

# Fall Sports PREVIEW

2023

## Football, Volleyball and Cross Country

Baldwin County  
Bayshore • Bayside  
Daphne • Elberta  
Fairhope • Foley  
Gulf Shores • Orange  
Beach • Robertsdale  
Snook • Spanish Fort  
St. Michael

## Wild Ride

Behind the scenes with Foley's Auburn commit Thompson, Gulf Shores' NC State commit Royal on the recruiting trail

A publication of GULF COAST MEDIA

# Table of

# CONTENTS

<b>Baldwin County Tigers</b>	<b>Page 3-4</b>
<b>Bayshore Christian School Eagles</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>Bayside Academy Admirals</b>	<b>Page 6</b>
<b>Daphne Trojans</b>	<b>Page 7-8</b>
<b>Elberta Warriors</b>	<b>Page 10</b>
<b>Fairhope Pirates</b>	<b>Page 11</b>
<b>Cover Story: A Wild Ride on the Recruiting Trail</b>	<b>Pages 12-13</b>
<b>Volleyball &amp; Cross Country</b>	<b>Page 14</b>
<b>Foley Lions</b>	<b>Page 15, 17</b>
<b>Gulf Shores Dolphins</b>	<b>Page 16-17</b>
<b>Orange Beach Makos</b>	<b>Page 18</b>
<b>Robertsdale Golden Bears</b>	<b>Page 19</b>
<b>Snook Christian Academy Eagles</b>	<b>Page 20</b>
<b>Spanish Fort Toros</b>	<b>Page 21-22</b>
<b>St. Michael Catholic Cardinals</b>	<b>Page 23</b>

*\*Football schedules are subject to change\**

Publisher: Vince Johnson, vince@gulfcoastmedia.com  
Executive Editor: Kayla Green, kayla@gulfcoastmedia.com  
Sports Editor: Cole McNanna, cole@gulfcoastmedia.com  
Advertising: Bethany Summerlin-McCourt, bethany@gulfcoastmedia.com  
Frank Kustura, frank@gulfcoastmedia.com  
Shawna Stefankiewicz, shawna@gulfcoastmedia.com  
Publication Design: Jordan Dyess, jordan@gulfcoastmedia.com  
Photography: Micah Green, micah@gulfcoastmedia.com

On the cover: Foley's Perry Thompson and Gulf Shores' Ronnie Royal have come full circle on the wild ride of the recruiting trail, and they weren't the only ones from Baldwin County who fielded dozens of offers. Hear directly from the Auburn and NC State commits, respectively, on their recruiting roller coasters.

Photo by Micah Green



# Baldwin County TIGERS

- The Tigers are primed for a bounce back season with an open Week 1 before a road trip to Foley Sept. 1. Region play starts at home against Spanish Fort Sept. 8.
- Baldwin County's offense could be a ticking time bomb with athlete Ti Mims leading a loaded group of receivers to complement quarterback Preston Kiper.





**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**Baldwin County**  
**Tigers**  
— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**  
Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local taxes may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

**NORTH BALDWIN**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

301 McMeans Ave, Bay Minette, AL  
251-937-5665  
www.northbaldwinchamber.com



**Go Tigers!**

**Ansley Appliance & A/C Service**  
We Service Residential Appliances & Air Conditioning!

Certified Technicians  
Same Day Service  
www.ansleyapplianceservice.com



**251-348-5237**



QB Preston Kiper

**5 PLAYERS TO WATCH**

QB Preston Kiper  
ATH Ti Mims  
WR LeJames Daniel  
LB PJ Cook  
WR Damorien Andrews

2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE		
09/01	Foley	AWAY
09/08	Spanish Fort	HOME
09/15	Theodore	HOME
09/22	Blount	AWAY
09/29	MGM	HOME
10/05	McGill-Toolen	HOME
10/13	Saraland	AWAY
10/20	Murphy	HOME
10/27	St. Paul's Episcopal	AWAY
11/03	Robertsdale	AWAY



"We know if we can fight through our SEC West schedule to make it to the playoffs we've got a chance. This is a gruel grind we're in week to week, so if you can come out and find a way to get into the playoffs you know you've got an opportunity; just look at the past two years."

