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Is Jones the top back in America?

By Fletcher Proctor

Tyren Jones rushed for 2,375 yards and 38 touchdowns as a junior in his first season with Walton. After committing to Alabama and putting on nearly 20 pounds of muscle over the summer Jones is back, running hard toward another offensive player of the year award.

BRONCOS BLITZED ...
Last week at the Georgia Dome, Jones carried the ball 31 times for 302 yards while finding the end zone five times in a 35-24 Walton victure of the numbers were Walton. tory. As incredible as the numbers were, Walton head coach Rocky Hidalgo is used to seeing

Jones turn in these types of games.

"He's had so many great games," said Hidalgo. "It is really hard to say which has been his best game, but he was really impressive Saturday night."

Despite lest cargon? eve propring supplers

Despite last season's eye-popping numbers and the early success for 2012, Jones is still not ranked in the top 18 in two of four major recruiting services. Rivals.com has him listed as the thirdbest back in Georgia, just No. 26 in the country. Scout.com has him listed as the second-best back and No. 19 overall. ESPN has him pegged below Norcross' Alvin Kamara in the state and No. 8 overall. The final service, 247sports, has him ranked the fifth-best back in the entire country.

"He's incredibly competitive," said Hidalgo. "He wants to be the best back and it drives him."

Who are these backs and how in the world can they be better than Jones, who carried Walton to the state finals one year ago before scoring nearly every point for Walton last week?

NUMBERS AND FIGURES ...

Recruiting is a numbers game before anything else. Measureables are the best way to differentiate running backs when they play similar positions against far different competition. Jones' size ranges from 5-foot-9, 197 pounds on Scout.com to 5-foot-8, 202 pounds according to 247sports to 5-foot-8, 185 pounds according to Rivals, with ESPN rounding out the field with 5-foot-8, 190 pounds. Jones is somewhere in there, but his measureables have earned him four stars across the board from all four services. stars across the board from all four services.

Conversely, Scout.com's top back Ty Isaac out of Illinois, who is headed to USC, is listed

at 6-foot-2, 220 pounds. Stockton, California product Justin Davis, also committed to USC, checks in at 6-foot-1, 195 pounds. Each of these players has earned five stars based largely on their height. Of the four other five-star prospects, only Keith Ford out of Cypress, Texas was under 6-foot-1.

was under 6-foot-1.

The 40-yard time is also a measureable that could possibly have kept Jones from making it into the top 10 in all of the services. Jones posted a 4.57 time, behind players such as Ryan Green a 4.3/ time, benind players such as Kyan Green of St. Petersburg, Fla., (4.40), Kailo Moore of Rosedale, Miss., (4.44) and fellow Alabama Crimson Tide commit Altee Tenpenny out of North Little Rock, Ark., (4.42).

But numbers can be deceiving and sometimes it is the intangibles that make the difference.

"He is a great kid with great character," said Hidalgo. "His talent is overshadowed by how hard he works. He is talented in a lot of ways and I think is the total package."

Nick Saban seems to agree and the Alabama head coach is no doubt glad to have Jones verbally committed to his program. For now, Jones and the Raiders will go back to work on trying to finish off what they started last season, which was winning their first 14 games before falling to Grayson in the state championship game. Jones posted more than 2,300 yards and could have padded the stats even more, according to Hidalgo, had the Walton coaches played him in the second half of blowouts.

This season, expect Jones to possibly eclipse the totals from one year ago, especially with fellow Alabama pledge Parker McLeod under center for Walton making defenses think twice about putting nine in the box.

Hidalgo said the team would be working to

improve in several areas on offense, including

making strides with the offensive line. If the line can improve its play and avoid costly penalties, expect Jones to surpass the 300-yard mark quite often in 2012 and pick up some more hardware before heading off to Alabama. Photo courtesy of Walter Pinion. Proctor

can be reached at fproctor@scoreatl.com.





The Battle of I-75 Guide was produced and published by Score Publishing, a division of Score Atlanta. The publisher is I.J. Rosenberg, editors are Stephen Black and Fletcher Proctor and creative art director is DJ Galbiati. Score is a full-service marketing company and can be reached at 404-256-1572 and SCOREATL.COM.





