







10.11.17

Broadband meeting set for October 26

John Pilati Franklin Free Press

A community meeting will provide a forum for Franklin County residents to show their interest in countywide broadband to a prospective broadband provider.

The community meeting is set for Thursday, October 26 at 6 p.m. at Phil Campbell High School Auditorium. The event will be hosted by the Franklin County Water Service Authority, which is charged with overseeing and managing countywide broadband after Franklin County citizens approved a ballot

referendum in 2014.

Steve Foshee, president/CEO of Tombigbee Electric Cooperative, will speak at the meeting. The Tombigbee Electric Cooperative created Tombigbee Communications, LLC, a

"We need to get people in the seats for this meeting to find about the community's interest in this,' Aaron said.

company that, according to its website, provides "world-class, ultra-high-speed internet using fiber optics through its freedomFIBER services across northwest Alabama.'

Tombigbee Communications is currently building a network in the cities of Hamilton and Winfield. The company is headquartered in Hamilton. The freedomFIBER program ranges more than 200 miles across northwest Alabama, and the company says it plans to expand into the remainder of Marion County, into Lamar County and the cities of Haleyville and Fayette in 2018.

Doug Aaron, executive director of the Franklin County Water Service Authority, said the meeting will help the Franklin County Broadband Task Force determine

See 'BROADBAND,' Page 5

Kiel Equipment suffers Saturday break-in

Burglars take more than \$8,000 in merchandise in 'smash-and-grab' theft

John Pilati Franklin Free Press

Jamie Kiel thought he had everything in place at his business to deter would-be burglars from gaining unlawful entry. That turned out not to be the case.

Kiel's business, Kiel Equipment and Rental, was broken into early Saturday morning. Kiel had an alarm system installed more than 20 years ago with ADT Security, and that system includes glass smash detectors and detectors on the doors that detect when they are opened or closed.

A Russellville police officer noticed the broken front door early Saturday morning. More than \$8,000 worth of Stihl lawn care equipment was stolen, including chainsaws, blowers and trimmers. Kiel said the alarm did not sound and the officer just happened to see the broken front door.

"I called ADT Saturday, and they said the earliest they would be out here was Monday," Kiel said. "I called them back with a different tone, and they were at the store to enhance security measures Saturday morning."

This was the first theft Kiel has experienced at his business, located at 14696 Highway 43

at the intersection of Franklin 48.

We had some kids break in one time, but they were still there when we arrived," Kiel said. "They didn't take anything."

Described as a 'smash-and-grab' type theft, Saturday's robbery likely involved at least two offenders, one of whom went through the bottom of the front door and handed the items to his accomplice, who loaded them into a vehicle in a matter of minutes, Kiel said.

Russellville police encourage anyone with information on the burglary and theft to contact them at 256-332-2230 or to contact Shoals Crime Stoppers at 256-386-8685.





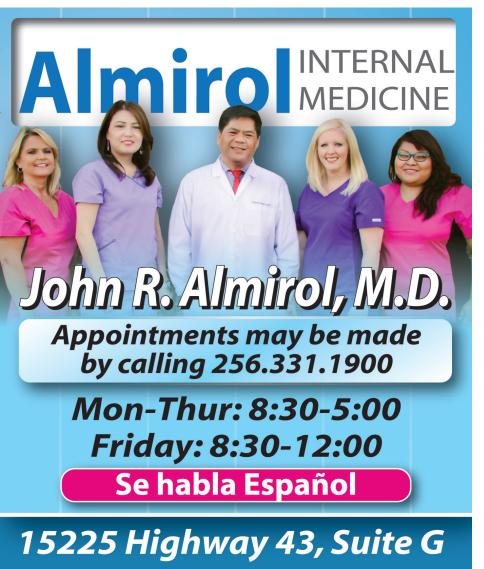
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JoAnn Gray, Russellville, age 81 Died Monday, October 9, 2017. Funeral arrangements had not been announced at press time. Pinkard Funeral Home was assisting the family.

