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PIGSKIN PREVIEW

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August 26, 2009

CHS experienced in backfield, on defense



By Bristow Marchant
Staff Writer

Last year, Clinton High School fielded a young football team led by a sophomore quarterback and finished the season with a 9-4 record, exiting the playoffs one game shy of the Upper State final.

Now, with many players from that team returning this season, the question will be whether the Red Devils can match or improve on that level of success.

Head Coach Andy B. Young, however, tries to keep everything in perspective. “We could not win a game this year,” he said, sitting in a messy locker room during the summer football camp. “Or they could win them all. It all depends on how hard they work, what kind of chemistry they have together. There’s still a lot to be told with this group.”

Grant Templeton is returning under center as a junior, with sophomores Keenan Caldwell and Neil Lee in the role of backup quarterbacks. Seven seniors will line up with them in the backfield — a running back committee of Taviouzie Booker, Zicorius Floyd, Montel Keit, Mario Peterson, Emery Rice, Deon Speaks and Tavarious Young.

They will be joined in the backfield by

juniors Shakeil Bates, Devontae Cromer and Neal McGowan, and sophomore Branderius Simpson. And if the quarterback gets an itch to throw, Ryheem Brown and Kenny Cook will stand out wide at receiver.

The offensive line will be younger on balance than the players behind them, but will still have some returning starters such as Zach Epting at guard and Ryan Underwood at tight end.

“Last year we had a lot of experience on the line and not as much in our skilled positions. Now the line is more of a chore,” Young said. “Last year we had some good seniors up front to protect a sophomore quarterback. This year I hope he’s learned to protect himself, because they’re probably going to make some mistakes.”

On defense, Bates and Cook will return at the two cornerback spots. Last season, Cook recorded nine interceptions for the Red Devils, tying a school record. Bates had three picks in 2008.

Other returning starters on defense include Speaks at linebacker, Tyrell Smith at defensive end, Rice at tackle, and Underwood at “bandit” in the secondary.

Peterson will return at strong safety, a position where he started some games last

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Alma mater entices Nichols for third time

By David Hays
For The Chronicle

When Presbyterian College called on Harold Nichols to become head football coach of his alma mater this year, it was an opportunity he couldn't pass up. But the former Blue Hose quarterback, who is now coaching here for the third time, almost never made it to PC.

A case of homesickness almost changed the course of his career.

In 1984, Nichols was quarterbacking the New Smyrna Beach (Fla.) High School Barracudas when he was first introduced to Presbyterian College through Blue Hose alumnus Art Baker.

"I went to a football camp at Florida State during the summer before my senior year of high school," Nichols said. "Art Baker was the quarterbacks coach at Florida State at the time. That's how I made the connection with PC."

Baker had tremendous pull in the Blue Hose community, having played at PC from 1950-52 and later becoming head football coach at Furman, The Citadel and East Carolina.

"I had never heard of Presbyterian College," said Nichols, who grew up just south of Daytona Beach. "I was up here about two weeks. I wanted to go home and my dad didn't let me. My dad told me I needed to stay up here and fulfill my commitment. I ended up having a great experience here as a player and as a student. I made a lot of life-long relationships."

On Jan. 14, 2009, Nichols was announced as PC's head coach, replacing Bobby Bentley. Nichols also coached here as an assistant from 1990-91 and again from 1997-99. He has also coached at Georgia Southern, Rhode Island, and Bucknell. This is his first time as a head coach.

"It's a huge sense of responsibility. I'm not just a head coach. I am the head coach of my alma mater," Nichols said, with a smile. "I represent every football player who has ever played here at PC. I represent every coach that's ever participated in this program. I feel a huge sense of accountability because a lot of people care about PC football. I am the caretaker of that."

Nichols was red-shirted as a freshman at PC in 1985. He was listed behind Scotty Mozingo and Ted Stevens on the quarterback depth chart. But he eventually got to play and would become a starter his junior year.



Coach Harold Nichols

His most memorable game was Oct. 1, 1988, at Wofford. Presbyterian beat the Terriers, 38-13, at old Gibbs Stadium when Nichols had a career day behind center.