- HEAD COACH SCOTT RIALS



# Bayshore Christian School

# EAGLES

- Bayshore Christian debuts its football program with a middle school and JV schedule in the first year with hopes of entering the Alabama High School Athletic Association’s realignment for 2024.
- Longtime Bayside Academy coach Phil Lazenby was chosen to head up the team that will feature some athletes with rec ball experience, others with not as much time with a helmet on.



“For them to learn the game of football and get prepared for that first year, we’re going to compete for a spot in the region playoffs and have fun doing it. It’s a tough sport for tough kids, but it’s also a lot of fun.”

- HEAD COACH PHIL LAZENBY

**3 PLAYERS TO WATCH**

Nate Crooms  
Brooks Jones  
Jack Malone



Nate Crooms

**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**Bayshore Eagles**

— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**

Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local taxes may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

**2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

JUNIOR VARSITY		
09/18	Mobile Christian	AWAY
10/16	St. Paul's	AWAY
MIDDLE SCHOOL		
08/29	Christ the King	AWAY
10/05	Bayside Academy	AWAY
10/10	UMS-Wright Prep	AWAY
10/14	Elberta	AWAY

# Bayside Academy

# ADMIRALS

- Barrett Trotter, a former Briarwood Christian and Auburn quarterback, takes over the Bayside Academy Admirals and is looking to implement an aerial attack on the Eastern Shore.
- Bayside Academy owns a four-year postseason streak and returns nearly all of last year's starters on both sides of the ball.



**5 PLAYERS TO WATCH**

ATH Tait Moore

OL Graham Uter

ATH Sammy Dunn

LB Teague Broadhead

WR/S Willis Norton

"They've come to work every day and have all given great effort, been willing to learn something new that doesn't necessarily come naturally. It's like learning Chinese when you first start; it's brand new terminology, it's a brand new system and that can be difficult. Especially not having a background of that style of offense, so these guys as a whole team have really picked up and embraced what we're doing."

**- HEAD COACH BARRETT TROTTER**

**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**Bayside Academy Admirals**  
— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**  
Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local taxes may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

*Proud of Our Admirals!*

**Badcock & more.**  
HOME FURNITURE

Proudly serving the Eastern Shore for 37 years!

- Appliances
- Lawn & Garden
- Home Electronics
- Furniture
- Accessories

Michelle Sulcer, store owner  
1201 HWY 98 Daphne  
251-626-2377  
www.badcock.com  
Like us on Facebook!

**2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

09/01	Pike Liberal Arts	HOME
09/08	St. Michael Catholic	AWAY
09/15	Wilcox Central	HOME
09/22	Jackson	AWAY
10/06	T.R. Miller	HOME
10/13	Orange Beach	AWAY
10/20	Escambia County	HOME
10/27	Satsuma	AWAY
11/03	Alabama Christian Academy	AWAY

Daphne

# TROJANS

- Daphne head coach Kenny King said the Trojans put together one of the best summers he's seen in his eight-year tenure and said that is just what they need to get back to playing Daphne football.
- King also said the Trojans' defensive line unit would shape up to be one of the best in the state.




**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**Daphne Trojans**

— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**

Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local truces may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

**Ansley Appliance & A/C Service**  
We Service Residential Appliances & Air Conditioning!



Certified Technicians  
Same Day Service  
[www.ansleyapplianceservice.com](http://www.ansleyapplianceservice.com)

**251-348-5237**

*Proud of Our Trojans!*

**Badcock & more.**  
HOME FURNITURE

Proudly serving the Eastern Shore for 37 years!

- Appliances
- Lawn & Garden
- Home Electronics
- Furniture
- Accessories

Michelle Sulcer, store owner  
1201 HWY 98 Daphne  
251-626-2377  
[www.badcock.com](http://www.badcock.com)  
Like us on Facebook! 

**5 PLAYERS TO WATCH**

RB Nick Clark  
WR John Davis  
OL Cooper Donoghue  
DL Tyler Durant  
QB Landen Snow



**2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

08/25	Murphy	AWAY
09/01	Carver Montgomery	HOME
09/08	Bryant	HOME
09/15	Davidson	AWAY
09/22	Baker	AWAY
09/29	Spanish Fort	HOME
10/13	Fairhope	AWAY
10/20	Montgomery	HOME
10/27	Foley	HOME
11/03	Hillcrest	AWAY



**“Get it done. The biggest thing is competing and finishing. Our big word is finish. We felt like we dropped some opportunities in the past, but it’s a new season, new era and we’re going to make sure we’re going to finish.”**

**- HEAD COACH KENNY KING**





# Celebrating 30 Years of *Perfecting* Online Higher Education



Columbia Southern University is celebrating its 30th anniversary right here in Baldwin County. Proud to have granted more than 100,000 diplomas, CSU offers associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees 100% online through LifePace Learning®.