Marshall Lee Kinard, Russellville, age 86 Died Monday, October 9, 2017. Funeral arrangements had not been announced at press time. Pinkard Funeral Home was assisting the family.

Inez Duboise Pierce, Russellville, age 91 Died Sunday, October 8, 2017. Funeral arrangements had not been announced at press time. Pinkard Funeral Home was assisting the family.



PAGE 3 OCTOBER 11, 2017

City council approves final stage of Kirby Park project

John Pilati Franklin Free Press

The Russellville City Council approved what should be the final expense on the renovation of Hal Kirby Jr. Ballpark at its October 2 meeting.

The council unanimously approved a proposal from Hovater's Metal Works to construct and install gates at the ballpark, as well as dugout covers for the six dugouts. The cost of the proposal was \$11,400.

After the park was effectively destroyed by a flash flood on May 27, 2015, the council applied for a \$250,000 grant to rebuild the facility. The application was filed as a Community Development Block Grant, administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs. The \$250,000 was the maximum amount an entity may apply for under CDBG rules.

Russellville mayor David Grissom said the gates and dugout covers should be the last additional expense required to complete the project. He expects the park to be open for spring of 2018.

"All the fencing is in now, and all we lack is the roofs on the dugouts and the gate," Grissom said. "We've sowed the fields with fescue grass. The infields will need work before the project is done."

The City of Russellville pledged \$54,399 in financial support for the rebuilding of the park, along with an additional \$55,000 in in-kind funding from labor from city employees. Mayor David Grissom said the gates and dugout covers should be the last additional expense required to complete the project. He expects the park to be open for spring of 2018.

The new ballpark will feature three fields available for T-ball, baseball or softball play.

In other action, the council:

•Declared the following items as surplus property and authorized the sale of the same through GovDeals.com: 1999 F550 V10 dump truck and a 2004 New Holland LB90 backhoe.

•Renewed its annual contract with NACOLG/Area Agency on Aging for operation of the Russellville Senior Center.

•Declared two vacancies for maintenance workers in the Russellville Park and Recreation Department and authorized advertisement to solicit job applications.

•Approved the roster of reserve officers for the Russellville Police Department. Those reserves include: Terri Saint, Kyle Clements, Charles Adcox, Alan Putman and Dylan Haney.

•Waived the rental fee for the A.W. Todd Centre for use by the Franklin County Career Technical Center on May 3, 2018.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Russellville City Council will be Monday, October 16, 2017 at 6:15 p.m.

Here's the beef!



COURTESY PHOTO Each October, the Franklin County Cattlemen's Association donates 100 pounds of ready-to-cook beef to every school in the county that has a Home Economics Department (Russellville, Red Bay, Belgreen, Phil Campbell). Cattlemen Association members are pictured above with Franklin County probate judge Barry Moore, Franklin County Schools superintendent Greg Hamilton and representatives from each of the participating schools.

MedExpress



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North Highlands Church of Christ in partnership with Food Bank of North Alabama



Every 3rd Saturday of each month Sat., October 21

When: 9:00am-11:00am Where: North Highlands Church of Christ Fellowship Hall

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..." Matthew 25:35



"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..." Matthew 25:35

PAGE 4 OCTOBER 11, 2017 Honey Do: Two ways out

PAGE 4 OCTOBER 11, 2017

This week is "National Fire Prevention Week," and the emphasis this year is, *Every second counts, Plan* 2 ways out. The NFPA is encouraging folks to draw a map of their home and plan two ways out of each room along with a path to the outside to a preplanned meeting place, preferably one that is well lit and out of the way of emergency vehicles. You can find a grid on www.nfpa.org that will aide in drawing the plan.

Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Every household member that can walk should know and understand the fire escape plan. You should practice a home fire drill at least twice a year.