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Plenty of options available for both offenses By Score Atlanta

The Lassiter Trojans will once again boast a high-flying offense that should barely skip a beat after the loss of star wideout Charlie Hegedus to graduation. Jep Irwin's squad reached the Class AAAAA semifinals one season ago and looks to advance even further with Eddie Printz back under center. The future UCLA Bruin will once again have Juwan Dickey on the outside as well as Ryan Jenkins, who is headed to Clemson, and junior Quincy Perdue.

Printz has really taken on even more of a leadership role leading up to his senior season according to his coach.

"He is leading workouts and throwing to the younger guys," said Irwin earlier this summer.

Defensively, the Trojans return defensive back Robert Dowling and linebacker Josh Danforth along with Trenton Gantt up front on the defensive line. Irwin will be working in several newcomers on defense with Eric Perdue at safety, Hakim Carter at defensive back and Chris Murphy at cornerback.

Many figured the Hillgrove offense would take a step back after the departure of Kenyan Drake to Alabama, but Phil Ironside's Hawks looked dominating in a scrimmage a few weeks ago, taking down Walton 21-16. Troy Thompson looks like he is more than capable under center and Richardre Bagley took a simple screen nearly 70 yards for a score. Look for Thompson to find Bagley and tight end Evan Engram a lot this sea-

son. Engram is 6-foot-3, 210 pounds and is headed to Ole Miss. Omar Black and Justin Denton will also be options on the outside for the Hawks.

Ironside said before the season that his offense would spread the ball around to take advantage of the talent on offense.

Defensively, Tolando Cleveland leads an experienced secondary.

"We have all of our secondary back and they all started as sophomores," said Ironside. "We'll get a good test early on. We've got a good regular season schedule and it is really important to get off to a good start to stay atop the region."

Expect plenty of points go up on the board as both of the offenses will throw the ball around the field, especially if the summer 7-on-7 camps were any indication. While many expected Lassiter to shine, Hillgrove played strong defense in addition to throwing the ball well, impressing many who witnessed the event.

Last week, Hillgrove defeated Westlake 31-15 in the season opener as Thompson threw for 281 yards and four touchdowns on 18-of-25 passing. Hillgrove started a tad slow, as Westlake grabbed an early 7-0 lead and held it through the half. But to start the second half, the Hawks scored on a 60-yard screen pass to Bagley. From there, Ironside's squad dominated in outscoring the host Lions 17-0 in the third period.

Meanwhile, Lassiter is the only team in tonight's event to have not yet played a game in 2012. Irwin prepared his team by focusing on its own issues throughout fall camp, but shifted the focus to the Hawks this week.

"You hope that you've done enough to get yourself ready to play up until game week," said Irwin. "But we already know what we're up against in terms of the good coaching and good players they have over there. They've had a very good program there the past couple years."

Irwin knows he won't have a difficult time getting his team motivated for tonight's game. While the other programs in the Battle of I-75 had openers last weekend, the Trojans had all offseason to think about this game.

"I think the entire offseason your players really have a big game to look forward to," said Irwin. "Playing Hillgrove in the Battle of I-75 for Cobb County football is really big. It's been good for us in the offseason."

Lassiter has been a veteran of big early-season showcases having participated in the Corky Kell Classic the past two seasons. With that in mind, how important is the season-opener, especially against such a respected opponent?

"I think it all depends on how you play in that first game," said Irwin. "I don't think it can define your season, but it sure doesn't hurt to get a win first."

Potent offenses test young defenses in nightcap By Score Atlanta

The Walton Raiders have experienced quite the gauntlet dating back to last season. The Raiders last faced a team with a sub-.500 record on Nov. 11 in the first round of the playoffs in Milton. Since then, Tyren Jones, Parker McLeod and the rest of the Raiders have taken on South Cobb, Dacula, Lassiter, Grayson, Brookwood and now McEachern.

