

New coach's vision taking hold for Feet as season looms

By Chris Siers
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New Webb School football coach Evan Gay has a vision for changing the culture in Bell Buckle.

A season ago, Webb went 0-9 and struggled with continuity throughout the season.

Having been part of several successful programs in Texas, Gay's vision of building the team's camaraderie is the first step in building his vision for the program.

"Because we're a boarding school, we have guys from all over. We have guys from the Bahamas, we have guys from Canada and our kicker is from Brazil. So really, we have guys from all over the world. My worry was, 'How are we going to get them to come together and be a team?'" Gay said.

"These two weeks have just been awesome. The guys have really come together and the brotherhood is forming. I think we have a lot of potential. We've talked a lot to the guys about this great opportunity we have coming off an 0-9 season last year and turning it around. Our potential is there, we just have to continue to work hard. If we continue to do that, I think we can surprise some people."

The focus so far has been the typical working on the offensive and defensive schemes, but more importantly, "building the brotherhood."

"It's been a lot of installing the new offense and defense, but it's also been a lot of 'building the brotherhood,' as we call it. It's our team-building stuff we've been doing," Gay said.

While every coaching change always has its share of shakeups within the program, Webb is running the same offense Gay called as an offensive coordinator in Texas.

Returning to lead that offense for the Feet in 2022 is running back Justis Haggard, who a season ago tallied over 1,000 all-purpose yards for Webb.

"I'm coming from Texas where I was the offensive coordinator and we're running the same offense I was running there. I've made a few changes, but he's a big piece into what we're going to do. I think we're going to be able to run the football and complementing that with our pass game is going to be really fun to watch," Gay said.

"If you back off to play the pass, Justis is going to hurt you. If you come up to stop the run, our wide receivers and quar-

terback are going to hurt you.

I think we have the potential to put a lot of points on the board. It could be a really fun season for us."

While Haggard will be featured in his own offensive packages, Gay is high on the players who have shown up during the summer camps as the season inched closer to kickoff.

"Nathan Brisebois is a quarterback we had come in from Canada, along with Jaycob Sauvageau and our running back Justis Haggard was an eighth-grader last year and he had over 1,000 all-purpose yards. Zethan Atwood is one of our big senior leaders. He's going to be playing running back, some receiver and some tight end. On defense, we've got Benson Harris who is our left tackle and will probably be our nose guard on defense," Gay said.

"We have some really good pieces. The core of this team looks really good. I'm excited to see what these guys can do."

The biggest challenge for Gay and his coaching staff have been the smaller roster numbers.

While starting out around 18 players, the numbers have slowly crept up into the mid 20s—and Gay expects the roster size to continue to grow even more.

"It's maybe not where we would like to see it, but the numbers are starting to grow. You get a little worried at that point because you don't have any room for injuries. But as camp has gone on, word has gotten out that this is a different team than last year," Gay said.

While the roster is loaded with talent, Gay says the first goal for Webb is pretty clear-cut.

"The first goal on the board is to get the first win. That's our first goal. I think this team has the ability to win every football game we will play this season. I believe the potential is there to compete for a championship. I wouldn't say that if I didn't think that was true. I think we have all the pieces we need. The biggest thing is staying conditioned and staying healthy. If we can do those things, we will have a chance to win every football game," he said.

Webb kicks off the season on Thursday, August 18 against Red Boiling Springs in Bell Buckle.

"There's a lot of energy in our locker room. The guys are excited to get out there," he said.

2022 Schedule

Aug. 19	vs. Red Boiling Springs
Aug. 26	at Clarksville Academy
Sept. 2	vs. Mt. Juliet Christian
Sept. 9	at Cannon Co.
Sept. 23	at Grace Christian
Sept. 30	at Friendship Christian*
Oct. 7	vs. Chattanooga Christian
Oct. 14	vs. MTCs*
Oct. 21	at King's Academy*
Oct. 28	Lakeway Christian*

* Denotes Div. II Class A East Region game

2021 Rewind

Aug. 20	vs. Silverdale Acad.	42-6	L
Aug. 27	vs. Clarksville Acad.	63-36	L
Sept. 3	at Mt. Juliet Christian	41-6	L
Sept. 10	vs. Cannon Co.	42-16	L
Sept. 24	vs. Grace Christian	42-10	L
Oct. 1	at Friendship Christian*	51-0	L
Oct. 15	at MTCs*	53-13	L
Oct. 22	vs. King's Academy*	56-6	L
Oct. 29	at Lakeway Christian*	56-19	L

* Denotes Div. II Class A East Region game

2022 Webb School Feet

No. 1	Zethan Atwood	TE/DE
No. 2	Justis Haggard	SB/FS
No. 3	Eli Laughlin	WR/CB
No. 5	Nathan Brisebois	QB/FS
No. 6	Tyrese Stovall	CB/WR
No. 7	Danny Bratta	WR/CB
No. 8	Roen Davis	WR/K/FS
No. 9	Wyatt Petroka	FB/DL
No. 10	Gustavo Machado	K/P
No. 11	Ramon Arellano	CB/RB
No. 12	Caleb Hagan	K/P
No. 13	Jack Butts	G/LB
No. 14	Joel Wyatt	WR/SS
No. 15	Jaycob Sauvageau	WR/CB
No. 20	Zion Ferguson	WR/CB
No. 21	Alex Smith	WR/CB

No. 22	Cecil Rodgers	QB/WR/CB
No. 24	Owen Fogle	RB/LB
No. 28	Gunnar Boles	FB/LB
No. 50	Benson Harris	T/DT
No. 52	Knox Wimberley	DL/C
No. 54	Austin Smith	T/DE
No. 55	Gage Lemaster	T/LB
No. 64	David Holland	G/DE
No. 70	Jackson Simpkins	T/DE
No. 71	Ryan Lawson	DT/T
No. 72	Rhett Davis	LB/G
No. 73	Hughes Bradley	G/DE

Head Coach: Evan Gay

Assistant Coaches: Jay Davis, John McCreery, Jalen Mosley

Coach Speak

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- Webb coach Evan Gay



Good Luck
This Season!

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