

Owls

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fits their wing-t style of physical football and the Indians will be a tough region game to win on the road."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 DEKALB CO. AT SCHS HOMECOMING

"Coach Steve Trapp always put a quality team on the field and I expect no different this year. They are picked to win their region this year after going 3-8 a year ago. They will be anxious to put that season behind them."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12 SCHS AT CANNON CO.

"Cannon Co. is always been a tough place for us to play and we expect, despite their struggles over the last few years, that they will give us a battle. We need a win here to take a step toward the playoffs."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19 SCHS AT WATERTOWN

"Last season Watertown played as well defensively against us as anybody we faced. Their numbers have grown the last few years and we expect them to continue their success from a year ago when they went 9-3. They have a big weapon in Heath Price who we must contain."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26 SCHS AT GRUNDY CO.

"Grundy Co. has a new head coach in Scott Smith who we faced a few years ago. Coach Smith loves to have multiple sets and formations to confuse your defense. We must have a good week of preparation as, once again, this region game can determine whether we make the playoffs or not."

Coach Dickerson thinks that three teams have a great shot at plucking the number one seed from Region 4-3A.

"I think York, Sequatchie Co. and Upperman have an outstanding shot at winning the region this year," noted Dickerson. "Although there may be new coaches in those schools, they have enough talent, depending on who plays well, to beat the other on any given night."

The following is a look at the two-deep depth chart for the Owls offensively and defensively with quotes from Dickerson about the starters:

OFFENSE

OFFENSIVE LINE:

CHRIS RAY (5'11", 270, Sr.), **GREG BASS** (5'11", 315, Sr.), **JARED GRISHAM** (6'0", 200, Jr.), **AUSTIN WILLIAMS** (5'11", 200, Sr.), **RAY SCURLOCK** (6'0", 185, So.), **JORDAN TONGATE** (6'2", 200, Sr.).

"This group must have a good year for us if we are going to enjoy any type of success. We must be able to run the football and we are hoping to get four yards a carry and keep the chains moving. We will be a ball control offense and hopefully keep the ball away from our opponents."

Backups: **CHRIS CUNNINGHAM** (5'10", 275, Jr.), **RANDALL RAY** (5'11", 255, So.), **JOEY GANTENBEIN** (6'0", 185, Jr.), **CAMERON BRIDGES** (5'10", 200, So.), **TYLER BARE** (5'9", 185, So.), **TRISTAN MCCORMICK** (6'1", 200, Jr.).

"These guys must be ready to play as they are only one snap away from being a starter. They must be reliable backups in case someone goes down."

WIDE RECEIVERS:

ELI MARTIN (5'10", 180, Jr.), **JADEN APPLE-GIBBS** (5'10", 165, Jr.).

"These two guys had some catches for us a year ago and must step up this year to be leaders when we throw the football. We expect them to be able to make yards after the catch for us to have a successful passing game."

Backups: **ISAAC DICK** (6'3", 170, Sr.), **CHRIS ALLEN** (5'9", 135, Sr.).

"These guys will be rotating in and out and must catch the football when it is thrown their way."

TAILBACKS:

JOHN ROSS HORD (5'11", 185, Jr.).

"John Ross is our leading returning ball carrier from a year ago and he has to have a big year for us if we are going to be successful on offense. He is a rugged runner that needs to be able to carry the football 20-25 times a game. We believe he has the ability to carry us in the rushing department."

Backup: **ROGELIO ORTIZ** (5'9", 145, Fr.).

FULLBACKS:

TANNER MARSHALL (5'10", 175, Sr.).

"Tanner must have a good year blocking and running for us to do the things that we want to do on offense. We hope to be able to run a ball control offense and must be able to run the football."

Backup: **BRAXTON WASHER** (5'10", 190, Jr.).

QUARTERBACKS:

CAMERON SPIVEY (5'9", 165, Jr.).

"I feel Cameron can handle our offense and although he doesn't have a lot of experience, we are asking him to make good decisions and not risk turning the ball over. He has been a good leader for us throughout fall camp and we are looking for him to have a steady year for us."

Backup: **JADEN APPLE-GIBBS** (5'10", 165, Jr.), **ANDREW WHEELLEY** (5'9", 120, Fr.).

"We think we with Jaden's athletic ability that he could be a reliable backup for us if we need him to be."

DEFENSE

NOSE GUARD:

Please see OWLS page C-6



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2018 SMITH COUNTY HIGH SENIORS — Front row from left: Jessica Maynard, Fabian Torres, Grace Harville. Middle row from left: Chris Ray, Austin Williams, Tanner Marshall, Chris Allen. Back row from left: Isaac Dick, Jordan Tongate, Greg Bass.



SCOTT WINFREE / COURIER

2018 SMITH COUNTY HIGH RECEIVERS — Front row from left: Eli Martin, Chris Allen, Jaden Apple-Gibbs. Middle row from left: Caleb Crawford, Dante Mosley, Bo Broyles, Taner Cook. Back row from left: Dennis West, Briston Bridges, Jake Yount.



SCOTT WINFREE / COURIER

2018 SMITH COUNTY HIGH RUNNING BACKS — Front row from left: Tanner Marshall, John Ross Hord. Back row from left: Jake Taylor, Colton Windham, Seth Claridy, Rogelio Ortiz.

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