"I was 9-for-10 for about 390 yards and Laverne Reddick had seven of those catches for about 300 yards," Nichols remembers. "They were really up trying to stop the run and I hit Laverne over the top on three really big plays, like 70, 80 yards. And he took a little screen to the house (end zone) one time. It was just one of those games."

"I never lost to Wofford as a player here. We also won the Bronze Derby (over Newberry) in my junior year (1988). That was a really big deal."

The best team success came in 1987 when the Blue Hose advanced to the second round of the NAIA playoffs.

"We lost to Dennis Franchione and the Pittsburg State Gorillas (42-21) in the second round," Nichols said.

"Scotty Mozingo broke his leg on the first play of the second half," Nichols said. "I came in and threw two second half touchdowns and ran for one touchdown. I was scared to death. They were a good football team. But it was kind of a coming out party for me as a player."

Nichols would graduate in 1989 with a political science degree and there are memories from the classroom as well.

"Dr. Tom Weaver, Dr. David Gillespie and Dr. Booker Ingram were great mentors for me and I really enjoyed being in their classes," Nichols said. "They were great people to be around. I wasn't a great stu-

dent. I had poor time management skills. But they kept me in line."

On the football field, Blue Hose head coach Elliott Poss was his mentor.

"Coach Poss passed away (in 2006) and I went to the funeral (in Elberton, Ga)," Nichols said. "Coach Poss was a great man. His wife Kathy and his two daughters are great people."

Nichols coached under Poss for one season before John Perry took over as PC's head coach in 1991.

Nichols wasted no time in starting his coaching career.

"I walked across the stage in December of 1989, got my degree, I got into a rental car, Coach Poss handed me a credit card, and I went to Charlotte and started recruiting," he said, with a grin.

His next move was another career turning point. Nichols went to Georgia Southern to serve on a staff with future Blue Hose head coaches Daryl Dickey and Tommy Spangler. He also found his future wife, the former Dee Cardell, in Statesboro, Ga. Dee was Georgia Southern's head volleyball coach.

"It has proven to be the perfect match. "Being a coach, you need to find some-

body that understands what you do. Her daddy was a high school basketball coach for 30 years. She grew up in gyms and on fields her whole life. She knew exactly what she was getting herself into. She is awesome. She is my head coach."

Dee is now a stay-at-home mom to their three children, 11-year-old Cassie who was born at Laurens County Hospital in 1998, and 8-year-old twins Corey and Cameron.

"(At Georgia Southern), I formed a relationship with Coach Dickey and Coach Spangler, and we loaded up in '97 and all came up here (to PC)," Nichols said.

Nichols coached the wide receivers, kickers and specialists, helping head coach Dickey take the Blue Hose from 5-6 in 1997 to 8-3 and 7-4 the next two seasons before taking the job at Rhode Island.

At Rhode Island, Nichols called all of the offensive plays and worked with the quarterbacks and running backs.

In 2008, Nichols was offensive coordinator and coached quarterbacks and running backs at Bucknell University.

But his alma mater came calling and that was enough to pull Nichols away from Lewisburg.

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CHS two-way starters need conditioning

season, and senior Tevin Boyd is a likely starter at free safety.

Senior Hayden Rogers will return as Clinton's field goal kicker. Underwood is expected to return as punter, and Kevin Deitz and Ke'otis Goggins will double as long snappers.

"We have several returning two-way starters," Young said. But when he saw what kind of shape his starters were in returning to practice after a long off-season away from the field, the Red Devils' coach was "not sure they should still do both."

"If they played every down right now, they would get worn out real quick," he said. "We're hunting every day for more starters. I'm looking for somebody to step up mentally and physically."

Young said he's had trouble determining what kind of shape his players are in because of new restrictions on pre-season practices.

"We're not in pads as much, and we



Top of the class: The senior leaders for the Red Devils are expected to captain the team. From left are Ryan Underwood, Kenny Cook, Deon Speaks, Taviouzie Booker and Zach Epting.