Plus, CSU ranks in the top 1% in the U.S. for affordability based on tuition and fees.



**COLUMBIA  
SOUTHERN**  
UNIVERSITY

ColumbiaSouthern.edu  
» 877.347.6050

Based on rate per credit hour among Title IV accepting, fully online 4-year universities. <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/data/> (July 2022)



**BE SMART.  
DON'T START.**  
OPIOIDS RUIN LIVES

# SAY NO TO OPIOIDS

**Don't get sidelined. Make the RIGHT play.  
You are smarter and stronger than any substance.**



BeSmartDontStart.com

# Elberta

# WARRIORS

- New coordinators (Bobby Carr on offense, Lane Reynolds on defense) take over under head coach Nathan McDaniel with the Elberta Warriors set for their fourth varsity season.

- McDaniel was impressed with the team's commitment to the weight room, learning what it takes to be successful in the offseason.



"I think we're at a point where we can win those 50-50 games, but I want us to go from hoping to win to refusing to lose. There's a big difference. A lot of people hope to win, but the great ones refuse to lose. That's what I want our identity to be, I want us to be that team that I don't care how much time is left, I don't care what the scoreboard says, we're going to battle until the last second ticks off."

- HEAD COACH NATHAN MCDANIEL

**5 PLAYERS TO WATCH**

- TE Luke Newburn
- LB Corbitt Williams
- QB Brady Cole Harrison
- DB Cole Ulrich
- WR Soloman Waldrop



**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**Elberta Warriors**

— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**

Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local truces may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

**2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

09/01	Faith Academy	HOME
09/08	Williamson	HOME
09/15	LeFlore	AWAY
09/29	Northview	HOME
10/06	UMS-Wright Prep	AWAY
10/13	Gulf Shores	HOME
10/20	Vigor	HOME
10/27	B.C. Rain	AWAY
11/03	Citronelle	AWAY

Fairhope

# PIRATES

- Another senior-laden group is set to take the field in Tim Carter's ninth year at the helm of the Fairhope Pirates. Of the 102 on the varsity roster, 37 of them are seniors.
- Fairhope will be looking for a seventh straight trip the playoffs after a third-place finish in Class 7A Region 1 last year.



S Ameyr Adams

## 5 PLAYERS TO WATCH

- S Ameyr Adams
- CB Nolan Phillips
- ATH Preston Godfrey
- OL Barrett Cain
- DL Rock Gearhart

"They're here for a reason. They're good players, they do a lot of things right, and it's an honor when you're asked to come to one of these events. It says a little bit about what you've done, you've made a lot of really good choices," head coach Tim Carter said of Ameyr Adams and Nolan Phillips. "I'm really proud of these two guys. They excel in a lot of different ways, and football is a part of that. They've been starters for us a couple of years now and they've made a great contribution on the field."

**PLANET FITNESS PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE Fairhope Pirates**

— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**  
 Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
 Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
 Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home dub only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local taxes may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

*Proud of Our Pirates!*

**Badcock & more.**  
 HOME FURNITURE

Proudly serving the Eastern Shore for 37 years!

- Appliances
- Lawn & Garden
- Home Electronics
- Furniture
- Accessories

Michelle Sulcer, store owner  
 1201 HWY 98 Daphne  
 251-626-2377  
 www.badcock.com  
 Like us on Facebook!

2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE		
08/24	Spanish Fort	AWAY
09/01	Choctawatchee	AWAY
09/08	Pensacola Catholic	HOME
09/16	MGM	HOME
09/22	Davidson	HOME
10/06	Foley	AWAY
10/13	Daphne	HOME
10/20	Bryant	AWAY
10/27	Baker	AWAY
11/03	Briarwood Christian	HOME



# The Wild Recruiting Ride



## Foley receiver Thompson, Gulf Shores athlete Royal talk about the winding road that led to college decisions

By Cole McNanna

**B**efore taking off on what will be a roller coaster of a senior season, both Foley receiver Perry Thompson and Gulf Shores athlete Ronnie Royal have come full circle on their wild ride of the recruiting trail.

