

Mustang Broncos thriving in year two of Dollar Defense

By Stan Moss
Contributing Writer

Mustang defensive coordinator Sam Dollar, the architect of the Dollar Defense, really doesn't care who the Broncos are up against, his defensive philosophy remains the same.

"We just take each opponent and look at them on film and see what they're trying to do," said Dollar. "We'll take away what they want to do and make them beat us by doing something else. We're not really worried about them; we're worried about us and our execution. I'll be as ready for Choctaw (the first scrimmage) as I am Stillwater (second game). We treat every game the same."

The defense only returns

three starters, but there is an abundance of players who have good experience playing in the Dollar Defense. Senior Linebacker and team captain Koreion Hayden, senior defensive lineman Anthony Gscheidle, and senior cornerback Wesley Haddox are the returning starters, and the defense will be counting heavily on them. Some of the younger players with experience are sophomore two-way player (DB/WR) Jacobe Johnson, senior linebacker and team captain Adam Brotherton, and senior safety Karston Keene.

With all the spots to replace and 120 young men on the roster, as you can imagine the battles for starting jobs are friendly and fierce. Dollar mentioned sophomore linebacker Hudson

Conrad, junior linebacker Morgan Johnson, and sophomore linebacker Jaxon Bobbitt as players that are locked in hot position battles. "We had seven different linebackers getting consistent reps yesterday in practice," said Dollar.

Dollar was the mastermind behind a defense in Naples, Florida that had seven shutouts in one season. That team was part of an established program that had been successful for several straight years. Dollar is realistic about the present and hopeful for the future.

"You have to remember where we are," said Dollar. "We're just in the second year of a brand-new program. When we get into the fourth and fifth years you'll see a huge difference. It takes time."



-File photo
Mustang's Jacobe Johnson sacks a Moore quarterback during a game last year. The sophomore has received multiple offers from Division I schools.

Mustang Breaking down the Broncos schedule

Sept 4
at Yukon Millers
Last Year:



Mustang, 38-0

The 2020 edition of the Canadian County Conflict, with mark the 48th consecutive year that these rivals have tangled. Mustang leads the series 27-20 and hopes to add to that total this year. Yukon turned in a 4-6 record in 2019, even though they had one of the most potent offenses in class 6A. The Millers' attack averaged 405 yards rushing per game, tops in all classes. Yukon returns eight starters on offense, most notably senior running back Caden Hernandez, who averaged over 14 yards per carry, and junior Makari Slaughter, who averaged 9.3 yards per attempt. The defense was young last year, but the Millers are now loaded with experience. Look for the defense to be much improved.

Oct 1
at Southmoore SaberCats
Last Year: Mustang, 66-24



Southmoore enters the season with a new coach and a new attitude as Josh Norman takes over the reins for his first year with the team. The SaberCats went 1-9 last season and are looking to have a bounce back season. The running game will be strong, with seniors Kris Wilson and Corey Durham running behind a rugged offensive line that includes senior tackles Zach Wertzberger and Mac Garner. The defense returns eight starters and should be much improved. Junior outside linebacker Tyler White and senior defender Joe Staver had 189 tackles between them last year. Kicker Cameron Little only missed two kicks all of last season and is considered one of the best placekickers in 6A.

Oct 30
at Putnam City Pirates
Last Year: Did not play



The Pirates have won only one game in the last two seasons, but look for rapid improvement with a new coaching staff. Head Coach Carter Whitson is bringing in his high-flying, up tempo offense, and he hired former OU All-American Rufus Alexander in to head up the defense. Either junior Marcellus Hawkins or senior Greg Hays will be the triggerman at quarterback for the Pirates. Senior Seth Wisby will get the nod at running back, and seniors Adrian Scott and Dante Henderson will head up the receiving corps. Coach Alexander brings in a 4-3 defense that will be attacking offenses from multiple variations of the 4-3 depending on what formation the offense is running from.

Sept 11
Stillwater Pioneers
Last Year: Did not play



The Pioneers have played in the last two Class 6A-II championship games, losing to Bixby both years. Stillwater has put together back-to-back 12-1 seasons and has plans to bring home that gold ball in November. Senior running back Qwontrel Walker will try to add to his already gaudy numbers in an offense that will emphasize the run game. Walker has amassed over 5,700 yards and has scored 67 touchdowns in three years. But defense is the name of the game for Stillwater. The secondary is one of the best in 6A, and the linebacking corps is a hard-hitting group, featuring junior Gabe Brown and senior Eyeul Abame. The Broncos will have their hands full in this one.

Oct 9
Tulsa Union Redskins
Last Year: Mustang, 23-21



Mustang's thrilling, come from behind, last-second win over Union last year marked the first time the Broncos have beaten the Redskins in school history. Union was 6-5 last season, a very poor record in the eyes of Union faithful. The Redskins are looking to come back strong and have their eyes on their 20th district title in the last 23 years. The offense is full of D-1 recruits and will be led by quarterback Rovaughn Banks and wide receiver A.J. Green. Five starters return from last season's defense, and a lot of younger players now have another year of experience under their belt. Senior defensive linemen Marlee Forsberg and junior linebacker Gabriel Ford will anchor the defense.