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Lack of depth, schedule worry coaches

can't use the dummies," he said. "So we're doing more conditioning, more weightlifting. We weren't allowed to dress out for a full practice until (Aug. 4). The first six we did in shorts and helmets."

The coach worries about a lack of depth on the team behind his returning starters.

"Injuries could develop," Young said. "We need the younger players to be ready to play, so we have an opportunity to rest the ones who play both ways."

Clinton will face two of the three teams which dealt them regular-season defeats last year at home; Woodruff on Sept. 4 and defending Region 3-AAA champions Greer Oct. 16. The Red Devils travel to take on the third team, archrivals Laurens, on Sept. 11.

Other tough road tests will be offered by Belton-Honea Path (Sept. 25), Riverside (Oct. 2) and Blue Ridge (Oct. 9).

Young also points out that the teams that open and close the season, Newberry (Aug. 28) and Chapman (Oct. 30) return most of last season's starters.



Coach 'em up: Clinton Head Coach Andy B. Young, far left, and his assistants are getting the Red Devils ready for a new season. To Young's right are Sean McCarthy, Nor Ann Pace, Dr. David Barnes, Stoney Lunsford, Todd Frazier, Bobby Jones, Andrew Webb, Lee Atkinson, Scott King, Chris Wofford and Sean Vick.



Varsity cheerleaders: Members of the Clinton High School varsity cheerleading squad for 2009-10 are shown above. On the front row, from left, are: Camille Watts, Brittany Campbell, Mary Kate Simmons; second row, from left: Alice Ruth Benjamin, Kertivia Spurgeon; third row, from left: Haleigh Wilson, Olivia Craven, Erica Davis; and back row, from left: Ashley Jacobs, Maggie Moore, Megan Benjamin, Mallory Simpson.

PC coach wants a more consistent team

said. "He has really done a good job changing the culture on defense here. He has really gotten after those guys and made them accountable. I think the schemes will be sound. I feel pretty confident about our defense under Tom's guidance."

The Blue Hose defense needs to improve after allowing 34.7 points, 265 yards rushing and 480 total yards per game in 2008. After coming on board in February, Evangelista has helped PC transition into what is listed as a 4-2-5 defense, which allows for more flexibility.

"You have to be multiple," Nichols said. "You've got to be able to do different things defensively."

Switching to the four-man front, the Blue Hose expect to line up with sophomore Derren Evans (6-2, 235) at left end, sophomore Brian Davis (6-0, 275) at tackle, senior Matt Freeman (5-11, 248) at nose guard, and senior converted linebacker Brian Leonardi (6-3, 225) at right end.

Backup defensive linemen include red-shirt freshmen Iouli Burroughs (6-1, 230),

Connor Hawkins (6-2, 240), Xavier Boatwright (6-5, 240) and Khiry Brown (6-2, 215), true freshmen Melvin Jones (6-0, 309), Matthew Roper (6-1, 280) and Bryan Shepherd (6-0, 275), sophomores Jeff Ervin (6-3, 210) and Lewis Coleman (6-1, 220), and junior Bryan McDaniel (6-2, 300).

There are several battles for starting positions and playing time at the bandit and WILL and MIKE linebacker positions. Leading candidates heading into fall practice were senior Josh Tavernier or junior J.R. Thomason at bandit, juniors Derek Brown or Chris Bowman (90 tackles, 101/2 tackles for loss last season) at MIKE, and red-shirt freshman Joe Wideman at WILL.

Leading the way in the secondary are junior Bo Tribble of Clinton at rover, junior Brian Wilson at one corner and sophomore Justin Bethel at the other corner. Bethel was named preseason second-team all-Big South, according to Phil Steele magazine, after recording 54 tackles as a freshman last season including 10 against defending national champion Appalachian State.

Other defensive backs who could see playing time include sophomores Damon

Lawrence and James Quad Roberts, red-shirt sophomore Jarrod Watts, and red-shirt freshman Steven Thomas.

"Defensively, I think we have some guys who can be difference makers. They have to prove it on Saturdays," Nichols said.