From their first visits and offers, to being the guy who everyone knew as they climbed recruiting rankings, to finally preparing for a senior season as a Power 5 commit, their football careers will forever be linked to Baldwin County.

With twists and turns intertwined, the pair shared some lessons learned in the process as well as hinted at who will be in their shoes next after Thompson heads to Auburn and Royal goes to North Carolina State.

### Not the only coaster riders

Both acknowledged the hotbed of an area they compete in and dissected what has turned lower Alabama into a recruiting destination.

"We've got a bunch of dogs in this area, I'll say. There are people coming up and the standard has been brought up," Thompson said. "Everybody is competitive, so it makes everybody else push and everybody come out harder."

"I think people want to be known down here, we really want to be known so they're trying to get their name out as soon as possible and as best they can. I think that really impresses me," Royal said.

### The initial ascent

Each player knew early on in their ride that they were in store for big things.

"I got my first offer from Troy after my

freshman year going into my sophomore year," Thompson said. "Then more schools started adding on. Southern Miss came to a practice and offered me after that, so I knew I had something special and just had to keep going at it."

"I enjoyed it a lot. I just had a dream come true," Royal said of his recruiting road that started with a South Carolina offer in eighth grade. "I'm always excited when I get an offer from any school. That's an honor because they know, they were looking at me so I really enjoyed the whole process."

### The sigh of relief

When the coaster was finally slowing down to its conclusion, both shared an intimate moment with family members when they first revealed their college decision.

"My dad wanted me to commit off the bat. And I was like, I'm not sure," Royal said. "Later on, I went to them and said, 'Hey, I think I'm going to commit,' and they said, 'Are you for real,' and they got all excited and stuff. Then I ended up committing that same day."

"My uncle (is the first person I told). We went to camp that week, and the week after we went to Orlando, and then they (Alabama) gave me a call to say they offered me, and I told my uncle, and we both got excited that day," Thompson said. "We had the whole family on vacation, so we told everybody and everybody was excited."

### The loop-the-loop

However, Thompson's roller coaster ride wasn't quite done yet as he flipped the script this summer and switched sides of the Iron

Bowl rivalry with a verbal commitment to Auburn on July 29. At the Baldwin County football media day in Daphne on July 31, just days after he hinted at a freezing over in his ride at Gulf Coast Media's Media Day, he explained what factors led to his decision.

"I looked at Nick Saban and Hugh Freeze, Nick Saban is a good coach and all the stuff he's done in college football, but I know he specializes with DBs and my main position is receiver," Thompson said. "I know Hugh Freeze has a background of developing receivers at a higher level."

### Next in line

Thompson and Royal know they aren't the only ones riding a wild recruiting roller coaster from the area. Both brought up Daphne running back Nick Clark and Fairhope safety Ameyr Adams as other players they enjoy watching.

Each also shouted out teammates including Braden Jackson from Gulf Shores and Kolton Nero from Foley as other talented athletes who go to battle alongside them.

"If you want to do something, you've just got to put your mind to it. No matter what happens, no matter how long it's going to take, if you stay on that one thing for a long time then you're going to get it one day," Royal said.

"Stay on the books, watch what you post on social media. Stay humble, don't get the big head, and always give back to the kids," Thompson said. "Respect your parents. It will take you a long way because it's your character. Be genuinely nice to everyone because coaches will ask everybody you've been around how you act in person."

## Bayside Academy VOLLEYBALL

- A fourth reclassification due to the competitive balance factor didn't slow down Bayside Academy's state championship streak last season. This year, the Admirals enter as the Class 6A queens and owners of a 21-year state title string which extended their national record.

- Only one senior held a roster spot on last year's team that won the program's 31st state title in the last 42 seasons. Head coach Ann Schilling also returns for her 37th year at the helm of the Bayside Academy team that is the only AHSAA member to win a state championship in five classifications.

- Blakeley Robbins, a Montevallo commit, and Maysie Douglas represented the Admirals at the AHSAA North-South All-Star match this summer and helped the South team earn a 3-1 victory.

**Players to watch:** S Blakeley Robbins, OH Maysie Douglas, L Mary Katherine Whitehurst, MB Misty Kate Smith, RH Haley Robinson

## Daphne VOLLEYBALL

- Head coach Casey Craig enters her third year at the helm of the Daphne program that has been trending in the right direction in her eyes. The Trojans will look to rely on their mantra, "Rise With Us," to make some noise in Class 7A Area 2.

