front, we're just working on stopping the run and pursuit tackling," Patton said.

On the other side of the ball, Social Circle offensive coordinator Jimmy Jarrett will be installing an "Air Raid" offense to complement sophomore quarterback Logan Cross.

Standing tall at 6 feet, 4 inches, Cross took the area by storm last fall by passing for 1,460 yards as a freshman. He's now been handed the keys to a wide-open spread attack, and he's blown his new coaching staff away with his mixture of raw talent and work ethic this offseason.

"Logan is absolutely phenomenal," Patton said. "He gets all As in the classroom. He's one of the first ones here every day for the weight room. And then, obviously, you can talk about his arm strength. I've been really impressed by him."

Cross will have a plethora of targets, starting with speedy senior wideout Eric Taylor. Taylor racked up 650 receiving yards and five touchdowns for the Redskins last fall in his first season at the position after transitioning from cornerback.

Social Circle will also have a lethal one-two punch coming out of the backfield in running backs Amarion Russell and QJ Smith.

After reclassifying earlier this year, the Redskins now find

SOCIAL CIRCLE 2020 ROSTER

Austin Atha - 12th
Will Atha - 10th
Jackson Austin - 12th
Robert Bagley - 11th
Phillip Baynes Jr. - 10th
Demascio Bolden - 9th
Samuel Bowen - 10th
Jalen Brinkley - 12th
Adams Brown - 10th
Ben Bruce - 11th
Ty Clay - 10th
Griffin Clemence - 9th
CJ Colclough - 9th
Kaylee Connell - 11th
Sean Crews - 9th
Logan Cross - 10th
Jay Crutchfield - 9th
Ja'Michael "Trey" Douglas - 11th
Kam Durden - 9th
JD Duval - 10th
Jaxon Ethridge - 10th
Cam Gaither - 11th
Kelsey Griffey - 9th
Mikey Holmes - 12th
Mason Holmes - 9th
Dashon Hyman - 10th
Grayson Jenkins - 10th
Kelan Joiner - 10th
Payton Lilly - 12th
Jacob Linder - 12th
Mitchell McCullough - 10th
Syrus Mobley - 10th
Mason Moore - 10th
Charlie Nelson - 12th
Chad Paschal - 9th
Nicholas Peppers - 11th
Sean Poe - 12th
Antonio Polk - 11th
Raymir Polynice - 12th
KJ Reid - 11th
Matt Riley - 10th
Amarion Russell - 11th
QJ Smith - 12th
Zireion Stewart - 9th
Caden Stoaks - 11th
Cason Stracner - 11th
Eric Taylor - 12th
Kacen Taylor - 10th
Rowen Vandergriff - 11th
Xavier Wallace - 9th
Hunter Wise - 11th



Social Circle will open its season against George Walton Academy.
(Brett Fowler/The Walton Tribune)

themselves in Region 8-A Public alongside the likes of Commerce, Greene County, Lincoln County, Towns County, Warren County and Washington-Wilkes. They'll also clash with pair of local foes this fall in George Walton Academy and Walnut Grove.

But Patton hasn't spent much time breaking down the opponents featured on the 2020 schedule.

He's far more concerned with the development his own program.

At the start of each practice, Patton challenges his players to "get a little bit better" that day. Once the session draws to a

close, he issues them the same challenge for the following day. Throughout the summer — day by day, week by week, month by month — he's requested incremental growth from his team.

By season's end, he's hoping that will add up to a successful year for Social Circle.

"We can't compare ourselves to other people right now. All we preach is to control what we can control, and we can control whether we get better or not," Patton said. "We can't worry about game one, game five, any of that stuff. Just get a little better every day and have a strong mental approach no matter what the task is."



Phone: (770) 464-3354
Fax: (770) 464-4018

Website: www.socialcircleace.com
Email: scace@socialcircleace.com

**Serving Walton and the
Surrounding counties
since 1956**

181 S. Cherokee St.
P.O. Box C
Social Circle, GA 30025

香港園

HONG KONG

GARDEN

CHINESE RESTAURANT

Take Out • Dine In

157 S. Cherokee Rd.
Social Circle, GA 30025
(Next to ACE Hardware)

T. (770) 464-9886
(678) 871-4080

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK
Monday - Saturday: 11:00 am - 10:00 pm
Closed Sunday

**Standard Maintenance Services
Engine Services • Heating & Air Conditioner Repair
Auto Electrical Services • Exhaust Services & much more!**

*Family Owned
& Operated!*

GOOD LUCK ON A WINNING SEASON!



We understand that trust is earned. We would like to earn yours. We offer a variety of automotive services and repairs. All our work is performed using quality parts and equipment, and the work is done by technicians who are highly trained and certified. Serving Social Circle and the surrounding area, we pride ourselves on providing our customers the best automotive repair experience possible, including excellent workmanship, service and a fair price. Give us a call, or stop by, and let us earn your business and your trust!



