Photo by Russell Turner

MAC FOOTBALL

The McLain Attendance Center's 2018-2019 football roster consists of Raine Bufkin, Will Darr, Camoron McBeth, Matthew Pierce, Stone Dearman, Dusty Dearman, Logan Guerin, Jadarius Jimmerson, Kedrick Taylor, Cameron Williams, Kylon Steele and Michael McLeod. The team is coached by Rob Roper.

Photo by Russell Turner

MAC CHEERLEADERS

The 2018 - 2019 McLain Attendance Center Cheerleaders are Aria Ball, Reanna Moody, Chandalon Steele, Tytiana King, Alasia Carter, Maryah Moulds, India Stenson, Reanne Blakely and Shanya Mcleod. The squad is coached by Lindsey Irwin Sponsor.

2018-2019 MAC RAMS

SCHEDULE

Aug. 28
vs Sacred Heart

Aug. 30
vs Perry Central

Sept. 4
vs Clara

Sept. 6
vs Richton

Sept. 10
at Perry Central

Sept. 20
at Sand Hill

Sept. 24
vs Fruitdale

Sept. 27
vs Sand Hill

Oct. 4
at Richton

Game Time: 6 p.m.

#19 Conner

Garrett #13 WEST

Alabama ranked No. 1 in third straight pre-season poll, Miss. State starts off at No. 18

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

Alabama will begin its quest for a second consecutive national championship with a rare three-peat.

The Crimson Tide is just the second team to be ranked No. 1 in the preseason Associated Press Top 25 poll for three straight seasons. Alabama received 42 out of 61 first-place votes.

No. 2 Clemson received 18 first-place votes. Georgia is No. 3 and Wisconsin is fourth. The Badgers received one first-place vote. Ohio State was ranked No. 5. No. 18 Mississippi State has its best preseason ranking since 1981, when the Bulldogs were No. 14.

The preseason AP poll started in 1950 and since then only Oklahoma from 1985-87 had started No. 1 in three straight years until now.

Ring up another milestone for coach Nick Saban's Tide dynasty. Alabama has won five national championships since 2009 and now has been No. 1 to start the season five times under Saban. Last season was the first time Saban's team started and finished the season No. 1.

The Tide enter this season with a question at quarterback, but there appears to be two good answers from which Saban has to choose: Tua Tagovailoa won the College Football Playoff championship game for Alabama with a second-half comeback and overtime touchdown pass. Jalen Hurts has led the Tide to the national title game in each of his two seasons as a starter.

Whoever is quarterback, Alabama's offense should be potent with running back Damien Harris working behind a powerful line anchored by tackle Jonah Williams.

The Tide's always tough defense will have all new starters in the secondary, but defensive end Raekwon Davis and linebackers Mack Wilson and Dylan Moses are primed to be Alabama's next All-Americans.

The machine never stops in Tuscaloosa. One again, everybody is chasing Alabama.

NOTABLE:

— No. 2 Clemson matched its best preseason ranking. The Tigers were No. 2 in 2016 and went on to win the national championship.

— No. 4 Wisconsin has its best preseason ranking since 2000, when it was also No. 4. The Badgers also had one first-place vote that year.

— No. 5 Ohio State is making it 30th straight appearance in the preseason rankings (1989-2018). Only Penn State (34) and Nebraska (33) have had longer streaks.
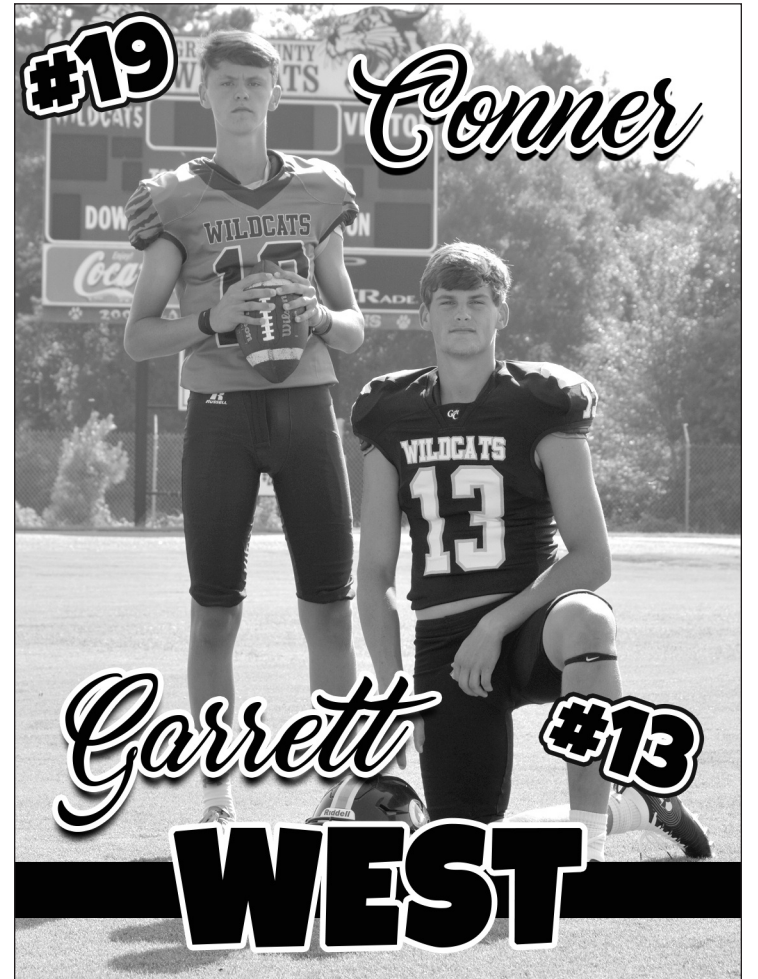
— No. 6 Washington has its best preseason ranking since 1997, when the Huskies were No. 4.

— No. 8 Miami has its best preseason ranking since being No. 6 to start the 2004 season.