

# Owls

From page C - 8

started a little run we had there in the middle of the season late in that game.”

“We pulled within a score after getting down early, made a change at quarterback and we got a little momentum behind us. We started seven sophomores last year — and with a young team they are going to have their mishaps. We committed a few turnovers and a couple of penalties that put us behind the eight-ball.”

“But we saw some things that we could turn around after that DeKalb game. That set us on a better path.”

“DeKalb brings a lot of guys back. I think they are going to have around 40 to 50 guys on their team as well. They bring back their quarterback, running back and they have a big, physical offensive line. Coach (Michael) Shaw does a good job with their defense over there. They are going to be well coached so that will be another test for us early.”

2021 RESULT:  
DEKALB Co. 33, SMITH Co. 14

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 SCHS AT MAPLEWOOD

“We came into that game last year 0-2 going into that region game against Maplewood. We kind of struck lightning in that game — we got a lot of momentum behind us. We scored 56 points, our first team shut them out — our JV gave up a score or two late in that game. Maplewood is very athletic — they are going to be a lot more athletic than we are. They are going to have a lot of speed on the edges.”

“Coach Erik Davis was in his first year last season. He is doing the best he can with that program and trying to get their culture turned around — get guys bought in. That is one thing you never count out with Maplewood — is their athleticism and their speed.”

“We have to be diligent that we are playing fundamentally sound football, make sure nothing gets behind us, keep everything in front of us and do our job. We also need to keep their offense off the field.”

“We have to put drives together and score when we can. We can not give up big plays on special teams either.”

2021 RESULT:  
SMITH Co. 56, MAPLEWOOD 16

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 SCHS AT WESTMORELAND

“They were probably one of the better 0-4 teams in the middle of the season last year — in the state regardless of classification. They were also a young team last year.”

“They were very sound on defense, very hard-nosed and very physical.”

“We were lucky to win that game the way we did, 18-0. They missed a lot of opportunities just like we did with turnovers in the redzone or penalties killing drives. They dropped passes on two touchdowns and had a score called back because of a penalty.”

“The saying is ‘it is better to be lucky than good’ but we came out of that game with a win. Hats off to Coach Jason Harville and our defense — they did a great job of keeping that Westmoreland team out of the endzone.”

“They are just like us — they were young last year and bring back virtually everybody. They are going to be very well coached on defense. You are going to have to play a defensive slug-fest with them — it is not going to be very high scoring game. That is going to be another big non-region game for us.”

2021 RESULT:  
SMITH Co. 18, WESTMORELAND 0

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 SCHS AT WALKER VALLEY

Walker Valley was a big game for us last year. They are a big 5A program. They were 3-1 when we played last year. They were a high powered offense — up to that point in the season they were averaging 35 points a game. We took them to triple overtime after kicking a few field goals.”

“We had a lot of mishaps that game. We caused three turnovers but we could not put the ball in the endzone when we needed to. We also had a few turnovers and penalties.”

“They are going to be a good 5A program. They play in a tough region in East Tennessee. We are going to be affected by the long drive. We are going to have to get on some charter buses, travel a long way and play in a different time zone — but we cannot let that affect us. We cannot let that distract us.”

“Coach (Drew) Adkins does a great job with that program. They are going to spread the field and they are going to make you cover every single inch. They have some physical guys on defense as well. We are going to have to be very fundamentally sound and cover every inch of the field.”

“We are going to have to keep their offense off the field. So we are going to have to grind with long drives and put points on the board when we can.”

2021 RESULT:  
WALKER VALLEY. 19, SMITH Co. 13 (3OT)

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 TROUSDALE CO. AT SCHS

“Trousdale County is a perennial powerhouse in Class 2A and Middle Tennessee. They are a very good football team and they are well coached. They have a lot of speed and athleticism.”

“They graduated a lot but that has never stopped them before. Coach (Blake) Satterfield does a good job there and Coach (Kyle) Gregory does a good job.”

“I coached there for three years. It is good to go back and see those guys when we play against them. I coached these guys when they were in junior high up to their sophomore years — they are their rising seniors now. So they have some talent on that team. It is going to be a hard-nosed game.”

“It is going to be a fist fight in a phone booth and whoever blinks first is who is going to lose. We just have to make sure we can trade blows and we can come out of there with a win.”

2021 RESULT:  
TROUSDALE Co. 34, SMITH Co. 16

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 STRATFORD AT SCHS (HOMECOMING)

“Stratford has a new head coach. We do not know much about them and what they are going to do yet. Coach (Thomas) Porter did a great job while he was there at Stratford.”

“They are a Metro school, they are in our region and it is Homecoming. I hope that is not going to be a distraction for our group. It is kind of a coach’s worst nightmare — Homecoming and Senior Night because everyone is distracted.”

“We just have to keep our guys heads on, keep them level and make sure they know the task at hand and that is to win a region football game — first and foremost.”

“Being a Metro school, they are very fast and very athletic. They have some size to them too.”

“Last season, we were fortunate enough to drive down with 30 seconds to go and score — to make it a two score game. It stayed a two score game after that. They pulled within 14-7 and we had to buckle up and buckle down to win the game.”

“It is another region game where we are going to have to perform — we need to show up and show out. We cannot let their speed and athleticism break the game wide open.”