**1327 N. Cherokee Road • Social Circle, GA 30025
770-464-9988**

Visit our website!
www.tdsautoservice.com



**LIVE MUSIC ON THE WEEKENDS
OPEN BAR**

MARGARITA WEDNESDAYS

\$2.99 16 Ounce Margaritas All Day

HAPPY HOUR/2-5PM MONDAY-FRIDAY

\$1.99 16 oz. Domestic Beer

SUNDAY SPECIAL

\$5.00 Jumbo House Margaritas

**123 A SOUTH CHEROKEE STREET
SOCIAL CIRCLE, GA 30025**

770-464-2600

**MONDAY-FRIDAY: 11:00 AM-10:30 PM
SATURDAY: 12-10:30PM • SUNDAY 12-10PM**

AUTHENTIC MEXICAN FOOD!



BEST FOOD AND MARGARITAS IN TOWN!

**BUY 2 CHICKEN FAJITAS
AND 2 SOFT DRINKS,
GET 1 CHICKEN FAJITA FREE**

With Coupon. 1 Coupon Per Table. Dine-In Only. CN

NEWTON
COUNTY'S



BUILDING BLOCKS

Difference makers play key role in building local programs

By MASON WITTNER

mwittner@covnews.com

Successful football programs aren't built in a day.

They're gradually constructed over extend periods of time — brick by brick, player by player, coach by coach — until the organizations become solidified from the top down.

When a program is both successful and functional, gestalt is present. Every

respectable coach will tell you that no one player is bigger than the team itself, but rather the collection of players and coaches working in harmony is greater than the sum of their parts.

In essence, it's teamwork that makes the dream work.

But some programs are fortunate enough to possess a burgeoning star who helps set the standard. Coaches often refer to these players as the 'building blocks' of the program; the

guys who lay the foundation for a team's future success.

This summer, *The Covington News* reached out to head coaches at Alcovy, Eastside and Newton high schools to inquire about who they believe are Newton County's Building Blocks in 2020. Three young men were selected to represent their schools as some of the brightest stars with the most potential that the area has to offer.



CJ Cook

ALCOVY TIGERS

Second-year head coach Jason Dukes nominated sophomore lineman CJ Cook as his program's building block for the future.

Dukes has been vocal all summer about his desire to place an emphasis on improving the Tigers' offensive and defensive lines. A former NFL offensive linemen, he believes the trenches are where games are oftentimes won and lost and is bent on improving that area at Alcovy this fall.

When asked to pick a young player on his squad who he believes has the capacity for greatness, Dukes showed no hesitation in selecting the versatile big man.

"CJ has a lot of potential," he said. "He has great size and the ability to move around really, really well. He's coachable and is a kid you can always count on to be doing what he needs to be doing, but he but also plays with a chip on his shoulder."

Cook stands at 6'3" and weighs over 300 pounds, so when the Alcovy coaching staff observed the swiftness with which

he moves his feet, they were eager to throw him under the lights on Friday nights.

He earned playing time early on due to his size and skill set. What kept him on the field was his willingness to adapt and fill in holes anywhere along the line.

"I can say I'm an all-around guy," Cook said with a smile. "I can play any five [positions] on the offensive line. You can even throw me on the defensive line if you want to. I'm an all-around threat."

While Cook primarily served as an offensive lineman for the Tigers last fall, his versatility did not go unnoticed.

Alcovy will be looking to improve their pass rush and run defense this season. Dukes believes Cook can play a pivotal role in plugging holes and wreaking havoc for opposing offenses when he's not plowing through defenders and creating holes for his own.

"I think he's a guy who we're going to be able to lean on for years to come," Dukes said.

A photograph of Jalen Farmer, a young Black male with dreadlocks, flexing his biceps in front of a red brick wall. He is wearing a black football jersey with "EASTSIDE" and the number "52" in white with green outlines. A yellow horizontal bar is visible behind him. The background shows some greenery and a clear sky.

EASTSIDE
EAGLES

Jalen Farmer

Eastside head coach Troy Hoff tabbed junior offensive lineman Jalen Farmer as a building block for the Eagles program.

Already listed at 6'5" and 300 pounds prior to his 16th birthday this July, Farmer has the ideal frame to make an impact at a Division I program in a couple of years. In fact, he's already captured the attention of one not far down the road.

In May, Georgia Tech became the first football program to offer Farmer a scholarship. It was a humbling experience for the 15-year-old, as it wasn't long ago he was fighting just to see time on the field.