- While only three starters return, they bring plenty of experience and are set to be complemented by some athletic underclassmen.

**Players to watch:** S Lucy McCoy, OH Ella Lomax, MB Charlotte Mekkers, S/RH Anna Grace Chason, MB Sophie Hester

## Spanish Fort VOLLEYBALL

- Spanish Fort has won the Class 6A Area 2 championship all nine years Gretchen Boykin has served as head coach and the Toros just went to their fifth state finals in that time last year.

- Many starters return from last year's title-match run and will look to play by Spanish Fort's motto, "More Than Me," once again in honor of others that are not able to play the game themselves.

- Boykin and rising senior middle blocker Reece Varden closed the summer offseason by competing in the AHSAA North-South All-Star match where they helped collect a 3-1 win for the South squad.

**Players to watch:** MB Reece Varden, S Alexis Belarmino, OH Mary Madison Lyles, RH Carlyn McAlister, OH/MB Zoe Beech

## St. Michael Catholic VOLLEYBALL

- Last year's seniors look to have led the way and left a blueprint for this year's senior class to be the one to return to the post-season. The Cardinals won back-to-back Class 4A Area 1 titles in 2020 and 2021.

- Ashlyn Roberts, in her second year with St. Michael, continues to promote freedom in her program, which allows her athletes to "train ugly," and focus solely on improvement. She hoped to take a step in the team's athleticism this year.

**Players to watch:** MB Ava Bowie, S/RH Lina Ramos, OH Katie-Ruth Rudd, DS Lily Kerbl, OH Campbell Bailey

## Bayside Academy CROSS COUNTRY

- The Bayside Academy girls' squad, which finished as state runners-up last fall, returns all five of its top runners from the last two seasons as well as a strong team bond. The Admiral boys' team doesn't return as much experience but retains two of its top runners who qualified for state last season.

- Since 1990, the girls' team has finished in the top four at the state meet in each season except for six. Similarly, since the boys' first team title in 2007, they have earned top-five finishes at each state meet except for six.

**Runners to watch:** Annie Midyett, Catherine Doyle, Shelby Fargason, Kyle Cooper, Nolan Tkac, Owen Swagart

## St. Michael Catholic CROSS COUNTRY

- David Wright takes over the St. Michael cross country program that features some talented seniors as well as some promising underclassmen that he looked forward to seeing hit the course.

- With sights set on hanging tough through a competitive region, Wright hoped to have the Cardinal runners buy into the discipline he feels is necessary to bring home a Blue Map trophy.

**Runners to watch:** Anna Kieran, Alexandra Kruse, Natalia Pyatt, Ryan Lankford, Oliver Hemby, Luke Johannesmann

# Foley LIONS

- After their first region title in 15 years, head coach Deric Scott says it's another playoff run or bust for this year's Foley Lions.
- With another chance to put up explosive offensive numbers, the Lions shook off rust in the 7-on-7 season and looked to hit their stride closer to the end of the summer.

Cont'd on Page 17



**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**Foley Lions**

— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**

Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home dub only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local taxes may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLEY LIONS  
ON THEIR 100TH FOOTBALL SEASON!**

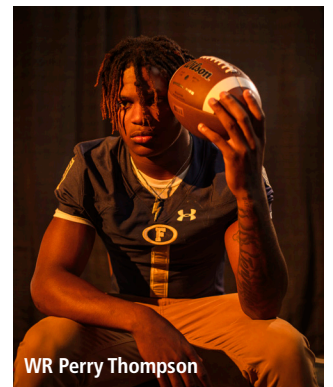
**THE  
HISTORY  
OF THE  
FOLEY  
LIONS  
TO 1955**

Read about the origins of the football team, the school and the community in Keith Smith's book *The History of the Foley Lions to 1955*. The book contains a detailed account of each team and school year through 1955. An appendix written by Coach Lester Smith includes a summary of each Foley team from 1955 through 1985. See how it all started!