“We are going to have to be sound on special teams, we are going have to get guys on the ground. We are going to have to gang tackle and swarm to the football.”

2021 RESULT:  
SMITH Co. 24, STRATFORD 7

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 SCHS AT JACKSON CO.

“Coach (Sean) Loftis does a great job at Jackson County with what he has to work with. He is a very good football coach and he is always going to have Jackson Co. prepared.”



MARY BAKER / COURIER

2022 SMITH COUNTY HIGH SOPHOMORE, JUNIOR, SENIOR LINEMEN — Kneeling from left: Landon Butler, Trenton Solomon, Paxton Hix, Seth Barnhart. Second row from left: Ty Martin, Jamison Keeley, Joedaniel Stout. Third row from left: Javier Gaspar, Jimmy Enoch, Dane Woodard, Braxton Sircy. Not pictured: John Summers.

“It is another region game. I believe they graduated a large senior class.”

“We really do not know what they are going to do. Coach Loftis is going to do what ever he needs to put his guys in best possible position. It could be a Pro-Style offense, a Wing-T offense or a Spread offense and he could change it week to week. He is that good of a coach on getting his guys prepared.”

“They are going to be physical. Jackson Co. is always a physical football team. We are going to have to match their physicality if we want to perform well.”

“It will be another late region game where we cannot just let the veil be pulled over our eyes whether we are up or down. We are going to have to play hard-nosed football to win that game.”

2021 RESULT:  
SMITH Co. 35, JACKSON Co. 7

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21 MACON CO. AT SCHS (SENIOR NIGHT)

“Macon County is a cross-county rivalry. It was another game that we went into overtime last year.”

Coach Kyle Shoulders has done a great job with that program. I think they have made the playoffs every year that he has been up there.

“They are a hard-nosed football team. They scrimmaged Friendship Christian in the fall and Watertown in the spring. You hear the same thing — that they are a hard nosed group. They do not have a lot of guys on the roster. They are similar to us — around 35 to 40 guys. But they get the most out of the guys on the field — those 11.”

“They are a gritty football team and we are going to have to control the line of scrimmage and we cannot get behind the chains with them. We are going to have to play sound defense with Coach Shoulder running his offense with the Wing-T.”

“He is going to move you, motion you and he is going to try to outflank you. We are going to have to be assignment sound and play very fundamental — if we want to come out of there with a non-region win.”

2021 RESULT:  
SMITH Co. 20, MACON Co. 14

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 EAST NASHVILLE AT SCHS

“I could not say enough positive things about Coach Jamal Stewart and his coaching staff — and what they have done at East Nashville.”

“Right now, in our region they are the team to beat. Even in 3A, they have a target on their back from what they did last year. I believe they only graduated eight or nine guys, but they bring back a lot of talent. They are very well coached. You can watch them in every film you have — in the way they play. They do it the right way.”



MARY BAKER / COURIER

2022 SMITH COUNTY HIGH FRESHMEN LINEMEN — Kneeling from left: Cody Stafford, Dominic Restrepo, Dylan Tomlinson. Standing from left: Eli Knipper, Bryson Halliburton, Nolen Young, Jonathan Guinn.

“They are a very well motivated team. They went all the way to the State Championship game and they lost to Alcoa. They are planning to do that again — by bringing back a good core group.”

“They have a massive offensive line. They have a lot of speed and they are very disciplined in what they do. It is going to be one of our harder games of the season — if we want to contend in this region and if we want to be competitive going into the playoffs after that Week 10 game.”

“Hopefully, the Region Championship is determined in that game and we get them here in ‘The Hole’ at our stadium.”

2021 RESULT:  
EAST NASHVILLE 36, SMITH Co. 0

Serving Middle Tennessee for over 125 years

## D.T. McCALL & SONS

**Offering a wide selection of:**

- Appliances • Dining Room Furniture
- Living Room Furniture • Bedroom Furniture
- Home Decor • Safes • Lawn Equipment
- Central Heat & Air Units

Full service department for appliances & electronics  
**615-735-2360**

A local business that keeps your money local

**D.T. McCALL & SONS** FURNITURE-APPLIANCES-ELECTRONICS

FREE DELIVERY & SET-UP WITHIN 125 MILES - WE FINANCE  
www.dtmccalls.com

CARTHAGE Public Square 615-735-2360 Mon-Fri, 9:00-5:00 Sat. Closed	Nashville Lile 258-9824	LAFAYETTE Scottville Road 943-9996-9997 Mon-Fri, 9:00-5:00 Sat. Closed	LEBANON 1300 South Jefferson Ave. 615-656-1111 615-288-7231	COOKEVILLE 1300 South Jefferson Ave. 615-656-1111 615-288-7231
---	-------------------------------	---	--	---



MARY BAKER / COURIER

2022 SMITH COUNTY HIGH RUNNING BACKS — Kneeling from left: Ja’kodi Gibbs, Jaeden Evans, Jay Howell. Standing from left: Bryce Currie, Ethan Madewell, Hayden Bush, Jamison Keeley. Not pictured: Kylan Johnson, Hunter Weilacher.

## Go Big Owls

*Kemp's Studio*

*547 Defeated Creek Hwy*

*Carthage, TN 37030*

*615/774-3469*

*www.kempstudio.com*

*Because we care about your needs*