"I remember my ninth grade year I wasn't playing and the coaches kept building me up, saying, 'Hey, you can do this and the job is there for you,'" Farmer recalled. "I just had to work hard. They kept me grinding and working hard, and I've been working hard for my teammates."

Farmer's hard work is paying off each day.

He helped lead the Eagles to a 7-4 mark and a bid to the first round of the Class AAAA state playoffs last fall. This year, his expectations are even greater.

"My goal is to get this team to a state championship, get more offers and have a great record with the team," he said.

Newton head coach Camiel Grant Jr. didn't have to think very hard to come up with his nomination. Can you blame him?

Rising sophomore Justin Benton isn't just one of the most talented players in the area. He has the potential to become one of the most talented players in his entire class by the time his varsity playing days are finished.

Benton was an absolute force as a freshman for the Rams last fall. He finished his first season at the varsity level with 76 tackles, seven sacks and two forced fumbles.

Listed at 6'3" and 245 pounds, the defensive end routinely explodes off the ball and slices through offensive lines en route to making plays in the backfield. But while his size and motor are astounding, it's his technical soundness that has been most impressive to his coaches thus far.

"I think that speaks to the amount of football he played as a youth and the amount of high-level competition that he played against," Grant Jr. said. "The technique — and he still

has a ways to go — was something that as a ninth grader, some of the things he was able to do were eye-opening."

Benton's father, Phillip, is also a Newton product. Following his time with the Rams, he went on to play football at the University of Georgia from 1992 to 1995. Justin credits his parents for not only teaching him the fundamentals of the sport, but also promoting humility in spite of the national recognition he's received for his abilities.

"My parents, they're really keeping my head on straight," he said. "I'm just trying to stay humble and keep working because I know none of this would be possible without working hard for what I want."

So, what is it that Benton wants to accomplish during his sophomore campaign?

"My mission for 2020 is to let Newton's name be known" he said. "We're just trying to pass the curve this year and get to where we haven't be able to. Whatever we do this season, it's going to be all on the guys."

**NEWTON
RAMS**



Justin Benton



HOMETOWN REALTY CONSULTANTS, INC.™



We still have the Hometown Value you are looking for in a Real Estate Agent. Whether you are selling or buying.



Darlene Smallwood *(Broker/Owner)*

Kenneth Smallwood *(Owner/Agent)*

Bobby Sigman *(Associate Broker)*

Travis Moore *(Associate Broker)*

Pat Swords-Smith *(Associate Broker)*

Donna Carithers • Bonnie Cowan • Sherry East



2135 Pace Street • Covington, GA 30014

[Morgan Plaza]

770-786-7979



METRO

FOOT & ANKLE CENTERS, PC

770-484-9599

FOOT AND ANKLE CARE



Dr. Javan S. Bass DPM, FACFAS

Dr. Tommy Tally DPM

We treat Turf Toe, Ankle Fractures, Sprains, Flatfeet, Heel Pain and so much more!

SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS



8225 Mall Parkway • Suite 230 • Lithonia GA 30038

770-484-9599



*Jaylen Woods
– Eastside*

NEWTON COUNTY ARMS RACE

New faces to lead Newton County offenses

By **MASON WITTNER**

mwwittner@covnews.com

There's no position in sports quite like the quarterback of a football team.

Right or wrong, quarterbacks are oftentimes given more credit than any other individual for a team's success. On the flip side of the coin, they're also usually under the most scrutiny.

While it's universally understood that it takes a full team to win a game — let alone compete for a championship — the question first asked of most football programs when entering a new campaign is, 'Who

will lead the offense under center?'

In Newton County, all three Georgia High School Association programs will have fresh faces leading the way during the 2020 season. Newton and Eastside will be looking to replace graduated veterans, while Alcovy finds itself in the midst of a transitional period.

All three head coaches spoke with The Covington News this week to discuss how their quarterback rooms are shaping up heading into the final week of June.

ALCOVY TIGERS

Jason Dukes' first season as head coach at Alcovy saw the Tigers experiment at quarterback late in the year.

Sophomore M.J. Stroud was tabbed as the starter going into the 2019 campaign.

Touted as one of the best receivers in the area as a freshman, he underwent the growing pains of transitioning into a new position, but shone brightly under the spotlight.

By season's end, however, Dukes realized that Stroud's athleticism could be better utilized by plugging him in at different spots on the field. So prior to the Tigers' season finale against Greenbrier, he handed the starting quarterback job to freshman Ashton Evans.

As he now prepares for his sophomore year, Evans is slated to begin the season as Alcovy's starting quarterback. Despite his lack of experience — he took limited snaps throughout the season when Stroud dealt with injuries prior to making his lone varsity start — Dukes believes the young gunslinger is up for the task.

"It's one thing to throw a green freshman in at the beginning of the year and expect him to be successful.

