

MAKING HISTORY 2017 LEE TAKES THE 'SHIP

#BURGtotheBENZtotheBURG

THE REST OF THE STORY: Before anyone even dreamt that an Atlanta snow storm would close down Mercedes Benz Stadium in the midst of state football playoffs, GHSA had emailed out a contingency plan, just in case an emergency arose and the Benz plans had to change. Those plans involved moving games to the home field of the highest seeded team and playing one week later. So for most, it should have been no surprise that shutting down the Benz moved the last round of state to Trojan Field in Leesburg. But the decision was fraught – and fought – with controversy from the Coffee County opponent. Ultimately, the GHSA decision stood, but not without a week of challenges. In addition to dealing with the social media wars, the fire marshal, the GHSA requirements, and even standing by as Coffee and GHSA officials measured each bleacher with a measuring tape to assuring seating occupancy, Lee admins had to handle renting and transporting extra seating, temporary field house decisions for the opponent, crowd control measures, and other preparations. It was a week that separated the true champions from the wanna-bes in more places than just on the football field. But in reality, the only battle that really mattered was the one to be played on Trojan Field that Friday night. And Lee's DSGBs had that one under control.

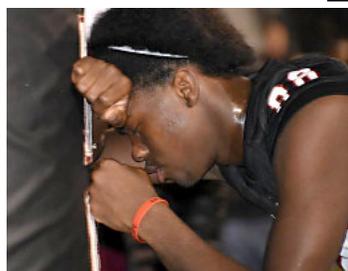


FAMI-LEE REUNION

Country music star and Lee alum **Luke Bryan** came back home to support his town. Not to sing, not to inspire, not even to cause a riot of attention from fans. The Leesbug native came simply to support his alma mater in their run for the state title. The stands and the sidelines were also filled with other dignitaries – mostly scouts from college programs across the country. But the most important spectators were those who had learned throughout the season the true feeling of family – and



that around here, the correct way to spell the word is fami-LEE. **April Trussell (Faculty)** and SGA had led students in creating noise makers throughout the week, with clear instructions to make a lot of noise whenever the Coffee offense took the field, so there was not a silent moment during the game.



"I was saying a prayer as I do every game; and at THAT moment, I'll admit, I was asking God to lead my team to victory."

– DREQUAN GARMON (12)

JUST ONE SIMPLE REQUEST

FIGHT for the FIELD

With only two minutes left in the game, the team was able to score, setting the game score at an even 21-21. Throughout the duration of the game, the scores never strayed far from each other, making it a nail biting event.



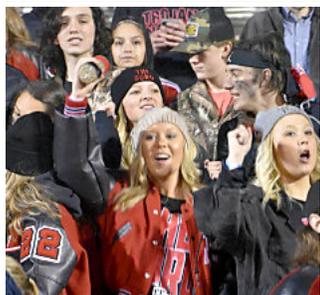
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TRIM LINE

TRIM LINE

STUDENTS SCREAM

Once social media conflicts heated up, it became obvious that Trojan Field would not only need additional seating; it would also need to keep student sections from the two schools as far apart as possible. And of course, the band seating must always go where the student seating goes. The new arrangement actually worked well for the home side. Students met pre-game in the multi-purpose building, then flowed out onto the new end-zone bleachers. **Chandler Albert (12)** said, "Everyone's vibe was electric . . . The feeling during the game was like no other before."



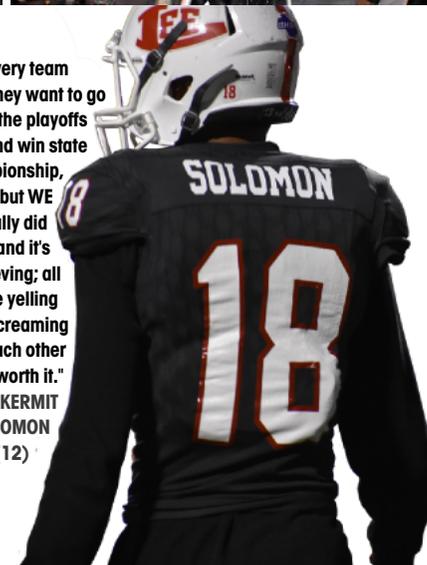
CELEBRATE, Y'ALL!

Although Coffee County started out strong and never let up, the home team never gave up and - eventually - were the ones to leave with a trophy. Celebrations after the game included group hugs, grown men crying, and a lot of excitement. It seemed that for a while, no one wanted to leave. It's safe to say that the whole community was happy with the outcome of this long awaited victory.



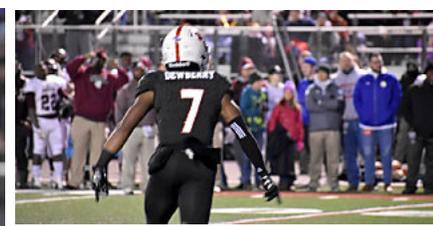
I BE TEE VE
#backintheburg

"Every team says they want to go to the playoffs and win state championship, but WE actually did it, and it's relieving; all the yelling and screaming at each other was worth it."
- KERMIT SOLOMON (12)



"It felt like all my hard work had paid off. Right when the final buzzer sounded, I couldn't help but drop to my knees."

- JASE ORNDORFF (12)



TRIM LINE

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