Returning place-kicker junior Cam Miller is being challenged by freshman Aaron Mayes, while freshman Patrick Morgano will handle punting duties.

One of the most watched positions on the team is at quarterback where red-shirt sophomore Brandon Miley (158-for-263, eight touchdown passes, 92 rushes, 319 yards last year) entered the preseason with a slight edge on senior Tim Webb (135-for-223, nine touchdowns). Webb started the first six games last season while Miley started the last six. Senior Parker Fleming and red-shirt freshman Myron Gary provide depth.

"I am not so sure that I won't play both of them," Nichols said of Miley and Webb. "They have both done really well. Parker Fleming and Myron Gary are two guys who provide some depth that are talented too. I feel really good about the quarterback position."

Former Laurens High School star Trandon Dendy (5-9, 215) has a chance to be the featured running back. The red-shirt junior rushed for 384 yards for Mars Hill College in 2006. He had minor knee surgery over the summer but is progressing well, Nichols said.

"Trandon can be a difference maker at the tailback position," Nichols said. "He can run. But he's a load."

Other backs who could see come carries include senior Travis Caldwell, red-shirt sophomore Mario Carter, and freshmen Lance Byrd and Seth Moreland.

The offensive line is fairly experienced with senior Nic Lanzo (6-2, 258) starting at left tackle, junior Grayson Sumner (6-2, 299) at left guard, junior Jared Tavernier (5-10, 264) at center, senior Andy Newton (6-1, 280) at right guard, and sophomore Max Travis (6-3, 280) at right tackle as of mid-August. Red-shirt sophomore Billy Kaylor (6-4, 279) is also a starting candidate. Lanzo and Tavernier were full-time starters last year, Sumner replaces Andrew Jenkins, while Lee Kiser and Jesse Painter graduated from the right side.

Preseason second-team all-Big South junior Robert Bumgarner (6-5, 241) leads the tight ends after catching 17 passes for 206 yards last season.

"Bumgarner is a very athletic, smart player, can catch the ball and is a pretty good blocker," Nichols said.

Senior Sam Wilson (6-3, 241) of Clinton



Mark Williams, a freshman cornerback from Lithia Springs, Ga., takes part in a fall practice scrimmage at Presbyterian College.

will likely see time as both a tight end and fullback. Other tight ends include juniors Zach Houston (6-1, 238) and Matt Gault (6-3, 215).

The quarterback will have some different targets this year, especially with the graduation of backs S.J. Worrell and Chetyuane Reeder, and receivers Brandon Clark and Terrance Butler. The receivers have been impressive in the spring game and in summer scrimmages.

The leading returning receivers are sophomore Patrick McKoy (18 catches, 237 yards), senior Matt Quinn (17 catches, 174 yards) and junior Jeremy Cole (16, 144 yards). Red-shirt freshman Sean Adegbola starred in the spring game and first scrimmage.

"McKoy is a dynamic player for us, good speed, athletic," Nichols said. "Sean Adegbola is very athletic. He looks like Terrell Owens out there. He is really a dynamic player. He has a chance to be a difference maker."

Slot receivers include junior Bruce Smith and red-shirt freshman Michael Ruff. Junior Tyler Robbins, sophomore Derrick Overholt, and true freshmen Derek Frost and Andrico Bailey are also in the mix.

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Blue Hose taking it ‘one game at a time’

By David Hays
For The Chronicle

When asked about goals for the 2009 season, new Presbyterian College head football coach Harold Nichols doesn't look too far ahead.

Roll your eyes if you want at the “one game at a time” mantra. But that is about as far as Nichols wants to look.

“My goal right now is to get to September 5th, get to the fourth quarter, and have a chance to beat Furman. That's what I want,” Nichols said of the season opener a week from Saturday.

“When we play up in Greenville on September 5th, I want to have a football team that won't beat itself, that will compete, that will give us great effort, will get lined up and execute, and let's get to the fourth quarter and see what happens.”

The 1989 PC grad will certainly look further down the schedule after the Furman game. But, for now, he wants the Blue Hose to start building a foundation with just the very next practice, whether it's this evening or tomorrow.

