

McINTOSH

Jackson thrilled to be back

Dual-threat quarterback will also be used as a runner in Demons' backfield

BY DARRON PATTERSON
Sports Correspondent

McINTOSH — It's been a whirlwind few months for McIntosh's T.J. Jackson.

In the course of a few weeks, he went from practicing with his team for what people around here hope is one of the Demons' better seasons to not knowing if he'd play here at all, to finally getting the good news he'd waited for.

"I'm going to be here," said a happy Jackson about knowing he'll be back at quarterback for McIntosh, after having resolved some things with his family about moving out of state.

"I'm looking forward to a good season," he said.

He then added this bold statement. "I think we can go undefeated," he said, no doubt circling some key games on his calendar the Demons fell short in last year.

They were 2-1 before dropping a 35-14 decision at Millry and took a 3-2 record into the game against rival Sweet Water, one of the biggest home games in recent McIntosh history, only to get spanked, 61-20.

Individually, he completed only 100 of 235 pass attempts last season (42 percent) for 800 yards, 10 touchdowns and eight interceptions. But he ran 90 times for 720 yards and eight TDs.

"We have some guys coming back who I know are hungry for the season to get here and are ready to just go out and play," said Jackson, a dual-threat quarterback who's run a 4.56 40-yard dash, benched 215 pounds and squats 455 pounds.

"We've worked really hard all offseason, and even though a lot of us know we're going to have to be in the greatest of shape to play both ways, we're ready for the challenge," said the 5-foot-7, 180-pound Jackson, who'll also see time at running back.

"I think we are all on the same page to win and coach (Renard) Davis lets us just be us. I think we're all just ready to go. We've been working extra hard to not have some things happen to us that went wrong last season.

"We're ready."



McIntosh quarterback T.J. Jackson

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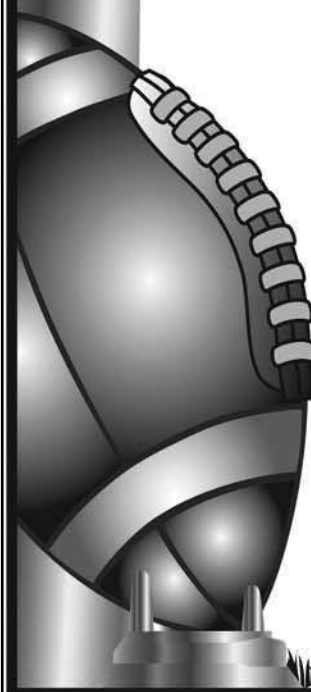
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