



Dresden Lions



RED ZONE

THE PROGRAM

REGION: 7-1A
LAST YEAR: 10-2
COACH: Levi Estes
CAREER: 10-2 (2nd Year)
RECORD AT DHS: 10-2
ALL-TIME PLAYOFF BERTHS: 20
PLAYOFF RECORD: 18-19

2018 SCHEDULE

| Date | Date |
|-------|----------------------|
| A. 17 | Westview (at UTM) |
| A. 24 | Scotts Hill |
| A. 31 | *@Lake County |
| S. 7 | *West Carroll |
| S. 14 | *@Greenfield |
| S. 21 | @Peabody |
| S. 28 | *@South Fulton |
| O. 5 | Obion County |
| O. 12 | Open |
| O. 19 | *Gleason |
| O. 26 | *Humboldt |

2017 RESULTS

| Opponent | Score |
|------------------|---------|
| Westview | W 28-21 |
| at Scotts Hill | W 27-13 |
| *Lake Co. | W 33-24 |
| *at West Carroll | W 41-6 |
| *Greenfield | W 42-0 |
| Peabody | L 38-18 |
| *South Fulton | W 35-0 |
| *at Obion Co. | W 21-7 |
| *at Gleason | W 54-8 |
| *at Humboldt | W 45-0 |

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Middle College | W 53-16 |
| Hillcrest | L 6-0 |

2017 TOTALS

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Points Scored | 397 |
| Average/Game | 33.1 |
| Points Allowed | 139 |
| Average/Game | 11.6 |



Head Coach Levi Estes



Dresden's Drake Yates attempts to get around a Hillcrest defender in the second round of the Class A playoffs last year.

Lions look for region repeat; Second-year head coach believes talent is there

**By Randy Cavin
Sports Editor**

The Dresden High School football team hopes to keep the train rolling as the Lions will put a much younger squad on the field this season.

Dresden has lost a lot of its talent that carried them the last few seasons as it will have to rely on a lot of youthful players to step up. That does not generate any concerns for second-year head coach Levis Estes.

"We only have five seniors as of right now and they are going to become the anchors of the team," Estes said. "The young guys are going to be asked to step up and roll in on some positions offensively, defensively and on special teams. They are going to be able to benefit and contribute early in their high school careers."

The five seniors Estes will count on to provide a starting point for his younger players are all good ones to have on a team with Drake Yates, Tyrone Jones, Joseph Mitchell, Charles Winstead and Dyllon Brown.

Yates and Jones will be the key to Dresden's success this season. They are both veteran high school football players. Both will have to avoid injuries, which Jones was not able to do before last year's season opener when he was scheduled to be the starting quarterback.

Estes had to turn to his freshman, Zach Crawford, to be his quarterback and he got banged up in the third game of the season against Lake County. Yates

stepped into that role and led the Lions to a huge win in the game and became the quarterback the rest of the season.

Now Estes has all three of those players healthy and it may be game-time in the season opener against Westview before he makes the call for his starting quarterback.

"I don't have an answer on quarterback right now," Estes said. "We are going to compete for that until we walk out on the field against Westview."

All three men competing for the starting quarterback job are highly capable of leading the offense as they each possess excellent scrambling abilities. Jones is the more experienced of the three and Yates may be the most explosive.

Crawford could be the most fine-tuned of the three at quarterback as he was a three-year starter for the middle school team.

One of these gentlemen will be asked to carry the football as the starting running back. That job could go to Jones as he is very similar in build to former Dresden tailback Dylan Yates.

"We are going to have a little bit of everything running the ball," the head coach said. "Two years ago we were full-spread. Last year we were more of a running team. We are going to try to do the best we can with what we have got. We have some packages put together depending on the players and the things the players do well at."

The Lions successfully defended their Region 7A title last sea-

son by going undefeated in league play. They were not able to repeat as the Class A state champions as their stay in the playoffs ended with a stunning loss in the second round of the playoffs.

That loss left a little sting in the Lion pride, which is something Dresden wants to avoid this year.

"There is a little bit that goes into that," the head coach said. "In the offseason, there is some talk about the little things that happened in the past season. It is not something we bring up all of the time. But it is something that has its place, it is where it needs to be and it is definitely a motivator to push a little harder."

The biggest challenge this season to Dresden's dominance in the region will be Lake County. The Falcons are coming off a semifinal appearance and bring back all but one starter. The Lions and Falcons will meet in Week 3 at Lake County.

Estes will only think about that game when the time comes.

"Looking at the upcoming season, you really do not want to pick out somebody like that and focus on that game," Estes said. "That is something that messes with the kids' heads. If they look past those first two games, then in Week 3 you walk in and you won't be successful as you want to be. What we want to talk about every week is focusing on the opponent for that week."

OFFENSE

The Lions should be solid offensively no matter who ends up

(See Page 13, Column 1)

5 TO WATCH



Drake Yates
Sr. • WR/DB



Tyrone Jones
Sr. • RB/LB



Zach Crawford
So. • QB/DB



Divers Lockhart Jr.
Jr. • WR/DB



Trevor Moore
So. • RB/LB