**ORDER THROUGH WESTBOW PRESS OR CONTACT  
KEITH SMITH AT [KSMITH@SNOOKCHRISTIAN.ORG](mailto:ksmith@snookchristian.org)**

**5 PLAYERS  
TO WATCH**

WR Perry Thompson  
RB Kolton Nero  
OL Logan Joellenbeck  
DL EJ Thomas  
WR Cooper Hermezc



**2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

08/25	Prattville	HOME
09/01	Baldwin County	HOME
09/08	Montgomery	AWAY
09/15	Baker	HOME
09/29	Saraland	AWAY
10/06	Fairhope	HOME
10/13	Bryant	HOME
10/20	Davidson	AWAY
10/27	Daphne	AWAY
11/03	Jackson-Olin	AWAY

Gulf Shores

# DOLPHINS

- While the Dolphins made history with the program's first trip to the state quarterfinals last year, head coach Mark Hudspeth said the team was disappointed they didn't win Class 5A Region 1.
- A healthy chunk of last year's contributors return, including NC State commit Ronnie Royal, with a hunger for more postseason success.

## 2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

08/24	St. Michael Catholic	HOME
09/01	Citronelle	HOME
09/08	Faith Academy	AWAY
09/15	UMS-Wright Prep	HOME
09/22	LeFlore	AWAY
09/28	Murphy	AWAY
10/06	Williamson	HOME
10/13	Elberta	AWAY
10/27	Vigor	HOME
11/03	B.C. Rain	HOME



Otto Brewer  
Insurance Agent

 **State Farm**<sup>®</sup>

Get a Quote Today!

(251) 660-9962  
www.mysuperagent.com  
7200 Three Notch Rd., Mobile, AL 36619

**Go Dolphins! Make Waves!**



**COLUMBIA  
SOUTHERN**  
UNIVERSITY



**ACI Advisors**



Lee Akins  
Licensed Agent

acihealthins@gmail.com    Serving the Gulf Coast Region  
251-279-7007    NPN#8674235

*Protecting You and Your Future*



**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE

**Gulf Shores  
Dolphins**

— JOIN NOW —

**\$10 A MONTH**

Daphne • (251) 621-7800

Fairhope • (251) 308-1020

Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local taxes may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.



"This football team has a chip on its shoulder, and we plan on playing with a chip. Last year, I feel like we probably didn't get the respect that we probably felt like we had earned, and we are definitely going to attack each game and each opponent with that chip we've had on our shoulder this entire spring."

**- HEAD COACH MARK HUDSPETH**



## 5 PLAYERS TO WATCH

- ATH Ronnie Royal
- DE Kingston Lowe
- OL Chase Jennings
- LB Isaiah Hammac
- K Will Langston

# Cont'd... FOLEY LIONS

"The expectation is a region championship and playoff bound or bust. But we want to get there and win playoff games; we all got a taste of it. Now we understand it takes a little more digging and a little more grinding in that playoff game than in the regular season."

**- HEAD COACH DERIC SCOTT**



# Orange Beach MAKOS

- The Makos are looking for a third straight home playoff game in their second year under head coach Jamey DuBose, their fourth year of varsity competition.
- After graduating 21 seniors from last year's team, 24 upperclassmen (11 seniors) represent nearly half of the 60-man roster.



**5 PLAYERS TO WATCH**

- RB/LB Sam Lee
- WR Grant Bilbo
- CB Carter Green
- WR Mathew Swoboda
- OL Sam Fetner

"I think this year's team is going to be a team that has been different than what I've ever had. It's a fun team to be around. These guys are really eager to learn, eager to work hard every day they show up. I think right now I'm interested to see more as we get into pads coming on in the fall camp, but I think this group has something to prove; that's what's been so fun about it going back to January. I don't know, this group has just been different. I enjoy being around these guys every day."

**- HEAD COACH JAMEY DUBOSE**

**PLANET FITNESS PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE Orange Beach Makos**

**JOIN NOW**

**\$10 A MONTH**

Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local taxes may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

**GOT QUESTIONS? GET ANSWERS ABOUT MEDICARE!**

Call today for your free review!

**Chuck Hayes • 205-616-3659**

**LET'S TALK THE MEDICARE MAN**

ALA GULF COAST FLA

**2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

08/25	Milton	HOME
09/08	Jackson	AWAY
09/15	Satsuma	HOME
09/22	T.R. Miller	AWAY
09/29	Mobile Christian	HOME
10/06	St. Michael Catholic	HOME
10/13	Bayside Academy	HOME
10/20	Wilcox Central	AWAY
10/27	Escambia County	HOME

# Robertsdale

# GOLDEN BEARS

- Kyle Stanford said this coaching staff is the best he's assembled as he enters his fifth year at the helm of the Golden Bears. He also said he's seen the most size among the Robertsdale linemen in that time as well.
- With the family bond only growing stronger throughout this senior class, both coaches and players mentioned the continuity they've already seen in the summer.

