

SPORTS

August gridiron, mean hot two-a-days

M.D. 'Doc' Smith
Bullard Banner Sports editor

It is August and a great time for football fans with the pros area already gracing us with our TV screens with preseason, and high school and college players all hitting the fields to begin their spring training programs.

Bullard High School will scrimmage White Oak at home on Saturday, August 21. Brook Hill will test their new players and seven new coaches in their scrimmage debut on the same date, August 21 as they lineup with Frankston.

BULLARD PANTHERS

The Bullard Panthers are under the direction of head coach, Jim Taylor for the second year as they embark on playing in the toughest 3A district in the state. Trying to improve on a 6-4 season mark and a 2-3, district run, the Panthers return several key skill positions.

The main returnee is two-way starter, Charlie Moore at quarterback and safety.

Offensively, Moore threw 114 times, completing 63, good for 1, 252 yards and seven touchdowns, and running for another 746 yards on 117 carries and 15 touchdowns rushing. At safety the senior, Moore made 65 tack-

les and five interceptions. Other key returnees for the Panthers include running back, DeQuan Granberry, WR/CB, Lance Anding, WR/LB, Nick Rumbelow, WR/CB, David Howard, OT/DE, David French, and two-way lineman, Blain Faulk.

New comers expected to make a difference for Coach Taylor include defensive lineman, Kolby Hanzel, wide receiver, Brandon Beavers, TE/LB, Morgan Franklin and two-way lineman, Jon Schmidt.

The Panthers had 80-plus players ready for the first workout this past Monday, and head coach, Jim Taylor said it was a surprisingly good first workout.

"Usually on the first day, there is a lot of standing and getting things organized, but we have a philosophy of getting in there and 'jumping into the fire' and we had a lot of kid's show up in great shape, and with great attitudes, and had a great first day."

THE BROOK HILL GUARD

The Guard returns 17 players, to the fold that won district with a 4-0 record and totaled out the year with a 7-4, ledger in 2007.

After adding seven new coaches to the Brook Hill staff,



Photo by Doc Smith

Brook Hill assistant coaches Bobby Stroupe and Vince Veazey go over playbook with quarterback and wide receivers during opening day practices.

head coach, Jim Klazak is pleased with the additions, the returnees and excited about some new blood in the system.

Key players for Brook Hill will be running back, Julius Johnson, defensive end, Jacob Johnson, linemen, Heath Dickey

and Luke Baker, linebacker, Luke Molidor, and quarterback, Tyler Baker.

Johnson reeled of 2,399 yards on the ground and scored 28 touchdowns as a sophomore, with eight offensive starters returning, and five on defense.

"We had around 42 players show up ready to go, and we still have a few more students we are expecting in.

"I was really pleased with the workout for a first day," said head coach, Klazak. "We have a lot of new faces that will take

some adjusting to getting with the program and how we do things but the kid's attitudes are great, and they are a hardworking group."

(To contact Doc Smith, email him at, news@bullardnews.com)

BALLPARK: Just a little respect, just a little bit

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close to \$1,000.

The culprit or culprits that did this had several cases of Gatorade and other items not easily disguised.

The Bullard Baseball Board is certain that someone out there knows who did this and we would like to see them made an example of.

"The Bullard Baseball Association operates solely on volunteers to run our organization and spend a lot of money out of our own pockets, as well and time that we donate to make this a success for our kids to play ball, said league co-president, Lori Rumbelow. "And we know pranks are common but his has cost a lot of people extra money, and the bottom line, it affects the kid's in the league from enjoying baseball the way they should be able to."

The manager of the concession shared the same sentiments.

"We have the full support of the Smith County Sheriff's office, and it is very frustrating to have these people or kids

just disrespect our property by destroying it and stealing things that we worked so hard to pay for," said board member Kristin Robertson, concessions manager. "Once we have proven that the information they gave us has led to an arrest or charges being made, we will then reward that person with \$100.00."

A reliable source at the Smith County Sheriff's department said, the location of the fields make it tough to be able to patrol that area with the consistency that it needs to find out more leads to the case.

The Sheriff's department is still pursuing leads, and they have a property investigator working the case and in charge and no further details area available at this time.

It is an active case being pursued and the Sheriff's office will make the Bullard Banner News aware of any progress or solutions in the theft.

Anyone with any information can contact Robertson

at 903-521-3967, Lori Rumbelow at 903-520-4115, or Doc Smith at 903-520-

2212. (To contact Doc Smith, email him at, news@bullardnews.com)

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