Plan one at night, one during the day. Make sure children know what to do in a fire situation. This doesn't have to be a scary thing. Make it a game, and they will know what to do should the time come. Doors and windows should be easy for kids to open.

Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the

marked and easy for the fire department to find. Close doors behind you as you leave;

this may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire. Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

On average, you will have one to two minutes to get out after a fire alarm sounds. Yes, seconds count.

This information and more can be found at www.nfpa.org/publiceducation. © NFPA.

Make it a point to say "thank you" to a firefighter, policeman or EMT this month. And remember, help is just around the corner at your local hardware store.

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, visit us on the web at www.franklinfreepress.net!

Send your guest columns, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.



ple, regular review and coaching session on finances. This is an exciting time in your lives. You've laid a foundation, and it's time for this little one to spread his wings a bit. Together, you can make sure he's learning and living the way a young man should! Dave

Leasing equals financing

Dear Dave,

What is your opinion on leasing cell phones? Monica

Dear Monica,

In most cases, leasing something is just another way of financing. I wouldn't lease anything, apart from a building or office space for a business in the short term.

In most cases, leasing something is just another way of financing. I wouldn't lease anything, apart from a building or office space for a business in the short term.

There are almost always hidden conditions and a few "gotchas" hidden in the fine print of leases. Besides, *leasing* a cell phone? Really? Come on! If you can't pay cash for something like a cell phone, it means you can't afford the phone. It's as simple as that!

Dave

*Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 13 million listeners each week on 585 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.

FRANKLIN

FREE PRESS

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The *Franklin Free Press* strives for excellence and accuracy, and we will be pleased to correct any error in our newspaper. To request a correction or clarification, call or e-mail our office.

Letters to the editor

The *Franklin Free Press* is published by hometown people, for hometown people. We urge contributions of all kinds, including guest columns, picture submissions, cartoons or letters to the editor. Send any letters to our office via U.S. Postal Service or e-mail, and we will gladly publish them. Letters must be signed and contain the hometown and phone number of the author. The *Franklin Free Press* reserves the right to edit letters for style, length and content.

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He's becoming a man

Dear Dave,

My son is about to go off to college, and I'm concerned about how he'll handle his money when he gets there. We've taught all our children how to use your envelope system and to save and give, but I'd like some advice on how he can safeguard his finances a little better.

Ashley

Dear Ashley,

If you haven't already covered it, he needs to learn to utilize a debit card and reconcile a checking account. Set the account up in your name *and* his, so you can follow what's going on in the account. If there's an issue, this gives you easy access so that a minor incident doesn't become a huge problem.

Right now, the best way for him to learn is to make educated, informed decisions on his own and to stand on his own two feet. You're there for guidance at this point—not control. I'd let him use a debit card, cash and have a few simple envelopes for expenses. He also needs to report back to you monthly what's going on with the budget.

What I'm talking about here isn't control; it's a sim-

Hospital offers discounted mammograms in October

Submitted to the FFP

According to American Cancer Society estimates, nearly 4,000 new cases of breast cancer will occur in the state of Alabama this year. In the U.S., women have a one-in-eight chance of developing breast cancer in their lifetime.

The good news is, an annual screening mammogram can detect cancer early and save lives. Russellville Hospital is again offering \$50 digital mammograms during the month of October, which is breast cancer awareness month. This preventive screening can find 85 to 90 percent of breast cancers in women and discover a lump up to two years before it can be felt. Digital Mammography provides superior imagery for a more accurate diagnosis. Other benefits include:

- •A 28-percent higher detection rate.
- •Improved image flexibility.
- •A more accurate diagnosis.
- •Better visibility at the skin line.
- Shorter exam times.Less radiation exposure.

"We encourage all women above the age of 40 to take action and get a screening mammogram," said Christine Stewart, CEO of Russellville Hospital. "The test is quick and convenient and can detect cancer early, ultimately saving lives."

For more info or to schedule your next mammogram, call (256) 332-8688.