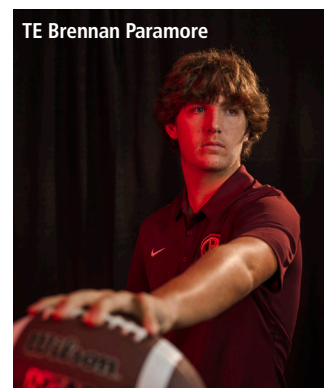


"We're playing for each other. Not that we didn't last year, I just see more of them playing for each other. You get out there in the summer and you compete and tempers flare from time to time, but you're family when you walk off the field. These kids have been in the same school with each other since they were in kindergarten and they played youth ball together, so it is a family. We didn't have 17 people move in here, so it is us and I feel like it's us versus everybody."

**- HEAD COACH KYLE STANFORD**

**5 PLAYERS TO WATCH**

TE Brennan Paramore  
 DL Eli Lynn  
 RB Aiden Valrie  
 LB Aiden O'Brian  
 OL Marty Kennard



**PLANET FITNESS**  
 PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**Robertsdale Bears**

— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**  
 Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
 Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
 Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local taxes may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

**2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

09/01	Theodore	HOME
09/08	Blount	AWAY
09/15	McGill-Toolen	HOME
09/22	Saraland	AWAY
09/29	Bryant	HOME
10/05	Murphy	HOME
10/13	St. Paul's Episcopal	AWAY
10/20	Spanish Fort	AWAY
10/27	Montgomery	AWAY
11/03	Baldwin County	HOME

# Snook Christian Academy

# EAGLES

- The Eagles are searching for a second straight postseason berth just three seasons removed from not having enough players to field a team.
- Corbin Hall, part of the inaugural team in 2017, will look to add onto program records he already owns, including career rushing yards (939 yards), receptions (92 catches), receiving yards (1,205 yards) and touchdowns (20 TDs).



"I think the kids have a great work ethic, and I think that's one of the good things about making the playoffs last year. I think that gave them a taste of what that's like. I think there's a desire, and I'm not meaning to speak for these guys, but I know they feel the same way. There's an excitement to not only make the playoffs but do better than we did this past year."

**- HEAD COACH KEITH SMITH**



## 5 PLAYERS TO WATCH

- QB/DB Roshad Harris
- WR/LB Corbin Hall
- RB/DB Thomas Chaney
- OL/DL Connor Parish
- TE/DE Brock Butts

**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**Snook Eagles**

— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**  
Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local truces may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

### 2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

08/18	Cornerstone Christian	HOME
08/25	Rocky Bayou Christian	AWAY
09/01	South Choctaw Academy	AWAY
09/07	Clarke Prep	AWAY
09/15	Hooper Academy	HOME
10/06	Jackson Academy	HOME
10/13	Wilcox Academy	HOME
10/20	Sparta Academy	AWAY
10/27	Crenshaw Christian Academy	AWAY

# Spanish Fort TOROS

- After he served on the state championship staff from 2010 as an assistant, Chase Smith helped extend Spanish Fort's playoff streak to 15 seasons in his first as the Toro head coach.
- With dynamic weapons returning offensively and some heavy hitters coming back on defense, Spanish Fort looks to stack accomplishments on top of each other.



Photo by Cole McNanna / Gulf Coast Media

**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**Spanish Fort Toros**

— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**  
Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local taxes may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

**Ansley Appliance & A/C Service**  
We Service Residential Appliances & Air Conditioning!

Certified Technicians  
Same Day Service  
[www.ansleyapplianceservice.com](http://www.ansleyapplianceservice.com)

**251-348-5237**

*Proud of Our Toros!*  
**Badcock & more.**  
HOME FURNITURE  
Proudly serving the Eastern Shore for 37 years!

- Appliances
- Lawn & Garden
- Home Electronics
- Furniture
- Accessories

Michelle Sulcer, store owner  
1201 HWY 98 Daphne  
251-626-2377  
[www.badcock.com](http://www.badcock.com)  
Like us on Facebook!