There's another thing to have him kind of be a backup for the majority of the year and then feel comfortable putting him in at the end of the year," Dukes said. "He is a good player."

While Evans appears to be in the driver's seat, Dukes noted that the evaluation period is still ongoing. Evans showcases a stronger arm than Stroud, but Stroud's ability to extend plays with his legs while also making some quality throws leaves him in the mix.

"MJ, I believe, is a kid that can help us in several different positions," Dukes said. "You can expect to see him moved all around the field, including taking snaps at quarterback."

The Tigers operated their offense out of the spread formation in Dukes' first season at the helm. Their plan is to run a similar scheme, but with a heavier emphasis on offensive linemen winning battles in the trenches.

Breaking in a new quarterback isn't always an easy task. It's made even more difficult when a pandemic causes an unorthodox schedule, resulting in no 7-on-7 drills or passing camps before July — and no timetable for their return.

Fortunately, Alcovy is in the same boat as every other team in the GHSA. And while the search continues for answers about when football teams can resume standard operating procedures, Dukes is ensuring his kids — including his quarterbacks — remain mentally prepared.

"We haven't even been given a schedule to return to school next year. If you constantly think about that, it can paralyze you from preparing for the things that you need to do right now and today," Dukes said. "Our focus as a team is on taking every day for that day and doing our absolutely best job in getting better."

EASTSIDE EAGLES

The Eagles are tasked with replacing a three-year starter at quarterback this season.

Noah Cook graduated from Eastside and will be taking the field for Garden City Community College this fall. Stepping in to fill Cook's shoes will be senior Jaylen Woods, who spent last season as one of Cook's primary targets at wide receiver.

Eastside head coach Troy Hoff believes the experience Woods garnered from starting at receiver on Friday nights — in addition to serving as Cook's backup — will pay dividends when the bright lights

Jevarra Martin
— Newton

Jaylen Woods has been groomed to take over the Eastside offense after starting at wideout for the Eagles last fall.
(Mason Wittner | The Covington News)



SIMPLIFY YOUR WORKFLOW WITH MOBILE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS



United Bank's Diane McGoldrick with customer Brad Bettis.


UnitedBank
BUSINESS
SOLUTIONS

(770) 567-7211

Equal Housing Lender 

This is Community Banking.

accessunited.com



Your Comfort is
Our Business



**11290 Brown Bridge Rd.
Covington, GA 30016**

www.dwairflow.com • 770-788-7700

High-Quality Air Conditioning Services Since 1986



After winning the starting job late last fall, sophomore Ashton Evans will roll into 2020 as QB1 for the Tigers. (Mason Wittner | The Covington News)

 **READY RENT-ALL, INC.**

1335 Access Road • Covington, GA 30014
770-787-3200



**Your One-Stop Shop For All Your Equipment Rental,
Sales & Repair Services Needs in Eastern Atlanta Suburbs**

EQUIPMENT RENTALS



NEW EQUIPMENT SALES



CONTRACTOR SUPPLIES



STORAGE UNITS



Located in Covington Georgia and serving Eastern Atlanta suburbs, Ready Rent-All offers an extensive inventory of equipment for rental or for sale.

Our contractor customers appreciate that we recognize they need to be profitable, just like we do. We are absolutely dedicated to assisting them achieve profitability by renting equipment that is clean, reliable, and best for the job at hand.

Homeowners and DIY folks appreciate that we know our stuff; we can match the most inexperienced customer with the perfect tool to accomplish their goal. No one leaves our store without a tutorial about the equipment they are renting.

www.readyrentall.com

Monday-Friday: 7:30 AM-5 PM • Saturday: 7:30 AM-12:30 PM • Sunday: Closed

hit this year.

"I think it's helped him see the big picture from playing receiver and now being in both spots," Hoff said. "As far as moving forward in our offense, he's got a real solid grasp of what we do because he's been doing it. It's a new role for him, obviously, but at the same time he's done an excellent job of transitioning into it."

Last year, Eastside sliced up opponents with an up-tempo spread offense. Woods and Cook are their own players, and tweaks will be needed to tailor the team to the new quarterback, but Hoff plans to continue taking a similar schematic approach to the offense.

"As coaches, I think the part of our job — the main part of our job — is to make changes work with our personnel," Hoff said. "I think we're flexible enough in our schemes that we can mold it to the players we have and see what Jaylen likes to throw, what he's comfortable with."

Woods' transition into the spotlight will be interesting to watch. While his varsity experience at wideout gives him a leg up over many first-year starters, Eastside's staff understands the approach they must make to afford the new guy time to adjust to his role.