'BROADBAND,' from page 1

whether there is sufficient local interest to present to freedomFIBER.

"Why reinvent the wheel?" Aaron said. "These folks have a baseline and direction. Why can't we step in and help them and benefit all of Franklin County?

"We've been tasked to do this. The task force is a good thing, but they don't have authority. We have the authority, and we need to move ahead and we want to move ahead."

Aaron hopes to see a good turnout at the meeting to show there is a local base of support and prospective users to present to freedomFIBER in hopes of having them start operations in Franklin County.

"We need to get people in the seats for this meeting to find about the community's interest in this," Aaron said.

Fiber optic networks like the ones used by freedomFIBER offer a higher, more consistent speed than other forms of internet. The service is not metered, so customers have the same amount of internet available at month's end as they do at the beginning.

The company says it will offer two speeds: 100 Mbps (up and down) or 1 Gig (up and down), with service sufficient for online gaming and streaming.

Fiber optic technology consists of bundled tubes of glass that transmit messages modulated onto light waves, according to www.freedomfiber.com.

The company pledges to provide the capability for users to "download and send large files in seconds, stream highquality TV or video conferences seamlessly, download entire HD movies in minutes or stream multiple videos simultaneously while maintaining enough connectivity to browse the internet."





Thursday, October 26, 2017 A. W. Todd Center Russellville, AL 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Doors Open at 8:30 a.m.!

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Social Security Updates Weight Management Healthy Eating Estate Planning Funeral Planning Exercise Breast Cancer Updates Tours & Trips and much more!

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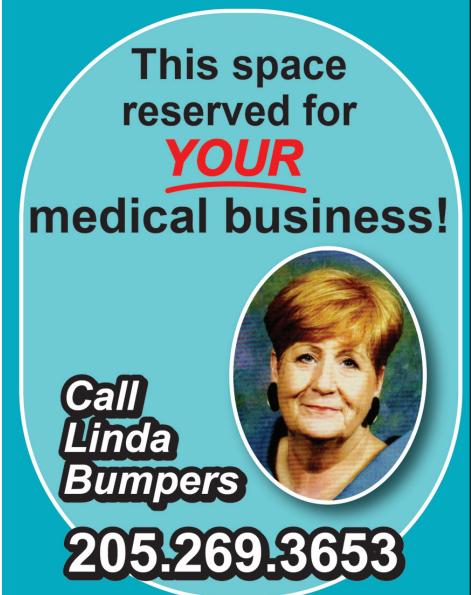
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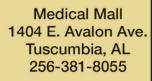
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Lexington Clinic 11631 Highway 101 Lexington, AL 256-229-6262



What's Happening

events of interest • family reunions • plays • church gatherings • educational • club meetings

Prince an point study crub includes are setting texets for a barbeque dinner by Mr. William Bishop for \$10 each. Dinner will be this Thursday, October 12, and plates can be picked up at the Phil Campbell Rescue Squad Building from 3-6:30 p.m. on that day. Dinners consist of smoked chicken half (with white sauce) or BBQ pork (with BBQ sauce), baked beans, coleslaw, roll, bottled water and dessert. Dinners sold in advance will be reserved for that person; however, walk-ins will be served as long as supply lasts. Proceeds will be used for scholarships and other worthwhile community projects.

A merican Legion Post 64 meets the second Thursday of each month at the Chamber of Commerce office on Jackson Avenue. Meal served around 6 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m. Next meeting will be this Thursday, October 12.

My Father's House Church (104 Lawrence Street East, Russellville, AL 35653) will be selling spaghetti plates (with salad, bread, dessert and drink) for \$7.00 this Friday, October 13. Lunch will be from 12-1:30 p.m. (eat at church, or delivery is available in the city). Plates will also be served from 4:30-6:30 p.m. (no delivery). For more info or to buy tickets, call 256-460-1376.