“With all the hoopla about going Division I and making the transition, for our kids, I just want them to concentrate on this next practice,” said Nichols, who was

named PC's head football coach on Jan. 14 to replace Bobby Bentley. He twice previously served on the Blue Hose staff (1990-91, 1997-99).

“I know it sounds coach-speak, like ‘one game at a time,’ but we really need to do that as we are building this thing. If we look at the big picture too much, that's when you run into problems.”

For those looking ahead, the schedule is tough. The home opener is Sept. 12 against Elon, followed by another game at Bailey Memorial Stadium on the 19th against Chattanooga. A fourth Southern Conference school follows when the Blue Hose visit The Citadel in Charleston Sept. 26.

Six of the remaining seven games are against Big South Conference rivals, starting with a long road trip to face new opponent Stony Brook, N.Y., Oct. 3. VMI, Liberty, Charleston Southern, Coastal Carolina and Gardner-Webb of the Big South dot the rest of the schedule along with a road trip to face non-conference foe Old Dominion.

This is PC's third season in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) after 15 years in NCAA Division

II. The transition has been exciting with a few ups and downs, including wins over the last two years against Coastal Carolina, VMI and Liberty. But after going 6-5 in 2007, the Blue Hose slipped to 4-8 last year.

“I want us to be a little more consistent this year,” said Nichols, who was offensive coordinator at Bucknell University in 2008 and served the same position at Rhode Island from 2000-07.

“There were games the last couple years where we beat some people that we shouldn't have beaten. But the next week we would get the tar beat out of us. I am trying to get some consistency in the program and try to build a good foundation. That's what we did here back in 1997 and that's what we have to do now.”

One of the first moves Nichols made upon being named head coach was hiring a new defensive coordinator, naming former Furman special teams and cornerbacks coach Tom Evangelista. He has also served as defensive coordinator at South Carolina State and the University of West Georgia.

“I always admired his defenses,” Nichols

Kirk worries about too much confidence

By Larry Franklin
Publisher

The Laurens Academy Crusaders are accustomed to winning football games. Head Coach Todd Kirk hopes his 2009 squad doesn't enter the season overconfident.

“Because of our success (40 wins in four seasons), I'm afraid of over confidence,” Kirk said prior to the season opener. “I've got talent again this year. We should win some games if we play hard. But we've got to produce.”

The Crusaders opened the season last Friday at St. John's and travels to Patrick Henry Academy this Friday.

Three years after a 1-9 season, the Crusaders began their winning ways in 2005 with a 7-5 season. They won the state championship in 2006 with a 48-40 win over nemesis Holly Hill Academy.

A return trip to the state finals in 2007 saw the Crusaders lose 30-22 to Holly Hill in double overtime. The only other loss that year was also to Holly Hill.


The 2008 season was the Crusaders' first in 11-man football and they advanced



Laurens Academy Head Football Coach Todd Kirk and his 2009 Crusaders will try to build on four successful seasons in which the team has won 40 games. In 2008, the first year of 11-man football, Laurens Academy advanced to the second round of the playoffs in the S.C. Independent Schools Association. -- Photo by Bristow Marchant



Sean Adegbola (2), a redshirt freshman from Grayson, Ga., had a breakout day in the Aug. 15 scrimmage at PC. Adegbola made a number of catches including a 19-yard giving catch on a fade throw and a 14-yard touchdown from quarterback Brandon Miley.

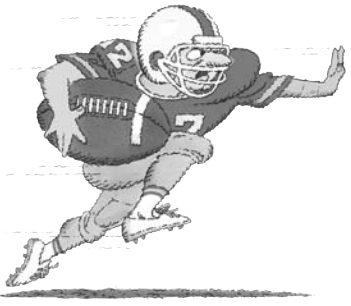



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Crusaders replacing all-star quarterback

been particularly pleased that Satterfield has not dropped any snaps in the shotgun formation. “We’re ahead of the game there,” he said.

