



Gleason Bulldogs



5 TO WATCH



Kolton Crochet
Fr. • QB/DB



Dawson Arnond Jr. • WR/DB



Jamison Lifsey
Fr. • RB/S



Elijah Young
So. • TE/DL



Seth Jones
Sr. • OL/DL



Junior athlete Dawson Arnond looks to lead a young Gleason team this fall.

Bulldogs young and eager Gleason will rely on youth for wins in the 2018 high school football season

By Randy Cavin
Sports Editor

It is the same issue for Gleason head coach Noah Lampkins as he attempts to put a quality team on the football field — a young team with a low number of players.

This seems as if it is an every-year thing for the longest-tenured head coach in the county. He has to deal with a small roster at the smallest football-playing school in Division I. Lampkins is not complaining; he knows that is how it is.

The head coach is not complaining because he has some talented, but young players on the team. One thing he does not have enough of is upperclassmen. There are only two seniors on the Gleason roster this year.

“Our numbers are just so low,” Lampkins said. “We feel good about some spots. We need some more linemen, but we have three that we feel really good about. They have good strength, good size and good experience.”

Those three linemen the head coach will rely on are seniors Seth Jones, Noah Anderson and junior lineman Cody O’Callaghan. Jones started a few games his freshman year, got even more starts his sophomore season and became a full-time starter in 2017.

Anderson is the center for the Bulldogs and has the experience to cleanly snap the football to the quarterback.

“All three of those guys are really, really mobile,” the head coach said. “They are athletic and can move with good strength.”

The buck stops there with the experience on the offensive line.

“We have to start two freshmen this year with Brandon Moore and Hagen Hodges,” Lampkins said. “That is never a good thing, but

both of those guys are not timid. They will take their bruises and bumps, but we will get past it.”

Calling the shots at quarterback will another freshman as Kolton Crochet takes over those duties. Crochet is another freshman who is not timid. Crochet is the first true quarterback Lampkins has had in several years and he enjoys watching him go about his business on the football field.

“We are really excited about our quarterback,” Lampkins said. “We have a quarterback for the first time in I don’t know how many years. This kid can be as good as he wants to be. He reminds me a lot of Conner Verdell when he played a several years ago.

“He is smart, athletic and wants to do well. I don’t have to worry about him outside of football. Kolton is coachable. That is something you don’t see a lot of now from players. It gets harder to coach them and to push them to be better. He is a kid you can push and ask a lot of. It makes coaching fun when you have a quarterback you don’t have to pet.”

Another player the head coach does not have to worry about is junior athlete Dawson Arnond. He will line up all over the place for the Bulldogs and is one player opposing teams will need to be aware of when he lines up on the offensive side of the ball.

“Dawson is our leading yardage guy and scorer from last year,” the head coach said. “We will need another good season from him. He is really fast, but he needs to be fast in the game and not overthink things. He needs to let loose and run. Dawson is as fast as anybody if he will just get out there and run.”

One player who was missing from last year’s team and one the Bulldogs really needed was Eli-

jah Young. The big tight-end had a season-ending leg injury before the first game started. Young is healthy and eager to put last year behind him.

“We will have Elijah for the whole year, hopefully,” Lampkins said. “Last year as a freshman, he was probably going to be one of our best players and we really needed him. He has great hands. He is versatile and we play him at tight-end, at H-back, at fullback, defensive line and at linebacker.”

A young team such as this, and with low numbers, could find the upcoming season to be a tough one. Not only will the Bulldogs have to deal with Lake County and Dresden, but also a Greenfield team that made the playoffs a year ago and an improved West Carroll squad.

The Bulldogs do have an opportunity to win some games. South Fulton is facing a similar situation with low numbers and a youthful team, while Humboldt is breaking in a new head coach and currently owns the longest losing streak at 11 games in Class A.

Both Fulton County and Fulton City present winnable non-region games for the Bulldogs. Bruceton is another non-region game, but the Tigers are also bringing back an experienced group of players and always seem to be loaded with big, fast running backs.

OFFENSE

Lampkins has gone back the double-wing offense after he put it on the shelf for a couple of seasons. It is an offense designed to run the ball and he has the skills players who can carry the ball effectively.

“We had a lot of success with that a few years ago,” he said.

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RED ZONE

THE PROGRAM

REGION: 7-1A

LAST YEAR: 2-8

COACH: Noah Lampkins

CAREER: 57-102 (15 Years)

RECORD AT GHS: 57-102

ALL-TIME PLAYOFF BERTHS: 10

PLAYOFF RECORD: 2-10

2018 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent
A. 17	Fulton County
A. 24	Fulton City
A. 31	Open
S. 7	@Halls
S. 14	*West Carroll
S. 21	@Bruceton
S. 28	*Lake County
O. 5	*@Humboldt
O. 12	*Greenfield
O. 19	*@Dresden
O. 26	*@South Fulton

2017 RESULTS

Opponent	Score
Fulton County	L 46-26
Fulton City	W 52-0
Halls	L 58-22
*West Carroll	L 41-0
Bruceton	L 42-6
*Lake County	L 57-12
*Humboldt	W 24-21
*Greenfield	L 40-8
*Dresden	L 54-8
*South Fulton	L 26-14

2017 Team Totals

Points Scored	172
Average/Game	17.2
Points Allowed	385
Average/Game	38.5



Head Coach Noah Lampkins