

Continuity, size key factors for 2022 Owls

2022 Owls Football Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
AUG. 20	GORDONSVILLE	CARTHAGE	7:00
AUG. 26	DEKALB CO.	CARTHAGE	7:00
SEPT. 1	MAPLEWOOD	NASHVILLE	7:00
SEPT. 9	WESTMORELAND	WESTMORELAND	7:00
SEPT. 16	WALKER VALLEY	CLEVELAND	6:00
SEPT. 23	TROUSDALE CO.	CARTHAGE	7:00
SEPT. 30	STRATFORD (HC)	CARTHAGE	7:00
OCT. 14	JACKSON CO.	GAINESBORO	7:00
OCT. 21	MACON CO. (SN)	CARTHAGE	7:00
OCT. 28	EAST NASHVILLE	CARTHAGE	7:00

By Shea Haile
Courier Sports

CARTHAGE — The buzz around Smith County High football is palpable as the Black-and-Gold prepare to kick-off their 2022 campaign this fall under second year head coach Matt Dyer.

The Owls return a talented and experienced core group as they look to make a deep run into the Class 3A playoffs.

“The biggest thing we have going for us beneficiary-wise is we brought nearly everybody back from last season,” said Coach Dyer. “Last year, we came in and had a small senior class of just five guys and three of those guys were injured reserve all season. We really only had two seniors that played meaningful snaps last year in Luke Dillon and Andrew Wheeley.”

Dyer continued, “We bring back a lot of experience — with Wheeley we lost him at corner and Dillon as one of our backs. However, we are bringing back 10 guys on both sides of the ball. A lot of the guys we are bringing back are two or three year starters — so we bring back a lot of experience.”

“We only have 47 guys on the roster but of those guys we have about 22 or 23 that are going to contribute and get on the field in some capacity. They are going to bring a lot of experience with them.”

Among the returning pieces is massive offensive and defensive lines. Up front the Owls will be led by seniors Dane Woodard, an Austin Peay commit, Jimmy Enoch and Joedaniel Stout along with Class 3A All-State defensive line selection from last fall — Jamison Keeley.



MARY BAKER / COURIER

MATT DYER

SCHS Owls head coach

The unit returns juniors Ty Martin and Javier Gaspar who were All-Region selections a year ago.

Smith County’s roster includes nine upperclassmen (juniors and seniors) listed as offensive and defensive linemen.

The nine players average 291 pounds including three players at 300 plus-pounds: Gaspar (350 lbs), Woodard (348 lbs) and Jimmy Enoch (301 lbs).

Height wise the players average 6-feet with Woodard towering at 6’9” and Enoch standing at 6’4”.

Running behind the massive line will be returning senior tailback Bryce Currie who rushed for 1,247 yards last fall for the Owls and powered his way to seven rushing touchdowns.

Currie ran his way to a Region 5-3A Offensive MVP selection while also leading the Owls defense from his linebacker position.

Senior defensive lineman Keeley captured the 5-3A



MARY BAKER / COURIER

2022 SMITH COUNTY HIGH SENIORS — Kneeling from left: Jake White, Johnny Lyda, Hayden Bush, Josh Allen, Nathen Davis. Second row from left: Brooke Russell, Jamison Keeley, Tristin Washer, Bryce Currie, Joedaniel Stout. Third row from left: Hannah Anderson, Dane Woodard, Jimmy Enoch, Briley Halliburton.

Defensive MVP after racking up 92 tackles, nine sacks and 10 tackles for loss.

The Owls also returns juniors Peyton Hix who took home the Region 5-3A Offensive Back of the Year after passing for 429 yards and five touchdowns along with six rushing touchdowns and 627 yards.

Other All-Region players returning to the gridiron this fall for Smith Co. include seniors: Enoch, Tristin Washer. Junior All-Region players: Ty Martin, Kylan Johnson, Jay Phillips, Keylando Harris, Riley Lollar and Gaspar who was the league’s Kicker of the Year.

To compliment the star power returning to the field, Dyer will also benefit from retaining the program’s offensive and defensive coordinators from last season.

“Plus on the coaching staff side, we retained every coach we had last year — so we have

Please see OWLS page C-4



MARY BAKER / COURIER

2022 SMITH COUNTY HIGH FOOTBALL COACHING STAFF — Kneeling from left: Lee Rice, Brian Hackett, Matt Dyer - head coach, Brandon Rigsby. Standing from left: Alex Bray, Billy Barnhart, Steve Bray, Keith Powell, Jason Harville. Not pictured: David Reid, Mark Sampson.

Good Luck Owls & Tigers

Smith County’s oldest Real Estate and Auction Company,
where we take the stress out of buying or selling and handle everything for you.

615-735-2244

505 Main Street North

Carthage, Tennessee

Auctioneer #2629

Email:

poindexterrealty@comcast.net

Website:

poindexterrealty.com



Contact CD “Digger” Poindexter for a free consultation

615-418-0004



REALTRACS.

MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE
MLS

POINDEXTER REALTY & AUCTION