"I know the first night under center will be different, but our approach with

him is to play football. It doesn't have to all be on him," Hoff said. "That's part of our job as coaches is to have a diverse enough attack where it can spread the ball out to run or pass, so it's not all on the quarterback to have to win it every night."

NEWTON RAMS

After the departure of senior quarterback Neal Howard, rising junior Jevarra Martin has emerged as the favorite to lead the Rams offense in 2020.

The left-hander has piled muscle onto his six-foot, four-inch frame this summer and is set to enter July at roughly 210 pounds. Martin is still working to correct his footwork and nail down his timing, but his build, experience and leadership qualities have made him a frontrunner for Newton.

"I don't expect anything less than Jevarra coming out and really moving us forward. It's his job to lose," Newton head coach Camiel Grant Jr. said.

Martin was the ace of Newton's baseball staff this spring and has started for the club since his freshman year. Grant Jr. stated that despite it being another sport, he believes Martin's experience of starting at the varsity level — notably being in a position that isolates him on the mound

and calls for the team to lean on him — will transition well into playing quarterback.

Martin had a close relationship with Howard during his time with the Rams. The two have continued working out and throwing together this summer as Howard has taken it upon himself to help groom his replacement.

Grant Jr. believes that Martin has shown enough growth — both at the mental and physical level — to prove that he's ready to control Newton's spread attack.

"Jevarra understands what we're doing on offense," he said. "He has a different skill set than Neal; he's more of a pocket passer. He can push the ball downfield a little bit more with his arm strength. Some things we may feature a little bit different than last year. We're excited and we think he's ready."

Waiting in the wings for the Rams this season will be rising freshman Riley Scruggs. After showing tremendous potential during his eighth grade season, there's a lot of hype surrounding the young gunslinger. He'll need time to adjust to the speed of varsity competition, but could make a splash for the Rams in a year or two if he continues to develop.

FINANCIAL STRATEGIES.

One-on-one advice.

Contact or visit any of our Financial Advisors in Covington.



Standing left to right: Joey Montgomery, Royce Baker, Joe Stier, Stuart Hamilton, Cody Norris

JOEY MONTGOMERY
(678) 342-6242

ROYCE BAKER
(770) 788-9978

JOE STIER
(770) 788-6181

STUART HAMILTON
(770) 787-0177

CODY NORRIS
(770) 728-8212

Edward Jones®

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

www.edwardjones.com

Member SIPC

Bulldogs lean on veterans in times of uncertainty

Georgia prepares for 10-game SEC slate

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

The Georgia football team will march into truly uncharted territory when preparations for the 2020 season commence. Even with some of the most accomplished players in school history having departed, the Bulldogs can lean on a strong foundation to help weather the uncertainties that lie ahead.

Georgia went 12-2 last season, capping the campaign with a 26-14 victory over Baylor in the Allstate Sugar Bowl. The win, appropriately enough on the first day of 2020, figured to be a springboard into the offseason.

That plan was derailed when a global pandemic upended life for most of the world's inhabitants. Just days before it was slated to begin, Georgia's spring practice -- and for all of college football -- was cancelled. Any reconstructive work, and there was plenty of it for the Bulldogs, would have to wait until it was reasonably safe to do so.

Coach Kirby Smart's fifth Georgia roster features a pair of high-profile transfers in Jamie Newman and JT Daniels in the quarterback competition; up-and-coming tailbacks in Zamir White, James Cook, and Kenny McIntosh; one of the nation's most talented receivers in George Pickens; versatility on the offensive line; and one of the best defensive units assembled, not just at the conference level but nationally. Smart also has new members of his coaching staff in offensive coordinator Todd Monken, offensive line coach Matt Luke, and special teams coordinator Scott Cochran.

As always, there are players to replace and holes to fill, and that work will now take place in an expanded pre-season camp.

QUARTERBACKS

The Georgia offense — now coordinated by Todd Monken, most recently of the NFL's Cleveland Browns — will have a new quarterback under center for the first time in three seasons after the depar-



ture of Jake Fromm. And it appears that Georgia could have a spirited competition for the job beginning this fall.

Jamie Newman joined the Bulldogs as a graduate transfer from Wake Forest, where he passed for 35 touchdowns and nearly 4,000 yards the past two seasons. Newman also gained 800 yards rushing, with 10 scores, during that span. Stetson Bennett was Fromm's backup a year ago, seeing limited action in five games and connecting on two touchdown passes while rushing for another. D'Wan Mathis sat out the 2019 campaign following a medical procedure, but he is expected to

throw his hat in the ring this fall. Mathis had more than 4,500 yards passing and 1,000 yards rushing his final two years of high school. JT Daniels transferred into the program after two years at Southern California. He threw for over 12,000 yards at prep powerhouse Mater Dei before earning the starting QB job at USC for 11 games in 2018. He started again in 2019 before a knee injury in the opening game ended his season. Daniels was granted his eligibility to compete this season for the Bulldogs by the NCAA in mid-July. Carson Beck was an early enrollee whose prep career included being

named the USA Today Florida Offensive Player of the Year and Florida's Mr. Football. He had more than 5,000 yards passing and a total of 67 passing and rushing touchdowns. Nathan Priestley, who saw action in two games in 2019, and John Seter are back in the fold to provide additional options.

