

# FRANKFORT PANTHERS



## GAME SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 11	<b>SHELBY COUNTY</b> SHELBY COUNTY   7:30PM
SEPTEMBER 18	<b>WESTERN HILLS</b> FRANKFORT HIGH SCHOOL   7:30PM
SEPTEMBER 25	<b>WOODFORD COUNTY</b> WOODFORD COUNTY   7:30PM
OCTOBER 2	<b>MAOSN COUNTY</b> FRANKFORT HIGH SCHOOL   7:30PM
OCTOBER 9	<b>EMINENCE</b> EMINENCE   7:30PM
OCTOBER 16	<b>KENTUCKY COUNTRY DAY</b> KENTUCKY COUNTRY DAY   7:30PM
OCTOBER 23	<b>BEREA</b> FRANKFORT HIGH SCHOOL   7:30PM
OCTOBER 30	<b>BETHLEHEM</b> BETHLEHEM   7:30PM
NOVEMBER 6	<b>HENRY COUNTY</b> HENRY COUNTY   7:30PM

Craig Foley, head coach of the Frankfort Panthers football team, has higher expectations for his players this season after returning all but four players and an abundance of the group's talent and offensive production. With that much talent and preparation, the Panthers should theoretically be a better team when they step on the field this fall.

"We better," said Foley. "That's the expectation anyway, all of our skill is returning, our guys up front are all back."

The coach went on to say that of the four seniors who graduated this past spring, only one of them really contributed from day one (Ronnie Moore), while the others preferred soccer as their main fall sport.

All of the Panther's most efficient offensive weapons from a season ago are returning. Azeno Williams, Charles Ellis and Cameron Stone combined for 1,691 yards and 19 touchdowns rushing last season. Foley is putting an emphasis on the run game this year and expects the ball carriers to do the best with what the senior-led offensive line gives them.

"They will tell you too, that it's going start with the guys in front of them, but we have high expectations for those three guys. Four of those five starters are seniors so we're going put a

lot on those guys. We're going rely on our run game to set up our passing game this year," said Foley.

In seasons past, Foley has used the passing game to open up holes in the run game, but not this year. Despite the change in attack, he said his confidence in the arm of sophomore quarterback Sam Davis has not diminished, and Foley is happy with Davis' progression. Foley praised his coachability and his passion for the game, as well as his leadership on and off the field.

The Panthers coaching staff would like to throw the ball on every down, but with a group of runners this outstanding it's just not feasible. The pressure will be on the offensive line and running backs this year, and Foley believes that will create better, more quality opportunities for Davis to throw the ball.

"He wants to throw the ball every down so we've gotta tell him that's not quite how it's gonna work," the coach said.

Of course, it is all situational decision making for Foley and it is advantageous that he can choose between an outstanding runner like Williams or a very capable passer in Davis.

"If our run game is going well then that's really gonna free Sam up big time, but a lot of it too is how he's going to approach

it if we're in game mode and he's doing well and he's feeling confident and our guys are catching the ball we don't have a problem trying to throw it some either," said Foley.

Williams is heading into his junior season for the Panthers, and as the team's leading rusher and tackler, he knows he must carry a heavy load. His main goal for this season is to lead the team on and off the field and always be mentally ready for the next challenge, but more than anything he is just happy he gets to play football with his teammates.

"I expect myself to hold it, I play two important positions on both offense and defense. I'm most excited that we get to play, we almost didn't have a season this year. As an individual I've set mental goals that I need to accomplish as the season goes on, and I expect myself to be a good leader," said Williams.

The Panthers return all but one starter on defense and senior leadership from defensive lineman Tayshaun Hamilton and linebacker Jyden Graham will be critical to what could be an elite defensive unit for the Panthers this fall. Other key players such as Stone, Williams, defensive backs Xavier Cleveland, Javen Haskins, Damien Chadwell and defensive linemen Elijah Walker and Cameron Brooks will also