Jones and McLeod lead a stout offense that relies on the legs of Jones and the play-action of McLeod. The Alabama commits helped the team go 14-1 last season, but they will be looking for a third member on the outside to help take some attention away from Jones. D.J. Smith could be that outside threat as he will likely split time between defense and offense. Brandon Kublanow is a monster up front and can push a pile around from his spot on the offensive line. "The Finisher" busted out at last year's Corky Kell Classic and he was recently named to the AJC Super 11 as well as the Score 44 preseason list. He will be joined on the line by Jake Boyton.

McEachern must replace a host of playmakers on both sides of the ball. Quarterback Trent Thompson moved on to play college football as did wide receiver Amba Etta-Tawo and kicker Nicholas St. Germain. Tray Fletcher, Kofi Amichia and Jaloni Wells are also gone from a very effective offense from last year's 10-2 season. Defensively, the Indians must replace Marsell James,

Jed Nwankwoh and Darius English off the front four and Cameron Gamble out of the secondary.

Kyle Hockman has plenty of experience molding fresh talent and his skills will be put to the test early on. After opening with Grayson in the Corky Kell Classic, the Indians face another tall task in the Raiders.

"We're going to be extremely young," said Hockman. "The only experience coming back is four offensive linemen. We are going to rely on them early in the season for production and leadership."

The line is anchored by JaJuan Dulaney and Sherrod Pittman. Dulaney is headed to Maryland next year, but Pittman could be the more important of the two.

"(He) is a fireplug that we are relying on," said Hockman.

The task of replacing Thompson will fall to Ty Clemons, though Hockman admits that McEachern will use multiple quarterbacks in 2012.

Over the weekend, the Indians fell to No. 1 Grayson in the Metro PCS Corky Kell Classic. While the 31-12 defeat looks bad on paper, McEachern's players and coaches were encouraged by how they competed with what may be one of the best high school teams in the nation.

"I know this experience will help," said Indians offensive lineman Jujuan Dulaney after the Corky Kell Classic. "We just competed with one of the nation's top teams and we hung with them for a while.

We're a young team, we had mistakes, and they happen. I think we're going to come back better and more mature next week and we're going to get it done."

Clemons scored twice against the fearsome Rams' defense and McEachern trailed just 14-12 entering the second half, but succumbed to Grayson's unmatched experience and talent. The Indians will see how much they've improved tonight.

"That will be the key: whether we improve next week, and then whether we improve after the week after that," said Hockman after the Grayson game. "We'll know if we got better next week against a really good team in Walton. (Improvement) is what we're looking for and we'll know that on a weekly basis."

The No. 3 Raiders, meanwhile, ripped through a solid Brookwood team last week at the Corky Kell Classic to the tune of 302 rushing yards by Jones. The Alabama commitment hit paydirt five times during the game as Walton cruised to a 35-24 win that was not as close as the score may indicate.

Hidalgo is rightly proud of his stellar tailback. "He's a great kid with great character," said Hidalgo. "His talent is almost overshadowed with how hard he works."

With Walton coming off a big win against a respected foe and McEachern rebounding from a defeat by an elite program, it will be interesting to see how the two teams play in tonight's finale.