Satterfield will have a choice of good receivers - returning starter Brandon Martin who has good foot speed, Griffin Shell, JT Lee and first-year player Michael Knight. “Michael is big and physical,” Kirk said. “He has been a surprise in (pre-season) camp.”

Justin Campbell will be the starting full-back in the I-formation. Joshua Caviness and Sam Giddens are fighting for the starting tailback job.

The Laurens Academy offensive line is big and experienced with four seniors and one junior.

“This is the best line I’ve ever had,” Kirk said. “They all have played here forever. Everybody knows the system. I’ve been coaching them since the seventh grade. They are experienced and big enough to move people. We’ve got to take the stress off the quarterback and run the ball some.”

Starting linemen will be Ryland Culbertson at left tackle, Devin Sprouse at left guard, Ethan Kirk at center, Charles Mace-more at right guard and Blake Mills at right tackle.

On defense, Lee and Mills will start at the ends, Culbertson and Caviness are the starting tackles, Sprouse and Campbell are the inside linebackers, Shell and Kyle Maddox start at outside linebacker, Knight and Ty Williamson are the corners and Christian Greene is the free safety.

“I want the kids to stay hungry,” Kirk said. “The older kids are trying to lead. At times, I have to lead them myself and they don’t like that. We’re playing well together. There’s not much selfishness.”

Assisting Kirk are Travis Plowden, who coaches linebackers and running backs, receivers coach Brandon Brewington and Greg Bailes, coaching defensive backs. Plowden also teaches at Laurens Academy. Brewington and Bailes are volunteer coaches.

Quarterback Alex Satterfield, 13, and Jacob Greene participate in pre-season conditioning. -- Photo by Bristow Marchant



Bell Street Middle will have two teams

Street’s red and white football teams will participate in scrimmages and jamborees on top of practice, practice and more practice.

“We’ve probably worked this group of players harder than any other team,” said Lapomarda.

Over the summer, rising eighth grade football players were allowed to participate in Summer Burn, the weightlifting program at Clinton High School. Many of the participants even earned the t-shirt that high school athletes earn for completing all of their workouts.

“We had really good participation in this program and it definitely helps when playing against larger schools,” said Lapomarda.

After practicing hard and Summer Burn, Lapomarda has great expectations for the Red and White football teams.

“We want the teams to learn the fundamentals of football, we want to teach them how to compete, and we want them to play hard during every game,” said Lapomarda.

Not only does Lapomarda have expecta-

tions for the team as a whole, but he also has expectations for each individual player.

“I expect each team member to show a level of commitment that average students don’t show, whether it be on the field, in the classroom, or in their behavior,” Lapomarda said.

This season, the White team will be playing teams in the Laurens conference, such as Laurens Junior High School, Hickory Tavern, and Sanders. The Red team will be playing against teams in the Greenwood conference.

The Red and White teams will compete against each other in the first match-up of the season on Thursday, Sept. 10 at 5 p.m. at the Clinton High School stadium.

Young guns: Members of the Wildcats run drills during pre-season practice at Bell Street Middle School. Players were divided between the Red team and the White team based on whether their birthday fell on an even or an odd day. — Photo by Bristow Marchant