The Greenhill-Ezzell Cemetery Board will meet this Saturday, October 14 at 9 a.m. at Rustic Youth Camp. All friends of the cemetery are invited and encouraged to attend.

Fairview Cemetery meeting will be held at Back-to-Basic Life Skills Center in the old Reedtown School building in Russellville this Saturday, October 14 at 10 a.m.

The Kerry Gilbert Band will perform a benefit concert with special guests Charlton James and Konner Bendall at the Roxy Theatre in downtown Russellville this Saturday, October 14 at 7 p.m. General admission seating. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12, and free for children under 6. Group discounts available! Call 256-335-4356.

Northwest-Shoals Community College's Foundation will celebrate its 25th consecutive year of the annual Pathfinders' Dinner on Thursday, October 19 at George's 217 in Sheffield. The semi-formal evening, sponsored by Helen Keller Hospital and Zoey Belle's, will consist of a reception at 6 p.m., dinner beginning at 7 p.m. and entertainment by the NW-SCC Jazz Band. Tickets can be purchased online via PayPal at https://www.nwscc.edu/about-nw-scc/foundation or by calling 256-331-5215/5240. Contributions are federal income tax-deductible, and all proceeds will go to the NW-SCC Foundation Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$75 or \$600 per table (seats 8) and include reserved seating. Tickets are now available at all branches of First Metro Bank. For more information or tickets, please contact Teresa Harrison at (256) 331-5215 or teresah@nwscc.edu.

The Spruce Pine Historical Society will be having Craft Night on the third Thursday of each month at the Spruce Pine Community Center at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call Kim at 256-436-3992.

Gentiva Hospice offers a grief support group, "Grieving Well Together," that meets the third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Lenox room at Calvary Baptist Church in Russellville. You are invited to attend.



What's Happening 256.332.0255 EVENTS OF INTEREST • FAMILY REUNIONS • PLAYS • CHURCH GATHERINGS • EDUCATIONAL • CLUB MEETINGS

Belgreen High School will host a Fall Festival on Thursday, October 19 from 5:30-8 p.m. There will be bingo, concessions, a haunted house, a cake walk, hayrides, fun games, a fortune teller, a toy walk, great prizes and much, much more! Admission is free!

The Helen Keller Hospital Foundation will host the Ed Borden and Steve Nesbitt Memorial Golf Tournament on Friday, October 20 at Robert Trent Jones of the Shoals. The tournament will be a four-person scramble with two flights (based on total team scores, not on individual handicaps) on each course. Players will have the opportunity to buy tickets to win a grand prize valued at over \$1,000 during the golf ball drop scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on the day of the tournament. The tournament will provide funds for the 2017 Foundation project of focusing on the Women's Center and Labor and Delivery at Helen Keller Hospital. The project also supports the Bright Little Stars Reading Program, an early reading initiative where we present books to each newborn at Helen Keller Hospital. To sign up or become a sponsor, please call 256-386-4747 or 256-386-4052.

The Alvin Baker Family Reunion will be held Saturday, October 21 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Union Community Center (5988 Hwy. 93, Russellville, AL 35654). Friends and relatives are invited to bring a covered dish. Lunch will be served at noon. For more information, call Louise Baker at 256-398-8158 or Leila Moore at 256-460-0849.

Russellville Public Library will host the fifth annual Zombie Walk in and the doors open at 10 a.m. The festivities include a professional makeup team to help you get zombie-ready, zombie karaoke, zombie trivia and movie marathon, a brain-eating contest, a dance party for all ages, a costume contest and more. Shoals Kitchen food truck will be on site to provide a full menu for attendees hungry for more than brains. This is an all-age event, and the walk begins at 5:30 p.m. Door prizes have been generously donated by local businesses. If your business would like to help sponsor this annual event, let us know! For more information, contact Ashley at Russellville Public Library (256-332-1535). Follow Russellville Public Library on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and SnapChat for up-to-date details.