HILLGROVE HAWKS



Head Coach **Phil Ironside**

#	Name	Gr.	Pos.
1 2	Evan Engram Elijah Ironside	12 11	WR QB
3 4	Travon Simmons Omar Black	12 11	ČB WR
5	LeMarkus Bailey Justin Denton	11 11	DB WR
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	DyKari Hickey	12 11	CB
9	Zach Katz Justin Haney	12	WR LB
9 10	Aaron Bailey Tolando Cleveland	11 12	WR DB
10 11	Kendall McGhee Troy Thompson	12 12	WR QB
12 13	Troy Thompson Eric Jackson Devin Knight	10 11	DB WR
14 15	Devin Knight Marcus White Errol Breaux	12	WR WR
16 17	Conner Beck Marcus Bowens	11 11 10	LB WR
18	Evan Arnold	10	QB
19 20 21	Julian Robinson Ryan Knight	12 12	LB WR FS
21	Ryan Knight Rodney Walker Korbin Sanders	10 12	CB
22 23 24	Eric Montgomery Richardre Bagley	10 11 12	RB RB
24 24	Bakari Oxendine Jonah Gadsen	12 11	RB LB
25 26	Bradlev Chubb	11 11	LB WR
27 28	Quincey Nelson Marcus Banks Derrick Evans	iö 11	DB RB
28	Andrew Ford	10	DB
29 30	Jamal Sutton Andrew Gaughn	10 11	DB K/P
30 31	ljon Grice Connor Barden	11 11	DB LB
32	Phil Davis Stephen Ward	10 12	LB LB
33 34 34	Zac Mitchell	10 10	RB DB
35 36	Bobby Benjamin Ryan Moore Preston Beasley	10 10	LB DB
37 38	Matt Orange	10	QB LB
39	Ricky Powell Ryan Coniff	11 10	LB
40 41	Ross Haley Jordan Adams	10 12	LB LB
41 42	Alveena Stinson Josh Ellis	11 12	WR DE
43 44	JT Jackson	11 10	LB LB
45 46	Vinny Rosamilia Miles Railey Jimontay Witherow	10 12	LB DE
47 48	Jimontay Witherow Gerard McGruder Victor Sanchez	11 12	DB LB
49 49	RJ Smith Joseph Williams	10	DB WR
50 51	Zach Williams Ross Mathis	10 12	DE OL
52	Peyton Hewitt	10 12	DE
53 54 55	Mason McCurdy Alex Garland	12 11 12	OL OT
55 56	Carter Fitzgerald Cody Collins Justin Ward	12 12 12	OL OL
57 58	Justin Ward Buddy Williams	12 10	OL DE
59 60	Buddy Williams Kevin Heard Anthony Colapinto	10 12	OL OL
61 62	Cameron Kowalewski Cody Johnson	11 11	ĎĒ OL
63 64	Dagan Abraham	12 10	0L
65	Kelland Priest Grant Fagan	11	DE OL
66 67	Seth Trull Brady Yoder Mitch Staples	12 12	OL DL
68 69	Mitch Staples Tyler Keuter Mitchell Windom	11 10	0L
70 71	Jack Cowart	12 12	DL Dt
72 73	Matt Breaux	11 11	OL OL
74 75	Trey Smith Jon Wagley Jaylan Reid	10 11	Öİ DT
76 77	Joel Nierling Shawn Plummer	10 10	ÖL DL
78 80	Kerry Steen Koran Brown	10	OL WR
81	Sam Peterson	10 12	TE
81 82	Jahlik McFadden Eric Newman	11	WR TE
83 84	Richard Hallman Mohammed Khan	10 12	WR WR
85 85	Ryan Hinkson Lee Grier	10 11	WR DB
86 87	Trevor Donald Reed Hall	11 12 10	TE K/P
88 89	Julian Ellis Torrance Scott	10 10	WR WR
90	Tyler Young Paul Bain	11 11	DE
91 92	Aaron Aghai	12	DL K
93 94	Josh Price Anthony Hester Westin Frans	10 10	LB TE
95 96	Daniel Franks	10	TE K
97 98	Dylan Fern Christian Pope	11 10	DĽ DE
99	Warren Terry	iĭ	ĎĹ
	Jordan Duru Garrett Vaughn Osiris Cuff		
	OSIIIS GUII		