RUNNING BACKS

With stalwarts D'Andre Swift and Brian Herrien off to the NFL, the Bulldogs will turn to a stable of talented underclassmen. Zamir White followed Swift and Herrien with 408 yards and three touchdowns, highlighted by 92 yards and a score in his first career start in the Sugar Bowl. James Cook pitched in 188 yards and two scores and added another 132 yards in the passing game. Kenny McIntosh picked up 174 yards and a pair of touchdowns during his rookie campaign. Special teams ace Prather Hudson also returns for depth and experience. Kendall Milton is an early enrollee from California who had more than 2,800 yards and 50 touchdowns his final two prep seasons. Georgia also has Sevaughn Clark, Anthony Summey, Darius Jackson, Garrett Jones, and KJ McCoy.

WIDE RECEIVERS

Led by the Sugar Bowl MVP, this group is both talented and deep. George Pickens is the Bulldogs' top returning receiver after hauling in 49 passes for 727 yards and eight touchdowns. He earned MVP honors in the Sugar Bowl with 12 catches (a Georgia bowl record) for 175 yards and a score, then added Freshman All-America and All-SEC recognition. Demetris Robertson ranked behind Pickens with 30 catches for 333 yards and three touchdowns. Dominick Blaylock had accumulated 310 yards and five touchdowns before suffering a knee injury in the SEC Championship Game. The Bulldogs also return veterans Matt Landers, Kearis Jackson, Tommy Bush, and Trey Blount. Makiya Tongue showed solid progression during his redshirt campaign, and early enrollee Justin Robinson led his team to a fourth consecutive state title as he posted 903 yards and 11 touchdowns receiving as a senior. An impressive group of true freshmen will join Robinson and the rest of the receiving corps to vie for playing time: Jermaine Burton, Ladd McConkey, Marcus Rosemy and Arian Smith.

TIGHT ENDS

With Charlie Woerner and Eli Wolf gone, the Bulldogs will turn to John FitzPatrick to be the leader at tight end. FitzPatrick appeared in 11 games a year ago and hauled in a 22-yard pass. Versatile Ryland Goede played in two games but still earned redshirt status. Brett

Seither, Mitchell Wernitz, Chase Harof, Jarrett Freeland, and Kolby Wyatt remain in the fold, while Davis Day and Michael Hagerty will be joining the squad this fall.

Two more new faces warrant mention at this position. Graduate transfer Tré McKitty caught 50 passes over the past three seasons at Florida State. True freshman Darnell Washington was regarded by some recruiting services as the nation's top tight end prospect in 2019. The Las Vegas native stands a solid chance to earn playing time in his rookie season.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

While his losses are significant -- including three NFL draftees -- first-year offensive line coach Matt Luke inherits an experienced crew. All-SEC performer Trey Hill started all 14 games at center last season, anchoring a line that paved the way for 408 yards and 30 points per game a year ago. He likely will be backed up by redshirt freshman Clay Webb. At guard, the Bulldogs have options with Webb, Warren Ericson (who also could get a look at center), Ben Cleveland, and the now-healthy Justin Shaffer. The top candidates at tackle are Jamaree Salyer, Warren McClendon, Xavier Truss, and Owen Condon. True freshmen Broderick Jones, Tate Ratledge, Sedrick Van Pran and Devin Willock arrive with impressive credentials and will join the competition for time.

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

A year ago, the Bulldogs successfully rotated the members of the defensive line, and the numbers indicate they will be able to do so again. Georgia's defensive linemen were effective in the trenches against the run and in chasing down opposing quarterbacks. Devonte Wyatt led all interior players with 30 tackles, followed by Malik Herring (26, including five for loss), Jordan Davis (18, 4.5 for loss), and 2019 Freshman All-SEC performer Travon Walker (15, 3.5 for loss). Veteran Julian Rochester was slowed by injury for much of 2018 and redshirted last season, despite playing in four games. Georgia also has back Netori Johnson, Bill Norton, Tramel Walthour, Tymon Mitchell, Zion Logue, and Tyler Malakius.

OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

The Bulldogs return basically all of their key contributors from a year ago at this position. 2019 Freshman All-American Azeez Ojulari racked up 36 tackles, including six for loss. Jermaine Johnson followed with 20 stops, three of which were behind the line, while Nolan Smith contributed 18 total and 2.5 for loss. Georgia also welcomes back Robert Beal, Walter Grant, Adam Anderson, and Mat-

thew Brown.