The Haleyville Neighborhood Facility Building (1205 10th Avenue, Rooms 3 and 4) will host a Boating License Course on Saturday, October 21 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free eight-hour course will end with a test. Pass the course and receive vessel license. Course is open to the public and covers boating safety, laws of the waterway, basic water navigation and water safety. Must have Social Security card and photo ID. For more information, contact Marine Patrol Trooper Pat Welton at 256-460-3050 or 256-810-1275.

A Senior Health Fair will be held Thursday, October 26 from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the A.W. Todd Center in Russellville. Doors open at 8:30 a.m.! Learn more about Social Security updates, weight management, healthy eating, estate planning, funeral planning, exercise, breast cancer updates, tours & trips, and much more! Area exhibitors will be on site! Event is free of charge, and lunch will be served. Pre-register by calling the Franklin County Extension Office at 256-332-8880 or the Foster Grandparent Program at 256-332-6800.

Community Trunk or Treat will be held Tuesday, October 31 from 6-8 p.m. in downtown Russellville on Jackson Avenue. Admission is free. To register your organization or for more information, call 256-332-1760. Deadline for registration is October 27, 2017.

The Russellville Scorpions Elite 9-and-Under Baseball Team is selling chances on 30 Guns in 30 Days as a team fund raiser. Drawing begins November 1 and continues for 30 days, with one gun given away daily. Donations for chances are \$30/ticket. You do not have to be present to win. Funds will be used for team travel and expenses. Chances available through October 31. Call Blake Entrekin at 256-483-7512 for more information.

Special Ed Department set to destroy records Nov. 1st

Submitted to the FFP

The Franklin County Special Education Department will be destroying special education records for any former student with a birth date prior to 1992. Destruction will be conducted according to local policy and will begin November 1, 2017.

If you wish to retrieve a copy of a record beforehand, please contact the Special Education Department at (256) 332-8814 before October 23.

In addition, to meet Child Find requirements, the Franklin County School System provides appropriate educational opportunities to children with disabilities ages 3 to 21 that are eligible for services within the Franklin County District.

The Franklin County School System ensures that a free, appropriate public education, consistent with the standards established by the local special education plan and by state and federal regulations, is being provided to all children with disabilities ages 3 to 21.

If you have questions concerning special education services for a qualifying child, please call Mrs. Jennifer Whitfield at (256) 332-8814, ext. 1503.

Tractor Supply celebrating Russellville grand opening

Submitted to the FFP

Tractor Supply Company will celebrate its grand opening in Russellville with a community celebration featuring entertainment, giveaways and special events.

As part of the family-friendly celebration from this Thursday, October 12 through Sunday, October 15, Tractor Supply customers will receive a 10-percent discount on all purchases made at the store, on top of already great prices.

During the main event this Saturday, October 14, visitors will have the opportunity to take home a Tractor Supply hat and register for the chance to win gift cards while supplies last. The grand opening will also include special events and activities for customers to enjoy.

Attendees will see a few familiar faces among the store's knowledgeable and friendly team members. Store manager Renae Halbrooks is excited to lend her expertise to the store's many customers.

"At Tractor Supply we understand the value of community, which is why we made it a priority to build a team with deep roots in Russellville," said Halbrooks. "Our team members live the same lifestyle as our customers, and we're excited to supply them with the tools, information and resources they need to live life on their own terms."

The Russellville Tractor Supply will provide a one-stop shop for the community, serving farmers, livestock and pet owners, ranchers, part-time and hobby farmers, gardeners, homeowners, tradesmen and others. Tractor Supply customers will be able to choose from a wide range of products including workwear and boots, equine and pet supplies, tractor and trailer parts and accessories, lawn and garden supplies, sprinkler and irrigation parts, power tools, fencing, welding and pump supplies, riding mowers and more. The store will carry top brands such as Purina, Carhartt, Blue Buffalo and Hobart, as well as products exclusive to Tractor Supply. The Russellville store will also include a pet wash station, where customers will have access to professional-grade wash bays, grooming tables and tools.