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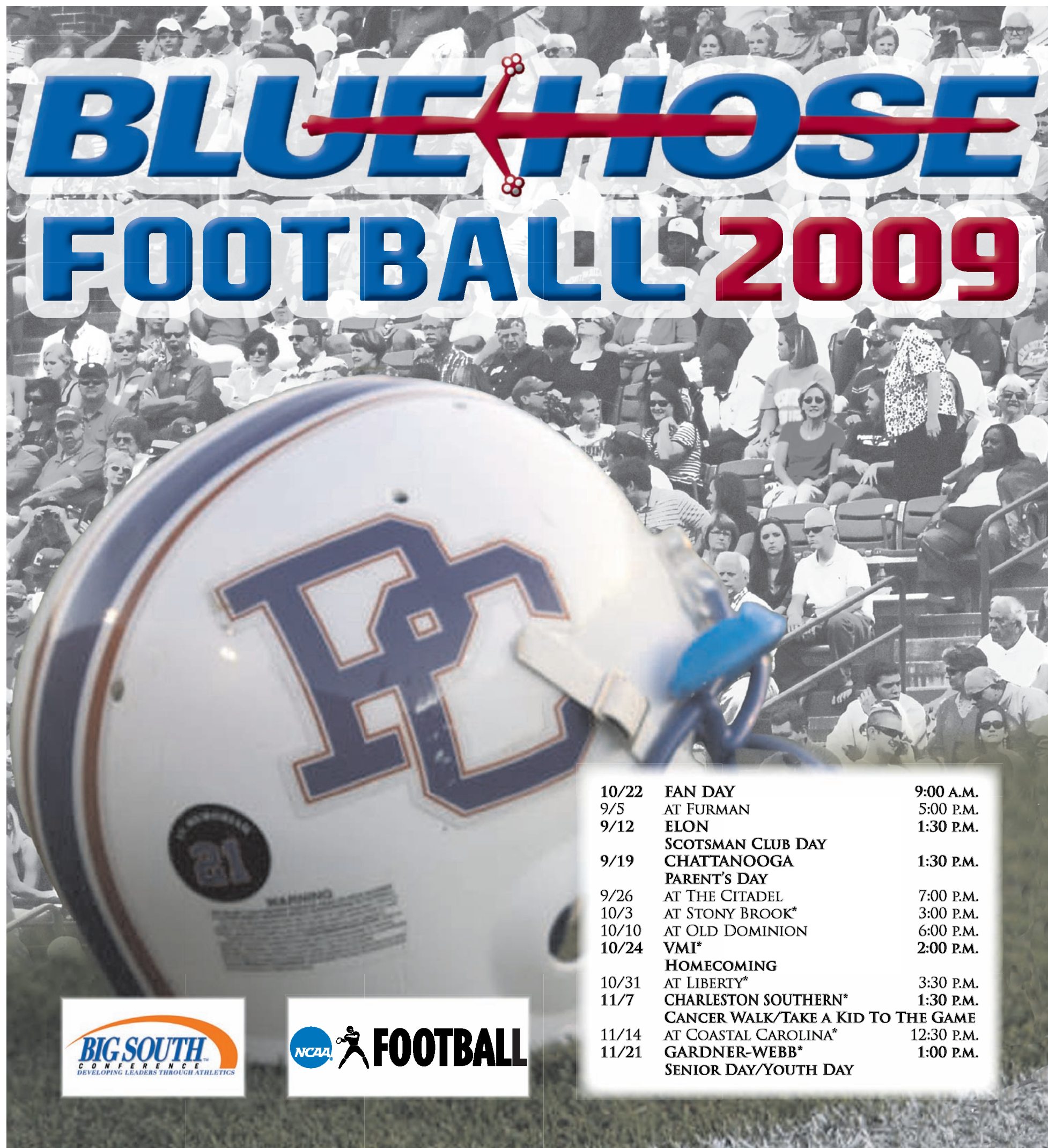
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10/22	FAN DAY	9:00 A.M.
9/5	AT FURMAN	5:00 P.M.
9/12	ELON	1:30 P.M.
9/19	SCOTSMAN CLUB DAY	
	CHATTANOOGA	1:30 P.M.
	PARENT'S DAY	
9/26	AT THE CITADEL	7:00 P.M.
10/3	AT STONY BROOK*	3:00 P.M.
10/10	AT OLD DOMINION	6:00 P.M.
10/24	VMI*	2:00 P.M.
	HOMECOMING	
10/31	AT LIBERTY*	3:30 P.M.
11/7	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN*	1:30 P.M.
	CANCER WALK/TAKE A KID TO THE GAME	
11/14	AT COASTAL CAROLINA*	12:30 P.M.
11/21	GARDNER-WEBB*	1:00 P.M.
	SENIOR DAY/YOUTH DAY	

Ninth grade Devils begin season Aug. 27

Lunsford, has expectations for his team. "We want to prepare each week for the upcoming game and make sure that the eight quarter varsity players are ready to play on Friday," Webb said.

