

# Wildcats have new head coach and coordinators



First year Greene County High School Head Coach Mike King (Kneeling) is getting a lot of quality help this season on his coaching staff. The 2017 assistant coaches are (L-R) Defensive Coordinator and linebackers coach Jacob Aycock, defensive backs coach Kaelin Moore, defensive line coach Drew Hollinghead, Offensive Coordinator and offensive line coach Rotch Dungan and receivers and H-backs coach Caleb Prentiss. Along with his head coaching duties, King also serves as the quarterbacks and running backs coach.

## New coaching staff has meshed well for GCHS

By RUSSELL TURNER  
Herald Staff

New head coach Mike King is not the only new addition to the Greene County coaching staff this season. Shortly after King was hired, the school also announced the addition of Rotch Dungan and Jacob Aycock as the new offensive and defensive coordinators.

King said he thinks the new additions have meshed well with local products Caleb Prentiss and Drew Hollinghead and part-time assistants Kaelin Moore and Adam Wyatt. The first-year skipper says he is excited about the makeup of the staff and feels even better about how the players are responding.

“We are very similar in our approach,” King said of the coaches. “We believe in being positive and upbeat and communicate very well with each other. We don’t have many ego-driven guys so we don’t worry about stepping on each other’s toes.”

“A ton of our decisions are made as a whole and everyone takes ownership. To quote Steve Jobs, “at the end of the

day the best ideas have to win.” And, that is how we work in our meetings, game planning, preparation, etc.”

King played his collegiate football at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and Belhaven University, where he earned a BS in Sports Administration. He holds a master’s degree in secondary education from William Carey University.

His first coaching job was as a graduate assistant receivers coach at Belhaven. He became familiar with Greene County football as the head coach at Sand Hill from 2005-2009, where his Bucks teams played for three Little Six Conference Titles and won one in 2006.

GCHS coaching legend Johnny Ainsworth gave him his first high school job when he brought him on staff as a part-time assistant coach while he was coaching at Sand Hill. He transferred to the high school as a full-time assistant in 2007.

King was the Cats’ offensive coordinator for four seasons (2010-2013), before returning home to George County to take the same position with the Rebels. His offenses were very successful in both places, but bringing Coach Dungan on as offensive coordinator was an easy decision.

Dungan is a 34-year veteran in coaching and teaching. He is from Citronelle, Ala. and coached there for the first several years of his career. He spent several years coaching

alongside Jeff Kelly in Jackson and Saraland where he helped lead teams to two Alabama state championship games. He also coached for a stint in Satsuma before retiring from the Alabama Department of Education and taking a job as an assistant at George County. This is the third year he and King have coached together.

“Coach Dungan is one of the best football coaches I have ever been around and we are blessed to have him as part of our program,” King said. “He has taught me a lot and he is going to have a great impact on the young men on this team.”

Aycock joins the program with a career path very similar to King’s. He cut his teeth under Mississippi coaching icons Perry Wheat, in Purvis, and Neville Barr, at Oak Grove. And, he also served as the head coach at Purvis Junior High School, experience King believes in an important part of his resume.

“Coach Aycock has done a tremendous job already,” King said. “He brings a lot to the table and does a great job with our kids.”

Along with his coordinator duties, Dungan also works closely with the offensive linemen. Aycock is the defensive coordinator and coaches the Wildcat linebackers.

Prentiss and Hollinghead are graduates of GCHS and have been part of the coaching staff for several years. They’ve coached alongside King in the past and the new coach says he

is lucky to have them on board.

Prentiss coaches the receivers and H-backs, while Hollinghead is responsible for the defensive linemen. Moore coaches the defensive backs. Wyatt is a volunteer assistant and helps wherever needed. Coach King works directly with the quarterback and running back group.

At the high school, coaches are also teachers, and members of Wildcat coaching staff are expected to pull their weight in the classroom. That is not a problem at GCHS, according to administrators.

“I love what our coaches do on the field with our players, but I have to tell you, I also couldn’t be more pleased with the job they do at the instructional level inside the classroom.”

“These guys take teaching very seriously and perform at a very high level day in and day out.”



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