LASSITER TROJANS



Head Coach **Jep Irwin**

	野	Je	p irwin
#	Name	Gr.	Pos.
# 1 2 3 4 5 5 6 7	Hakim Shahid Juwan Dickey	12 12	SS/RB WR
3	Duby Nwaubi	11	WR WR
5	Morgan Mcdaniel Willie Police	11 12	WR/RB
5	Grant Daniels	10	RB
6	Zaran Smith	10	WR
7	Eddie Printz	12	QB
	Peter Brignac	11	RB/DL
9	Quincy Perdue	11	WR
10	Blake Penter	11	WR/RB
11	Josh Danforth	12	LB/RB
11	Sam Keller	10	DB
12	Russell Aarons	10	QB
13	Tyler Pintur	12	LB
13	Martin Liss	10	DB
14	Antonio Gallante	10	DB
15	Eric Perdue	12	S
15	Tyler Branch	10	TE
16	Luke Hardin	11	K/P
17	Chris Murphy	11	CB
17	Tommy Heneghan	10	WR
18	Tom Barre	11	DB
19	Zach Wittes	10	QB
20	Robert Dowling	12	DB
20	Oris Lawhorn	10	WR/RB
21	Derion Cannon	11	RB
22	Blake Wilson	11	WR/RB
23	Devontae Moore	12	DB
23	A.J. Pelletier	10	DB
24	Patrick Levandoski	12	DB
25	Clay Roelle	11	DB
26	Blake Richardson	11	DB
27	Nick Spies	10	DB
28	Daniel Fabiniak	11	DB
29	Jahat Oramas	11	DB
30	Matt Mcallister	10	WR/RB
31	Zack Letts	10	K/P
32	Emmanuel Nwakaeze	11	DB
33	Lane Jackman	11	RB
34	James Rowe	12	LB
34 35	Torian Henry	10	RB DB
36	Bear Brown Parker Styles	10 11	CB
37	Bryndon Peacock	11	LB
38	Alec Adams	9	S
39	Nitin Jain	10	DB
40	Trenton Gantt	12	DL
40	Dylan Bass	10	K/P
41	Benedict Louis	11	LB
42	Jack Marchand	11	LB
43	Ryan Gildea	12	LB
43	Connor Bell	10	LB
44	David Long-Daniels	10	LB
45	Zach Spies	11	LB
46	Daniel Evans	12	S
47	Brian Crigler	12	CB
48	Pierce Smith	10	P
50	Marco Bramlett	10	LB
51	Austin Cheatum	11	DL/QL
52	Stephen Curran	11	OL
53	Philip Murray	10	OL
54	Gregg Wentz	10	OL
55	Raul Aguirre	11	DL
56	Kory Gildea	10	LB
57	Sam Wood	11	0L
58	Michael Freeman	11	OL
59	Luke Smithwick	10	OL
60	Brian Macdonald	11	LB
63	George Poitevien	10	Dl
65	Brett Horton	10	0L
66	Jake Chambers	10	OL
68	Michael Davis	10	OL
69	Adam Hamilton	12	OL
72	Luan Pereira	11	OL
73	Daniel Chow	11	0L
75	Michael Heard	10	OL
76	Aveus Anderson	11	DL
78	Logan Doar	12	OL
79	Christian Clark	12	DL
80	Ryan Jenkins	12	WR
81	Tyler Montour	10	WR
82	Zach Beaverson	11	WR
83	Tom Cantrell	10	DB
84	Nick Sewak	12	LS/TE
85	Steven Beasley	12	WR
86	Michael Bridgers	10	WR
87	Pearson Vanhorn	10	WR
88	John Branks	11	DL
89	Matthew Norton	10	WR
90	Connor Shields	10	DL
91	C.J. Amann	11	DL
92	Moe Nyang	12 12	DL
93	Danny Appiah	11	DL
94	Ahmad Alexander		DL
95	Corey John	11	DL
96	Michael Ballard	10	DL
97	Linden Riedlinger	10	DL
98	Cameron Peebles	10	DL
99	Darius Reese	12	DL