INSIDE LINEBACKERS

Monty Rice, the Bulldogs' leading tackler in 2019, returns to anchor this area both on and off the field. The All-SEC performer amassed 89 stops a year ago -- 27 more than the next defender. Nakobe Dean added 25 stops during his rookie season and Quay Walker pitched in 23. Georgia additionally returns Nate McBride, Channing Tindall, and Trezmen Marshall, while Rian Davis is back from injury to show his skills.

DEFENSIVE BACKS

The secondary developed as a strength for the 2019 Bulldogs, and it appears to have maintained that reputation heading into 2020, even with the loss of J.R. Reed to the pros. Richard LeCounte made 61 tackles from his safety position and paced Georgia with four interceptions and three fumble recoveries. Mark Webb posted 46 stops, while Lewis Cine had 20. Georgia also will take a look at Christopher Smith, Latavious Brini, and William Poole. Cine, Wilson, and Brini all had interceptions a year ago. Major Burns is an early enrollee who will throw his hat in the ring. At corner, DJ Daniel is the top returning tackler with 42, followed by All-SEC honoree Eric Stokes with 38 and between them they broke up 17 passes last season. The Bulldogs also have back Tyson Campbell, Ameer Speed, and Tyrique Stevenson. Early enrollee Jalen Kimber will get a look as well. Stevenson, Webb, Wilson, and Poole are the top candidates at the star/nickel slots. Georgia also welcomes highly-rated freshman Kelee Ringo into the mix at corner.

SPECIALISTS

First and foremost, new special teams coordinator Scott Cochran must find the best replacement for kicker Rodrigo Blankenship, one of the most prolific specialists in school annals. During camp, Brooks Buce, Jack Podlesny, Luke Venco, Josh Winnett, and Shaw (from the receiving corps) figure to have a spirited competition. Signee Jared Zirkel was one of the nation's top prep kickers a year ago will surely join the battle as well. Newcomers Michael Greco, Ethan Suda, and Matthew Sumlin have the ability to both kick and punt. Jake Camarda has handled the punting duties each of his first two seasons, including 2019 when he averaged 46.8 yards. Bill Rubright and Noah Chumley will provide relief behind Camarda. Payne Walker, JC Vega, and William Mote are the top candidates at snapper this spring. Kearis Jackson, Cook, Robertson, and Blaylock (once healthy) figure to lead the way on returns.

Yellow Jackets begin unorthodox season with 2-a-day practices

By PAUL NEWBERRY

The Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — For Georgia Tech, this most unusual of seasons — assuming there is a season — began with two-a-day practices.

No, it wasn't two practices in one day for the entire team.

Coach Geoff Collins split his players into two groups and put each of them through a morning practice Wednesday, all in hopes of making things a bit safer amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"This is not business as usual," Collins said, meeting remotely with reporters shortly after the second workout ended.

He pointed to a number of steps the program is taking during preseason practice, from circles painted on the sideline to promote social distancing to an electronic whistle he is using to make sure he is heard while wearing a mask.

"I never knew that that existed until a week ago, but blowing a whistle with one of these things on," he said, holding up his mask, "is not very successful."

The double practice sessions are perhaps the most notable change from the normal routine.

Getting a jump ahead of the sizzling Atlanta heat, Collins and his staff worked for nearly two hours with the first group beginning at 7:30 a.m., took a brief break to clear the field, then brought on the next group at 9:30 a.m.

The veterans are mainly working in one group, while the younger players and freshmen are assigned to the other. Each has its own locker room, yet another step to lessen the risk of contracting the highly contagious virus.

"We want to minimize the number of people standing around," Collins said. "It's basically two-a-days for the coaches and staff."

Making things even more unusual — the Yellow Jackets don't even know who they're playing in their first game. They were supposed to host powerhouse Clemson in a prime-time game at Bobby Dodd Stadium on Sept. 3, but the Atlantic Coast Conference has pushed back the openers by a week or more and gone to a revised schedule in which all but one game will be within the conference.

Georgia Tech will still host the Tigers at some point, but the ACC has yet to release dates for the new schedule. The Yellow Jackets also are working to line up a nonconference opponent because the annual season-ending game against rival Georgia was canceled when the Southeastern Conference decided on a 10-game, league-only schedule in 2020.

That news was a bitter blow for Georgia Tech and other teams in the ACC, which has specifically pushed for the one nonconference game as a means of protecting in-state rivalries. Other casualties of the SEC plan were Florida-Florida State, Kentucky-Louisville and South Caroli-

na-Clemson.