**5 PLAYERS TO WATCH**

DL Gray Freeman  
OL Blake Smith  
DL Cole McConathy  
QB Drew Williamson  
LB Bishop Burkhalter



**2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

08/24	Fairhope	HOME
09/01	Blount	HOME
09/08	Baldwin County	AWAY
09/15	Saraland	HOME
09/22	Theodore	AWAY
09/29	Daphne	AWAY
10/06	St. Paul's Episcopal	HOME
10/12	McGill-Toolen	AWAY
10/20	Robertsdale	HOME
10/27	Murphy	AWAY



Photos by Cole McNanna / Gulf Coast Media

"The expectation is to outwork, outperform, out-culture, and we worry about ourselves. I talk a lot about a faceless opponent; we set our goals, but we're focused on starting on the right foot and working on us. I'm a big believer in taking things step by step and those small goals adding up to big goals. Our No. 1 goal is to win the state championship, that's it. But it starts with (Day 1) Monday so we start one snap at a time, one practice at time, one possession at a time, and we go from there."

- HEAD COACH CHASE SMITH

YOU LIVE IN  
BALDWIN COUNTY...  
YOUR NEWS SHOULD, TOO

50% Off All Subscriptions

[GulfCoastMedia.com/Subscribe](https://GulfCoastMedia.com/Subscribe)

Promo Code: BESTDEAL

**GULF COAST MEDIA**

# St. Michael Catholic

# CARDINALS

- Entering the third year of Philip Rivers' coaching tenure at St. Michael, the time has come for another Rivers gunslinger to run the offense wearing No. 17. Rising freshman Gunner Rivers is set to quarterback an offense that set a single-game scoring record last year.
- The head coach also said the Cardinals' linemen will be a strength of the team and complement their skill players with a familiarity in the system on top of their physical size.



Photo by Cole McNanna / Gulf Coast Media



## 5 PLAYERS TO WATCH

- DE/TE Zach Taylor
- RB/LB Martin Corte
- QB Gunner Rivers
- DL Parker Bass
- OL Carson Maloney

"We've got a bunch of hungry young guys that are talented. They love to play. I think early on, a couple years ago, maybe the expectation wasn't that we were going to win. And now these guys, we believe we can win every week. We know that hasn't been the case. We know the challenge that we face every week, but we expect to win every Thursday, Friday night we go out there. I think from a culture and a foundation standpoint, these guys know what to expect and how to operate."

- HEAD COACH PHILIP RIVERS

**PLANET FITNESS**  
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
**St. Michael Cardinals**

— JOIN NOW —  
**\$10 A MONTH**

Daphne • (251) 621-7800  
Fairhope • (251) 308-1020  
Foley • (251) 943-9370

Must be 19 years old, or 13 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account or credit card. Checking only may apply. Commitment and state and local truces may apply. Subject to annual fee. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. ©2019 PFIP, LLC.

*Proud of Our Cardinals!*

**Badcock & more.**  
HOME FURNITURE

Proudly serving the Eastern Shore for 37 years!

- Appliances
- Lawn & Garden
- Home Electronics
- Furniture
- Accessories

Michelle Sulcer, store owner  
1201 HWY 98 Daphne  
251-626-2377  
www.badcock.com  
Like us on Facebook!

2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE		
08/24	Gulf Shores	AWAY
08/31	Chickasaw	HOME
09/08	Bayside Academy	HOME
09/15	Escambia County	AWAY
09/21	Satsuma	HOME
09/29	McGill-Toolen	HOME
10/06	Orange Beach	AWAY
10/12	Wilcox Central	HOME
10/20	Jackson	AWAY
10/27	T.R. Miller	HOME



PLANET FITNESS SUPPORTS  
LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS  
DOWNLOAD OUR APP FOR FREE  
IN HOME FITNESS

**WE ARE SQUEAKY CLEAN**  
**AND READY WHEN YOU ARE!**

JOIN NOW FOR ONLY  
**\$10 A MONTH\***

Open 24/5 Monday-Friday Saturday-Sunday 7am-7pm

**29685 Renaissance Blvd • Daphne, AL • 251.621.7800**

Open 24/5 Monday-Friday Saturday-Sunday 7am-7pm

**175 Baldwin Square • Fairhope, AL • 251.308.1020**

Open 24/5 Monday-Friday Saturday-Sunday 7am-7pm

**1639 S. McKenzie St. • Foley, AL • 251.943.9370**

*\*must be 19 years old to enroll without parental consent*