McEACHERN INDIANS



Head Coach

1		Kyle	Hockman
#	Name	<u>Gr.</u> 11	Pos. WR
# 1 2 3	Elijiah Van Dorn Tymashian Clemons Ryan Sherman	11	QB RB
3 4 7	Glenn Frazier	11 11	LB
8 9	Taj Griffin Chris Okeh	10 12 12	RB TE
10	Devin Kirkland Ty Griffin Daquan Branch	12 12	DE QB QB
12 12 13	Chase Jones Christain Ford	11	QB/P DB
14 15	Mike Sherman Henry Famurewa	11 12 11	RB/LB DE
16	Dennis Dominguez	11	PK
18		10	QB/WR
19 20	Andrew Hayward Malik Williams Jaylyn White	11 11	WR DB
20	Ceddrick Turner	10	DB
21	Rajon Wright	12	WR
21 22	Deandre Lee Daryus Thompson Kei-Yeon Johnson	10 11	WR DB
23	Kell Parham	11	RB
24		12	OLB
24	David Phillips	11	DB
25	Joshua Farara	12	RB
26 27	James Brice Jerry Nwankwoh Fitz Wattley	11 11	DB OLB
28	Deon Hix	10	OLB
29		10	WR
29	Tyler Woodly Justin Pendleton	10	DB
30		11	OLB
31		10	RB
31 32	Josh Ohanu Rahmoi Parsons Marquise Boyce	11 11 12	DB LB
32	Malik Chevry	10	DB
33	Alizee Chubbs	11	RB
34	Nathanial Maddox	10	OLB
34	Sonny Harris	10	RB
35	Phinehas Hall	10	OLB
36	Demorie Hill	11	LB
36	Michael Williams	11	DB
37	Keenan Starnes	12	OLB
38	Xiqewayne Miller	9	RB/LB
38	Jamar Jefferey		LB
39	Luis Delgado	12	OLB
40	Leon Boyce	12	LB
40 41	Jawaun Holt Sterling Boyd Jovan Reid	11 11	DB DB
41 42	Jordan Burge	10 12	DB OLB OLB
42 43	Nick Friend Jerry Cadley Sean Carter	11 12	RB
45	Jamie Kincaid	12	LB
45		11	WR
46	Jamarcus Grace	12	RB
47	Adrian Riley	10	DB
48	Anfernee Lívas	11	LB
48	Daquan Veereen	11	LB
49	Dylan Hamilton	10	DB
50	Nick Damassimo	10	LB
51	Cameron Magee	10	LB
52	Tavon Johnson Christain Wade	10	DL LB
53 54 55	Grea Austin	11 10 11	DL DL
56 57	Randy Truesdale Zach Smith Dolapo Orekoya	11 12	OLB LB
58	Evan Mcgee	10	ÖL
59	Hunter Bloedow	11	OL
59	Jordan Hall	10	ÖĽ
60	Antonio Valentine	11	OL
61 62	Jezer Rodas Charles Thompson	10 11 10	ÖL OL
63	Tony Vera	11	OL
64	Daquan Owens		DL
65	Montay Johnson	10	LB
66	Telvin Rosser	12	DL
67	Lorenzo Fortin	11	OL
68	Rondrez Spicer	12	DL
69	Chaunce Brewer	10	OL
70	Demetrius Garner	12	OL
71	Uche Nkadi	11	OL
72	Travis Fair	12	OL
73	Tremayne Anchrum	9	OL
74	Lucky Daniels	11	DL
75	Chidi Onwuzurvoha	12	OL
76	Jajuan Dulaney	12	OL
77	Chuma Edoga	10	OL
78	Sharrod Pittman	12	OL
78	Dreland Samuel	10	DL
78 79 80	CJ Norrell Andy Cadley	11 11	OL WR
80	Joshua Sowmimo	ii	DL
81	Justin Anderson	11	WR
82	Jeremiah Shaw	10	WR
82	Cameron Ferrell	10	WR
83	Trey Scott	11	TE
83	Jeffery Whitlock	11	TE
84	Davon Phillips	11	OLB
85	TJ Rahming	10	WR
87	Nicholas Kemp	10	WR
87	Malcom Harrington		WR
88 89	Arties Clark Jake Thompson	10 11 10	WR TE
90	Chris Hernandez	10	DL
90	Josh Kuku	11	DL
91	Davonne Boyce	10	DL
92	Dakota Johnson	10	LB
93	Antonio Richarson	12	DL
94	Dequouis Owens	11	DL
95 96	Daniel Fredrick Romero Lindlev	12 10	DL WR LB
97	Tunde Ashaka	10	WR
97	Martice Moore	10	
98	Mckenzie Billingslea	11	DL
99	Tre Allen	11	DL
99	Chandler Jones	10	DL
	Kaishawn Hixon	10	OL