In addition to supplying dependable products for farm, ranch and rural customers, the Russellville Tractor Supply will regularly host events with community partners including local animal shelters, area 4-H clubs and FFA chapters, and more. Customers can also sign up for Tractor Supply's new Neighbor's Club loyalty program, which will make them eligible to receive member-only offers, birthday offers, personal purchase summaries and receipt-free returns.

The Russellville Tractor Supply store, located at 14001 Highway 43 Ste. 14, will keep regular business hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. beginning Monday, October 16. To learn more about Tractor Supply Company, visit TractorSupply.com. For additional information on the Neighbor's Club program, please visit NeighborsClub.com.

Jeffrey D. Manord, M.D. GENERAL & VASCULAR SURGERY

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Dr. Jeffre General 8 Sw

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from 7am-until at 401

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tub plus sizes and a

variety of clothing for

children/adults and much

more

Relay for Life fundraiser

vard sale at Southside

Baptist Church on Hwy

43 in Russellville this

Friday & Saturday,

October 13-14 from

7 am-until both days

Three yard sales on

Auburn Street this Friday

& Saturday, October 13-

14 from 7 am-until. Lots

of good stuff.Off Hwy.

43, one block behind the

church of God. Old

lawnmowers. furniture.

curtains, bedspreads,

household goods and

many other items.

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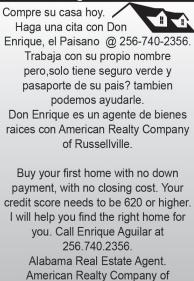
YARD SALES/ ESTATE SALES

Yard sale this Thursday & Friday, October 12-13, at 129 Duncan Street, Russellville

Yard Sale this Thursday & Friday, October 12-13 at 911 Adams Street NW. Little girls toys and clothes, lots of good items, cheap

Multi-Family Yard Sale at 55 Oak Hill Drive this Friday & Saturday, October 13-14. Baby boy/toddler clothes, baby items, housewares, ladies & some men's clothes, and lots more

Amigo Paisano



Russellville

Neighborhood garage sales this Friday & Saturday, Oct. 13-14. Brookewood subdivision. off Underwood Road. 7 am-noon, both days

Two-family Yard Sale this Saturday, October 14 at 3231 Waterloo Rd. Lots of bargains!

GIVEAWAYS Free kittens, Five

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Displaced students find new schools

John Pilati Franklin Free Press

With more than 1.8 million people displaced from Hurricane Irma alone, thousands of students had to find new schools, at least on a temporary basis.

While Franklin County didn't receive any new enrollments from Irma victims, students who are temporarily or permanently displaced have the protection of a federal law known as the McKinney-Vento Act that deals with homeless students.

'When you've got more than a million people without electricity or homes, I'd say you'll probably pick up some students," Hamilton said. "And that's a good thing, because if they stay around our county long enough, they may like it and stay."

The federal law defines a homeless student as "one who lives in temporary shelters and those who use places not designed for sleeping as their regular nighttime residence, such as a car, park, abandoned building, bus, train station, airport or camping ground."

The law also applies to students who are displaced and forced to stay with relatives or family friends.

More than a dozen families stayed in Russellville motels in the wake of Irma, and they were aided by local churches who provided meals and supplies for them. The families were only in Franklin County a few days before most were able to return home, so they did not enroll their children in local schools.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, several students enrolled in Franklin County schools after their families were forced to leave the Gulf Coast. Many of those families had to wait months before they were able to return home.

According to the federal law, a school district must have a coordinator to make accommodations for displaced or homeless students, and those students must be immediately enrolled, even without the usual requisite paperwork.

"We have a policy in place with funding set aside each year for homeless students," Hamilton said. "We will enroll them if they come to our county.'

