

GREENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL



Jackets Expecting Big Things from Their Seniors

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The Yellowjackets are returning this season and have a lot of great potential this season on both sides of the ball. Head Coach Don Pitt will help to lead Greenfield to victory.

On the defense, two of the school's top tacklers are coming back with Hayden Smith and Samuel Thum.

Smith had a great season last year and Pitt expects to return again with just as much momentum as before.

Thum was fighting an injury as the time of the interview, but Pitt was hopeful they would not have to start without him and that he would come back to be one of the top tacklers like last year.

Chandler Finch is returning

as a linebacker, who had many tackle for losses last year and is very strong for the start of the season. Safeties Matt Scates and Will Harris will be on the field a lot playing for the team's defense. Corners Craig Ross, Blake Rodehaver, and Jackson Flowers are all set to work very well this season.

Rodehaver is new this season as a transfer and played very well during 7-on-7's and all are working to make the defensive line very strong.

Also on the defense is Derek Anderson, Ryan Cascio, John Featherston, all have helped to add speed and strength.

Merric Anderson is also back this year and Pitt expects good things from him and all the starters on the defense noting, "We have a good defense returning and we are gonna be real

strong on the run and we have a lot of seniors returning. We are senior-led, so looking for a lot of good things out of them."

Craig Ross is leading the offense as quarterback this year. He has a strong arm and doing well in practices and on 7-on-7.

He also is very aware while he is playing, able to avoid sacks and move down the field fast.

Pitt knows that this will lead to Greenfield being able to make a lot of good plays this season and is excited to see Ross in action during a game.

Hayden Smith is also starting; he stepped up last year when another player had an injury. He played well and is expected to bring that same energy this season. Ryan Cascio and Merric Anderson are two of the coaching staff is expecting good things out of.

Smith, along with Craig Ross and Chandler Finch, will all be working to gain a lot of yards this year.

Will Harris is a very versatile player this year and is all over the field, playing in whatever position is really needed out of him.

Pitt said something special with a lot of the seniors is that they know how to play many different positions and are able to do as they are told.

There are other players who have been waiting and now are ready to play. Those players include Drake McAlister, Garrett Garner and Cole Allen, with a lot of size up front and very solid people.

Special teams will see John Featherston returning as a kicker. Blake Rodehaver is the field goal kicker and will also kick off.

Samuel Thum and John Featherston can also punt when needed and Pitt feels that the special teams will be a big improvement from last year, which hurt the team later on in the season.

Even with all of these players, the numbers are still low right now for Greenfield. Most of that is from injuries and some players were out during the time of the interview.

It is something that Don Pitt said he expected to change as the season moved along so that they could have a team that will grow and be ready when they face off against tough teams.

One player out was Samuel Thum, who had a shoulder injury and there was a possibility he won't start on week one, but that could change. Pitt said once he gets going, he will be back to his old self.

After COVID, the team came back strong, but that does not mean there are not some different things about the team.

"There have been some differences," Pitt noted. "There are some guys who took the break and never got back into it, and they have gotten used to being at home. Hopefully that will change, and we are going through a low spell right now. I wanna see more participation



Greenfield High School Cheer Team front Row (Left to Right) Addy Usery, Lilly Dodson, Courtney Mathews, Ava Crawford, Kylie Dunlap, Malorie Jennings, and Rilee Ricketts. Back Row (Left to Right) Olivia Jones, Alysha Stegall, Channing Hardin, Annan Sullivan, Brianna Walker, and Rachel Rodriguez. Coaching Staff: Abby Huffstetler



Greenfield High School Head Coach Don Pitt and Assistant Coaches: Chris Spurlock, Caleb Crofts, Chris Renison, John Liggett, Rusty Darby, and Tyler Mitchell.

from the students." The low numbers have resulted in the team struggling to arrange an 11-on-11 in practice and the scrimmages that were coming up were being looked forward to as they see where the team is and how the rest of the season will look.

Pitt hopes that when the season starts, they will have a few more players back from injuries. It is making the coaches change so that the team can get the best they can during practices and be ready for the start of the season.

Looking at the season, Trenton is a very anticipated game for the coaches. Lake County and Trenton will be the biggest teams for them to play against this season, along with West Carroll, Humboldt and Halls, which is new for the team and a long travel for them.

Pitt does expect to get to the championships this year, and compared to last year, he is hoping to pick up where the Jackets left off and win some games, fight to the end and make sure they walk away doing their best. Two players who are helping

that dream become a reality are Hayden Smith and Samuel Thum.

Both of whom are very active leaders, and like all the seniors, help to lead the team.

Pitt said Greenfield has a good senior group with strong leadership qualities since they are being looked up to by the younger players on the team.

Greenfield has also seen some changes to the coaching staff this year, with the addition of two coaches, who are graduates from UT Martin. This is also the first year coaching for both. Caleb Crofts and Chris Spurlock bring a lot of eagerness to the staff and practices. They are making practices fun with their energy, learning how Greenfield does things and are a great addition, Pitt said.

Pitt concluded, saying this season the team is really looking at what they need to do to improve and move forward.

"We talk about this a lot, that the boat sails everyday and those who are not on it get further and further behind. They need to be worried about



Head Coach Don Pitt

what they can control and fight everyday for what they can do to win games."

The Greenfield Yellowjackets travel to Lion Country on Friday, August 27 to take on the Dresden Lions in Dresden.

GREENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE		
Date	Team	Venue
August 13	Fulton Co. (Jamboree)	Home
August 20	South Fulton	Away
August 27	Dresden	Away
September 3	Halls*	Away
September 10	OPEN	
September 17	Peabody*	Home
September 24	Gleason	Home
October 1	Humboldt*	Home
October 8	Bruceton	Away
October 15	West Carroll*	Away
October 22	Gibson County	Home
October 29	Lake County*	Away

* Denotes region 7A Games

GREENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL ROSTER		
No.	Name	Position
1	Craig Ross	QB/DB
3	Chandler Finch	RB/LB
4	Tyler Isbell	HB/DB
6	Alex King	MLB
8	Elijah St. Romain	WR/DB
14	Will Harris	QB/DB
15	Matt Scates	QB/DB
20	Chase Simmons	RB/DB
24	Hayden Smith	RB/LB
26	Blake Rodehaver	WR/SS
28	Chance Simmons	WR/DB
30	Hunter Drinkard	WR/DB
33	Samuel Thum	WR/DB
41	Omarion Miles	HBL/LB
42	John Featherston	HBL/LB
57	Cole Allen	OL/LB
58	Landon Clark	OL/DL
62	Layonn Reynolds	OL/DL
65	Merric Anderson	OL/DL
68	Ryan Cascio	OL/DL
71	Trevor Birdwell	OL/DL
73	Garrett Garner	OL/DL
77	Drake McAlister	OL/DL
80	Jackson Flowers	WR/DB

Head Coach Don Pitt

Assistant Coaches: Chris Spurlock, Caleb Crofts, Chris Renison, John Liggett, Rusty Darby, and Tyler Mitchell
Managers: Emma Cooper and Destiny Griffin.
Film: Tres Douglas.

GOOD LUCK TO OUR WEAKLEY COUNTY FOOTBALL TEAMS!!

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Good Luck Greenfield Yellowjackets

and...
Coach Don Pitt

from everyone at **GREENFIELD BANKING COMPANY**

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