

Dawgs dominate their opening games



HERE COME THE DAWGS: The varsity football team runs out after halftime at their white out game against Austin High. The score at halftime was 47-0, with the final score being 59-0. "The game against Austin high was an important one because it was our district opening," Sonny Dedmon said. "With that being said I think the team performed really well and showed how well we play as a team in all phases of the game" **PHOTO BY** Reagan Zuniga



TOUCHDOWN: Senior Jackson Howards lifts receiver Cash Peters after he scores a touchdown against Stony Point. Peters averages 91 receiving yards a game. "We played the ball very well in the Stony Point game," Peters said. "We had a steady rhythm going which was the biggest key to us putting up so many points." **PHOTO BY** Reagan Zuniga



WIDE OPEN: Senior Anthony Simmons prepares to catch the ball for his first touchdown of the season. "We improved approaching the Stony Point game because we added new plays to showcase the variety of talents we have on offense," Noah Camacho said. **PHOTO BY** Reagan Zuniga



BARNES COMING THROUGH: Junior Max Barnes looks for an open route down field. Barnes has scored eight touchdowns and plays as both a receiver and running back. "I think Barnes has surprised a lot of people, not just our teammates but other teams as well with how well he is performing after missing all of last season," Noah Camacho said. **PHOTO BY** Reagan Zuniga

Undefeated varsity football shows promise of a successful regular and playoffs season

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Approaching their rivalry game against Westlake, the Bulldogs enter the game undefeated. Having already defeated teams such as Stony Point and Austin High, who the team had difficulty against last year, the varsity football team shows playoff potential.

The team accomplished these wins all while playing with their second string quarterback, Conner Kenyon, after Division I UT San Antonio commit Diego Tello broke his collarbone in the opening game against Vista Ridge.

"The loss of Diego really helped rally the team together to play harder," senior Sonny Dedmon said. "The defense specifically felt the need to ensure they were playing with all their effort with the offensive leader out, because we knew we had to help take some stress off the new offensive and we've been able to carry that momentum thus far."

Since starting as quarterback, Kenyon averages 176 passing yards a game and is completing 70% of his passes. He is also working with almost a

completely new O-line, with all of them starting for the first time this year except for Rick Mao.

"Kenyon came in and has been very consistent," coach Ty Branyon said. "He's completing a high percentage of catches, protecting the ball, not turning over the ball, making the right decision, and just overall being efficient."

In addition to Kenyon, multiple other players are stepping up this year to have a bigger impact on the team on both defense and offense. Junior Max Barnes returned to the team this year after tearing his patella avulsion last season and now leads the team in touchdowns.

"Barns has been a big asset of offense," coach Pittman said. "We've been able to utilize him as a receiver and a running back and he is averaging about 45 rushing yards and 40 receiving yards a game. We have different receivers each week that shine, last week it was Anthony Simmons against Del Valle and the week before Cash Peters against Austin High. The O-line is often forgotten about but they've all been doing well adjusting quickly and are playing efficiently."

With 47 seniors on the team this year, many of the players have played alongside each other for multiple years now. Captain Noah Camacho believes these relationships help contribute to the team's success.

"With all of us working towards a common goal that we've all had for years, we're able to communicate really well," Camacho said. "We also have a lot of chemistry because the seniors have been playing together for so long and the younger guys on the team follow us well."

After only winning two games last year, the Bulldogs have already shown improvement halfway through their season. The Bulldogs have attained the record of 5-0 as they go into the game against Westlake with high hopes.

"I think the game against Westlake will be a good game and definitely better to watch than in years past since we're the only undefeated teams in the district," Dedmon said. "I think we need to really just focus on working hard in practice each week. If we just go one week at a time, I think we will keep our momentum for the rest of the season and hopefully into the playoffs." ■



STEPPING UP: Quarterback Connor Kenyon throws to a receiver. This is Kenyon's first year starting as quarterback. "I was a bit surprised at first when I had to take over, but I got better as I practiced more," Kenyon said. "I think I've performed well so far but there's always room for improvement." **PHOTO BY** Reagan Zuniga



SACKED: Junior Aaron Gall celebrates after a sack against Stony Point. Gall has been part of the varsity team since his sophomore year. "I think defense is doing so well this year because we have a lot of people who returned so we all have a lot of chemistry by not losing a lot of seniors last year," senior Sonny Dedmon said. **PHOTO BY** Reagan Zuniga