WALTON RAIDERS



Head Coach **Rocky Hidalgo**

L		Kocky	Hidalgo
#	Name _	Gr.	Pos.
1	Tyren Jones	12	RB
	Colby Billings	12	WR/DB
2	T'Qwan Robinson	12	WR/DB
4	Christian Burlock	12	RB/DB
5	Jackson Donnell	11	WR
6 7	Stone Romberg	12	CB/WR
8	Maurice Gibson	11	WR/DB
	Bailev Wolff	10	WR/DB
9	Bailey Wolff Zach Williams	11	RB
10	Arnold Lucas	11	LB
11	Jordan Clayton	10	QB
12	Parker McLeod	12	QB
13	Hutton Spitler	11	QB/WR
14	Price Wilson	11	QB
15	Jack Whittaker	11	DB
16		12	LB
17	Blake Montz James Williams	12	WR
18	Brenton Poore	10	QB
19	Taquar Stewart	10	RB/DB
20	Jacob Murphy	11	DB
21	DJ Smith	11	DB/RB
22	Ryan Craig	12	WR
23	Robert McCarthy	12	CB
24	Billy Meredith	12	DB/WR
25	Ryan Johnson	12	LB/RB
26	Jordan Vorster	11	LB/RB
27	Jake Bernstein	10	DB/WR
28	Luke Manzo	10	DB/WR
29	Josh Bernstein	10	RB/DB
30	Henry Rowling	11	FB
31	Chad Clay	9	WR/DB
32	Justice Bailey Imani Parker	12 10	RB/DB
33 34	David Sewell	11	RB/LB DB/WR
35	Derek Hurt	10	RB
36	Matt Kenny	12	LB
37	Zac Starns	10	RB/LB
38	Ryan Laban	11	DB
39	William Holt	11	WR/DB
40	Thomas Lynch	12	LB/RB
41	Kyle Whitaker	11	DE
42	Dreyon Williams	11	LB/RB
43 44	Ridge Gibson	11 10	LB/RB
45	Bre'yon Thomas Brandon Lin	10	RB/LB RB/DL
46	Colin Fant	11	WR
47	Jordan Davoudpour	11	LB/TE
48	Brandon Lucci	12	RB
49	Nick Goodwin	11	LB
50	Jack Shoemaker	11	OL
51	Richard Suydam	11	DL
52		12	OL/DL
53	Nick Randolph Eddie Dennett-Smith	10	OL/DL
54	Griffin Wilkinson	12	C/DT
55	Joe Cook	12	OL
56	Alex Smith	11	ÓL
57	Chris Webb	11	DT/OL
58	Michael Kraemer	11	OL/DL
59	Luke Hendon	12	OL/DL
60	Andrew Meaux	12	OL/LB
61	Eric Smith	10	OL/LB
62	Tim Mattus	11	C
63	Mitchell Pair	11	OL
64	David Davis	10	OL/DL
65	Logan Brown	12	OL
66	Sebastian Covelo	12	OL/DT
67	Marcus Wilson	11	OL/DL
68	Jon France	10	OL/DL
69	Michael Pair	11	OL/DL OL
70	Jesus Gonzalez	11	OL/DE
71	Jack Schaefer	12	
72 73	George Humphreys	10 12	OL/DL
74	Jake Boynton Evan Bernard	10	OL/DL OL
75	Jack Henry	10	OL
76	Emeka Nwachukwu	10	OL/DL
77	Jordan Diamond	11	OL/DL
78	Cole Henry	10	OL/DL
79	Brandon Kublanow	12	OL/DL
80	Brad Green	12	TE
81	Davis Pigeon	10	TE/DL
82	Luke Holly	11	WR
83	Cody Hudon	10	DB
84	Dylan Welch	11	WR
85	McKay Madsen	10	DB
86	Abid Lakhani	10	DE
87	Max Orsborn	10	WR/DB
88	Seth-Patrick Holman	11	TE
89	Sam Shapiro	10	LB
90	AJ Coley	10	LB
91	Anthony Price	12	K
92	Reid Hanner	12	WR/DB
93	Marcus Frias	10	QB
94	Trey Thompson	12	OL/DL
95	Christian Blackstock	9	DL/TE
96	Maurice Davis	10	DL/TE
97	Trent Wirtz	12	K
98	Clayton_Arnold	10	LB
99	Jordan Titshaw	10	TE

6 | SCORE ATLANTA Get In The Game!

