



Jacob Dodd photo

Logan Cornelius was one of six players from the DCHS Tigers baseball team to be named all district. The Tigers will look to build on the momentum of a 17-12 season next year as they reload after losing five seniors from this year's squad.

Six Tigers honored as all-district

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A few big plays were the difference between competing for a state title and going home early, according to DeKalb County Baseball Coach Adam Kefauver who assessed the 2018 campaign. "We had to make a few big plays but fell short," Kefauver said of the Tigers who were bounced from the district tournament by rival Upperman, losing a close 5-4 tilt. "But, I'm still proud of our guys."

Kefauver admitted that he had expectations of making the state tournament and making noise. "We had the expectation that we would make the state tournament this year," the skipper revealed. "When you have expectations like that, it's a little hard to swallow when you don't accomplish it. But, I was happy with our persistent attitude."

The Tigers ended the season 17-12, with six players making all-district including John Maynard, Logan Cornelius, Skyler Sparks, Brady Hughes and Lee Randolph. Hunter Jennings was named District 8AA Pitcher of the

Year.

The Tigers will lose five seniors to graduation, something the coach said will be felt.

"That includes two of our top pitchers," he said of graduation. "We have five up-and-coming seniors who are going to have to step in to big roles this season. But I think they are going to do a good job."

The coach said he is eyeing the 2019 campaign as a rebuilding year given the youth of his team; however, he said that does not mean the Tigers will not be able to make waves in the district and region.

"There are years when you think you're rebuilding and players exceed expectations plus other programs in the district may be rebuilding too," Kefauver said, noting there is a big crop of freshman coming up, some of whom may be able to step in and make an impact.

The team will be holding an open tryout at 5:30 p.m., June 7 at DCHS baseball field, meaning any high school student can come and try to make the team. Kefauver will also be hosting a kids baseball camp June 4-5 at DCHS baseball field.

Working in spring with eyes on fall

DCHS does well in pair of scrimmages

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It's football time in DeKalb County. Well, actually the season doesn't start until the annual border battle with Warren County this August but the Tigers are already getting in work, scrimmaging a pair of teams this past week in Nashville.

"I was proud of the way they played," said DeKalb County Head Football Coach Steve Trapp of the 2018 edition of the Tigers that scrimmaged against Antioch and Glencliff in Nashville.

Trapp noted that Soddy Daisy cancelled the original scrimmage, sending the Tigers hustling to find someone to play against for their spring scrimmage.

"Our guys didn't have any advance about who they were playing but they went right in there and played well. But I expected that since we believe that effort and attitude should always be 100 percent," Trapp said, adding the team played a total of 120 plays in the pair of scrimmages.

As for the outcome, the coach said the Tigers outscored their opponents but the important part was getting a glimpse of the team in game mode.

Coming off a 3-7 campaign in 2017 that ended with a first round loss in the playoffs to Marshall County, the Tigers will be fielding a young squad this season. However, just because they are young, does not mean they will not be effective.

"Some of our best play-



Duane Sherrill photos

DeKalb County Tiger Line Coach Justin Burum oversees drills during off-season workouts in preparation for the 2018 football season. The Tigers recently competed in a three-way scrimmage in Nashville, playing Antioch and Glencliff in controlled offensive and defensive scrimmages. Evan Jones and Dylan Denson square off in a blocking drill during the workout.

ers are right where you want them, in the line and in the running back position," Trapp said, adding one such lineman, Isaac Cross is the first junior he has ever named team captain. The lineman is expected to be a team leader this season and is already being scouted by several college programs.

On the offensive side of the ball, senior quarterback Tyler Cantrell has graduated leaving sophomore Axel Aldino and junior Conner Vaughn to battle for the quarterback position.

"Competition is good," Trapp noted.

Behind them they will have a returning David Bradford, a bruising running back who also plays

middle linebacker. He will be joined by Warren County transfer Tre Ladet.

While the squad only numbers 50, a bit down from past year, the coach says he sees depth in the lineup.

"I think we may get away from a lot of two-way players," Trapp said, adding the summer OTAs which began yesterday will go a long way to determine which players will step up. "We have some up-and-coming ninth graders who may get to play on Friday nights depending on how they do in June."

The off-season conditioning and training will be held from 8-10 a.m. in the morning until late June.



DeKalb County Head Football Coach Steve Trapp talks about route progressions with quarterback Conner Vaughn during spring practice. The Tigers are gearing up for the 2018 campaign with their off-season conditioning and drills. There is expected to be a competition for starting quarterback leading up to the season between Vaughn and Alex Aldino to take the place of Tyler Cantrell who graduated.