Both teams will begin their season on Thursday, August 27 with the ninth grade team playing against Greenwood and the JV team playing against Newberry.

Webb is also preparing some of his players for the varsity's first game against Newberry on August 28.

"We have about 20 eight quarter players this year who will be playing for the junior varsity football team as well as the varsity football team," said Webb. "They attended camp and scrimmaged with the varsity team and we want them to come back and be team leaders."

With the eight quarter players acting as teams leaders, the JV team is working hard on learning the basics and what it means to be a Red Devil.

"When our players walk around school or the community with Clinton High School football shirts on, we want them to



Stand up and cheer: Junior Varsity Cheerleaders at Clinton High School. Front row, from left; Danielle Stone, Emily James, Alyssa Richey, Sophie Keyes, Brittney Williams, Victoria McGowan and Mary-Grace Green. Back row, from left; Jeanna Pate, Kelsey Davis, Anna-Paige Simmons, Jessica Cromer, Kristen Baker, Kamri Richey and Morgan Pate.

act right and represent us the right way," said Webb. "I believe it will help the players in the long run."



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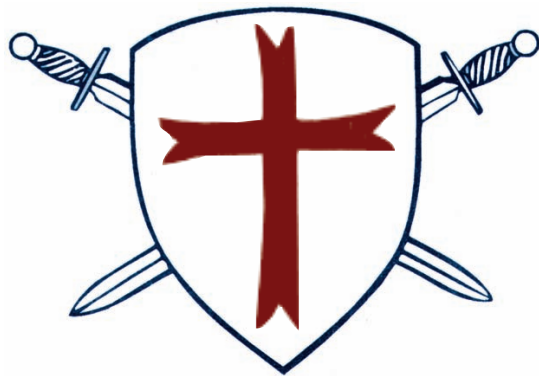


Wildcats learning the fundamentals of Clinton football

By Chandler Black
For The Chronicle

Last Tuesday, the Red and White football teams from Bell Street Middle School took the practice fields to prepare for their upcoming seasons. “The first few days of practice were all about getting in shape and teaching players the basic fundamentals of football, such as plays, blocking and tackling,” said John Lapomarda, the Red team head football coach. Each team is made up of 30-40 players

based on each team member’s birthday. If a player’s birthday falls on an even day, he is a member of the red team, while players with an odd birthday are on the white team. Lapomarda is assisted in coaching the red team by Heath Bryson and Walter Gary. Tosh Corley, the white team head football coach, is assisted by Mike Turner, Ryan Caughman and A.D. Gary. As the preseason progresses, Bell



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Best wishes for a great season!
~ *Booster Club* ~

Young Devils learning the Red Devil way

By Chandler Black
For The Chronicle

The younger generation Clinton High School Red Devils are at it again. Stoney Lunsford, the ninth grade head football coach, has been busy preparing his team for the upcoming season. “I’m hoping that they can get better every week, learn the basic fundamentals, and get ready to play varsity football,” said Lunsford.

Over the summer, each team member was required to participate in Summer Burn, the summer weightlifting program at the high school. The team also spent time running. Now, during the preseason, the ninth grade Red Devils are working harder than ever. “Right now, we’re going to go out and do basics, like stance, starts and alignment. We’re also going to get pads on and start hitting,” said Lunsford. As Lunsford thinks about the upcoming season, he says that he has the same expect-



Fresh men: The Clinton High ninth grade team does jumping jacks early one morning before football season kicks off. The freshman Red Devils host Greenwood tomorrow at home, while the junior varsity travels to take on Newberry. — Photo by Bristow Marchant

tations as every year. He expects his team to go undefeated, become better student athletes and prepare to be varsity football players. “I want each player to show effort, be a dependable team player, and do what needs to be done in the classroom,” Lunsford said. Just like Lunsford, junior varsity head football coach Andrew Webb is preparing his team for the 2009 football season. “This team is working hard on learning the basic fundamentals of football to get ready to play,” said Webb. As the season progresses, Webb, like

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Good luck area teams.
We hope you have a winning football season!



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