This will be the first time since 1924 that Georgia Tech won't face the Bulldogs.

"I hate that my seniors, who have laid the foundation for our program and all the success we're going to have, are not going to get to play a rival that is 72 miles outside of Atlanta," Collins said. "But I'm confident that if we continue to go about our business, when we do play them in the future, the team (the Bulldogs) see won't be the team they saw back in November."

Georgia Tech closed out its first season under Collins with a 52-7 loss to the Bulldogs — its worst defeat in a series that began in 1893.

The Yellow Jackets finished 3-9, a not-so-unexpected outcome given the massive rebuilding job that Collins faced after taking over for longtime coach Paul Johnson and switching from the run-oriented triple option to a more conventional offense.

Collins is counting on significant improvement in his second season.

If there's a season.

As Collins talked with reporters from inside the practice facility, he apologized for an annoying noise that made it a bit hard to hear his gravelly voice.

"They're disinfecting all the equipment right now," he explained. "Which is a good thing."



Associated Press



BULLSEYE

ACCOUNTING SERVICES INC.

"Where Accuracy Counts"

762.435.7002 | bullseyeacct@gmail.com | Monticello, Ga.

Accounting | Payroll Services | Tax Preparation

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| ACS - 2 | Metro Foot & Ankle - 32 |
| Bradley's Bar B Que - 15 | Mystic Grill - 17 |
| Bulldog Tire - 21 | Natural Path/Family Health Food Store - 7 |
| Bullseye Accounting - 41 | Newton County Schools - 17 |
| Chaz Automotive and Diesel - 43 | Newton Federal Bank - 5 |
| Complete Automotive Tire Center - 16 | Oasis Healthcare Service Inc. - 44 |
| Covington Auto Collision - 16 | PC After Dark - 16 |
| D&W Air Flow Inc. - 35 | Ready Rent-All, Inc. - 36 |
| Edward Jones — Covington - 37 | Rest Easy Mattress - 16 |
| Georgia Piedmont Tech College - 3 | Rudybods Buffalo Cafe - 16 |
| Golden's Deli — Elm Street - 15 | Shametria Dixon State Farm - 13 |
| Hardy's Floor Covering - 14 | Social Circle Ace Hardware - 26 |
| Hines Home of Funerals - 16 | TDS Auto Service - 27 |
| Hometown Realty - 32 | The Meat House - 16 |
| Hong Kong Garden - 26 | The Reserve at Hendricks - 21 |
| K&D Shoes - 17 | The Skrimp Shack - 16 |
| Leapin Lizards Pet Shop - 16 | United Bank Operations - 35 |
| Mayfield Ace Hardware - 42 | Willy's Mex Mex Grill - 27 |

Mayfield **ACE** Hardware



Alcovy Tigers



Eastside Eagles



Newton Rams

Ace is ready for some High School Football!

First & 10 do it AGAIN! Go! Fight! Win!

Best of luck to all area teams for a successful season!



2171 Elm Street NE, Covington, GA 30014

770.786.2550



@mayfieldacehardware

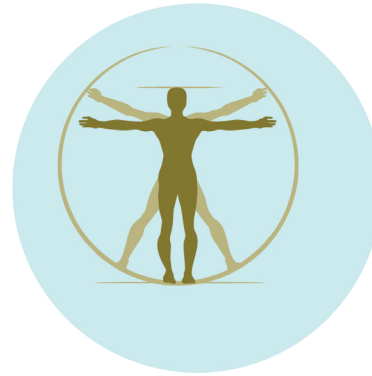


"To Provide 100% Honest Work, EVERY Time for EVERY Customer!"

- Full service diesel service on most diesel vehicles
- We do motor and transmission work on all gasoline vehicles foreign/domestic
- We service high performance vehicles
- Synthetic blend oil change \$24.99 for up to 5 quarts
- We offer full synthetic oil changes \$59.99 for up to 5 quarts
- We also offer Mobil 1 oil
- Brake packages from \$119.99



470-467-2429
2101 Dogwood Industrial Cir SE
Conyers, GA 30013
chazautomotive.com



Oasis Healthcare Service INC

WHERE WE CARE ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL

No Insurance? No Problem! Come See Us! We'll Care For You!

Oasis Healthcare Services INC was founded by Troy Taylor MSN, AGNP-C, with the underserved at the forefront of his mind. His mission is to provide high quality primary healthcare services to those who may not be able to afford traditional services due to lack of insurance. OHSI plans to lead the way in patient focused healthcare services, irrespective of their financial or economic status.

We champion for the overlooked and forgotten.

Free: Labs, Medications, Telehealth and Diagnostics



2195 Pace Street • Suite E • Covington, GA 30014
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9-5 • Saturday By Appointment
Now Accepting New Patients
470-444-1005