Nov 6
at Moore Lions
Last Year: Mustang, 49-35



The Lions are a team on the rise. Their 6-6 record last year earned them a spot in the playoffs, where they upset Edmond Santa Fe. Offensively, Moore runs a spread that will stretch defenses. Senior wideout Brandon Girard will lead this high octane offense. He had 785 yards receiving and another 253 yards rushing for 1,038 total yards from scrimmage. The defense is an opportunistic, ball-hawking group that has a lot of experience returning. Senior linebackers Austin Gross and Blake Jaques will spearhead this defense, along with senior strong safety Jacob McLaughlin. The Lions are replacing both cornerback positions, so if the new CB's develop quickly, this will be a formidable defense.

Sept 18
Norman Tigers
Last Year: Did not play



Finally, the Broncos play a passing team. The Tigers went 7-4 last season but were hit hard by graduation. The quarterback position isn't settled, but whoever wins the job will have an outstanding group of receivers at his disposal. Senior Jaden Bray had 936 yards receiving and scored 11 touchdowns last year, and junior Edric Lambert at H-back will be a threat in the passing and running games. The Tiger defense only has three starters coming back, so defense will be a big unknown until a few games into the season. Senior free safety Isaac Raymond-Brown and senior linebacker Cedric McClendon will be two important cogs on the defense.

Oct 15
at Edmond North Huskies
Last Year: Mustang, 49-21



The Huskies are going to forget last year's dismal 1-9 campaign and focus on the future. Coach Tanner roof says the team's attitude is positive and motivated. The Huskies will be led on offense by a very good offensive line, including seniors Sam Valiant and John Tero at the tackle positions. Big-play receiver senior Xander Steele and junior running back Jarrett Whitefield will provide the punch for the offense. Defensively, the Huskies will line up in a 3-4, depending on the linebackers and secondary to do the heavy lifting. Senior Ethan Betchan at linebacker had 98 tackles last season, and senior Bodie Klepper made an eye-popping 90 tackles from the free safety position.

Sept 25
Norman North Timberwolves
Last Year: Norman North, 23-20

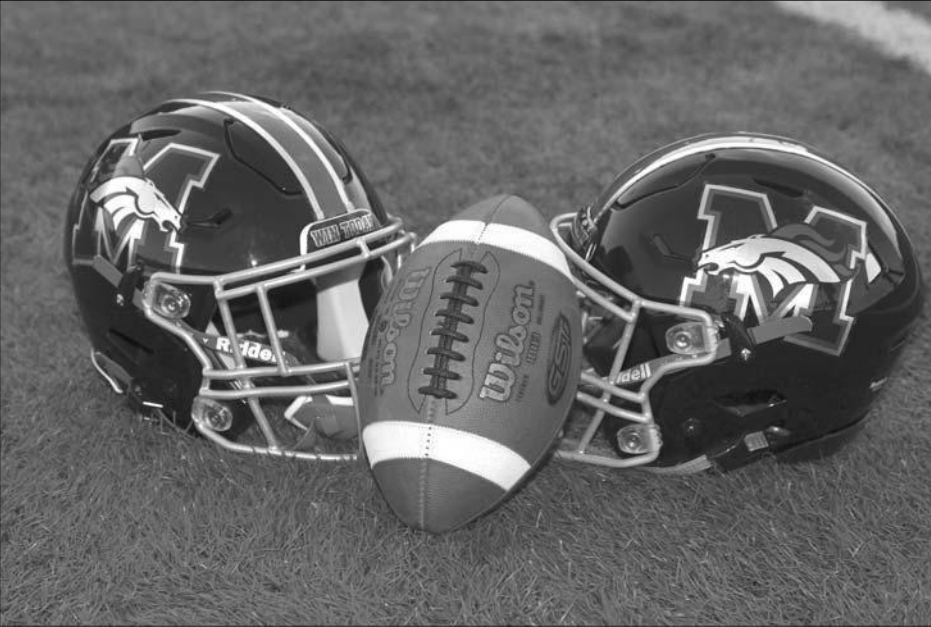


Norman North has won five straight against Mustang, but Mustang leads the series 11-9. Last season's nail biter at Norman North featured T-Wolves senior running back Gabe Trevillison, who toted the rock 31 times for 205 yards and two touchdowns against the Broncos. Senior quarterback Jackson Remualdo threw for almost 1,300 yards last year, and is a running threat every time he has the ball. Defensively, the T-Wolves are very athletic and have a strong group of returning starters to go along with some promising young faces. Defensive backs Eli Moulton and Jake Tadlock, both juniors, will anchor a very good Timberwolves secondary.

Oct 23
Owasso Rams
Last Year: Owasso, 24-10



The Rams have stepped up in class and have joined Tulsa Union and Jenks as the beasts of the east. Owasso didn't lose a game last year under Coach Bill Blankenship on their way to a state title. The offensive line remains mostly intact and has a lot of experience, which will be needed to help a new quarterback. The QB position is up for grabs, but the Rams are solid at all of the other skill positions. Senior running back Derrick Overstreet and senior wide receiver Trey Goins will spearhead the Rams' attack. On defense, Owasso will have to replace three very good defensive backs due to graduation. There is depth at linebacker and the defensive line, who will have to step up until the new secondary gels.





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