COBB PIGSKIN SHOWCASE



Friendly county rivalries turn hostile

By Stephen Black

There is no disputing the fact that today's event is a chance for some of Cobb County's best programs to demonstrate the quality of high school football played here. And while the familiarity between Cobb teams certainly breeds contempt at times, the programs tend to enjoy mutual respect that does not exist in other parts of the state.

RESPECT AND SUPPORT ...

According to two coaches in today's event, the respect between programs and coaches is palpable despite the intense and competitive rivalries around the county.

"Cobb County coaches, since I've been here, have been really tight and supportive of each other," said McEachern head coach Kyle Hockman, who has coached the Indians since 2008. "In a playoff game for a Cobb County team, there's a bunch of other (Cobb) head coaches sitting there watching on the sideline and all pulling for each other. Maybe (today's event) will kickstart some

good cross-county rivalries."

Lassiter coach Jep Irwin, in his third year at the east Cobb school, agrees with Hockman.

"What I like about Cobb County is that when coaches got eliminated in the playoffs, they were sending us text messages like 'Good luck!' and 'Go Cobb!' So it's really a friendly rivalry," said Irwin. "There's not as much hatred as a lot of people like to make it out to be. It's a good healthy, friendly rivalry, but the coaches in Cobb County want to promote Cobb football and I think this event is one way we can do that."

A week after the Metro PCS Corky Kell Classic, local football fans can enjoy another day of top-notch football as teams from competitive programs knock helmets at McEachern. While the event is a big deal to football fans around the state, its origin was rather simple and easy.

"We kinda had the idea start to float around," said Hockman of an intra-county football event. "I was just real honored that the other guys

jumped on it really fast. The other three (coaches) were like 'Hey, let's do this.' It was really just a matter of working out details. It's obviously something that all four of us are excited about."

TOP-NOTCH COMPETITION ...

While the coaches and programs as a whole are respectful of each other, the games are intense and highly competitive. Lassiter and Walton share a rivalry so important it has been named "The Super Bowl of East Cobb," and Hillgrove and McEachern enjoy their own neighborhood grudge match. However, the combatants in today's game do not really share anything but respect and support for their opponents.

McEachern and Walton have played some important games over the years, but for the most part, have remained at arm's length. In a relationship that stretches back to 1976 the two programs have played seven times, with the Raiders holding a 4-3 edge. The last game between the Raiders and Indians came in the 2003 Corky Kell Classic, a 21-7 Walton win.

Lassiter and Hillgrove, meanwhile, have never met. But the two programs have made the playoffs a combined seven times in four seasons and each program has made at least the quarterfinals of the playoffs in the past two years.

While all four programs in today's event have advanced deep into the playoffs, none has brought home the hardware yet. While Walton made the final last year and McEachern has reached it in the past, no program from Cobb has won the state

championship since Marietta in 1967. And that is a streak all Cobb coaches hope ends very soon.

The Indians, in fact, opened with last year's state champion, Grayson, last week and play the runner-up today in Walton. With such a tough opening schedule, Hockman and his program obviously have their sights on being more than just a playoff team.

"It's gonna be a huge challenge," said Hockman of his team's first two games. "We've definitely got our work cut out for us in back-to-back weeks and, honestly, that's what we're trying to do. That's our goal as a program, where Grayson was, and we want to play those types of teams early when there's no playoff implications on the line and to see where we're at."

Preparing for these games is always tricky, as there is no hiding weakness against such quality competition. Lassiter, as the only program that hasn't played a game yet, is in a unique situation.

"You hope that you've done enough to get yourself ready to play up until game week," said Irwin. "We know what we're up against in terms of the good coaching and good players they have (at Hillgrove). They've had a very good program there the past couple years."

While the competition on the field today will be white hot with intensity, there is a deep respect between them. After all, the four programs are united in search of one common goal: bringing a state championship back to Cobb.

Black can be reached a sblack@scoreatl.com.



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