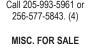
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Week 7 in the SEC

Mike Self Franklin Free Press

Week 7 in the SEC has arrived, bringing with it six more conference games. Georgia's roll should continue at home against Missouri, and Vanderbilt may finally get that running game cranked up in what should be a close game in Oxford. But we've got bigger fish to fry. Let's get on with this week's official picks.

Last week's record: 3-1 (Season record: 18-6) Saturday, October 14

Auburn (5-1, 3-0) at LSU (4-2, 1-1)

Auburn certainly looks like the better team, but here are three reasons why LSU could pull this one off: The game is in Baton Rouge, where Auburn hasn't won since 1999; LSU might have salvaged its season—at least temporarily—with last week's 17-16 win in The Swamp; and this will be the best pass rush Auburn has faced since the 11-sack debacle at Clemson.

Despite all that, though, Auburn is a touchdown favorite on the road for a reason—namely a defense that figures to give LSU's still struggling offense all sorts of problems. Plus, even in beating Florida last week, LSU still looked vulnerable on defense against the run. This will be Jarrett Stidham's first real prove-it game since Clemson, but he should be up to the challenge.

The Pick: Auburn 27 LSU 17

Arkansas (2-3, 0-2) at Alabama (6-0, 3-0) A slew of defensive touchdowns turned what

was a close game for Arkansas at South Carolina last week into a rout, but the bottom line is the Razorbacks just aren't very good. Coming off a blah offensive showing in College Station, Alabama should resume juggernaut mode.

The Pick: Alabama 42 Arkansas 10

S. Carolina (4-2, 2-2) at Tennessee (3-2, 0-2) Are we to the point where every single week is now a referendum on Butch Jones' job in Knoxville? Either way, Tennessee sure could use their first conference win. Coming off the bye week against a South Carolina offense that's still rather pedestrian without Deebo Samuel, we'll say they circle the wagons and get it.

The Pick: Tennessee 27 South Carolina 24

Texas A&M (4-2, 2-1) at Florida (4-2, 3-1) If the normally reliable Eddy Pineiro doesn't miss an extra point last week, the Gators very possibly finish off a comeback win over LSU. But he did, they didn't, and now Florida faces a game it must win if it hopes to keep any semblance of pressure on Georgia in the East race.

A&M looks like the better team, and freshman quarterback Kellen Mond has some special in him. But beware the post-Alabama hangover, and beware young quarterbacks in hostile road environments. Pineiro redeems himself this week with a game-winner.

The Pick: Florida 23 Texas A&M 21

Colbert clash

Wildcats look to seize opportunity and make history by beating Indians *Mike Self*

Franklin Free Press

Taylor Leathers walked into the Colbert Heights football facility on Sunday afternoon and wrote a series of numbers on the white board: 3-30 and 2011.

The first two numbers represent the Wildcats' all-time record versus Colbert County, the team that will visit Amos Mitchell Stadium on Friday night for a monster Class 3A, Region 8 showdown. The final number is a year, the most recent one in which Colbert Heights earned a win over the rival Indians.



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PHOTO BY KYLE GLASGOW

See 'CLASH,' page 14

Senior quarterback Kevin Shaw (3), who leads Colbert Heights with 621 rushing yards this season, will try and help the Wildcats beat rival Colbert County for just the fourth time ever on Friday when the two teams meet at Amos Mitchell Stadium.

Red Bay readies for 'get-in' game

Mike Self Franklin Free Press

The high school football playoffs don't officially begin until November 10, but Red Bay coach Michael Jackson and the Tigers are operating on a different schedule. As far as they're concerned, the postseason starts now.

"This is a playoff game—that's how we're approaching it," said Jackson, whose team will host Sheffield on Friday in what amounts to a do-or-die showdown at Fred Bostick Memorial Stadium. "Anything that happens after this week can help our chances and improve our standing, but with the way the region looks right now, this is basically a get-in game."

Red Bay (3-3 overall, 1-2 in Class 2A, Region 8) has not missed the playoffs since 1998, a streak of 18 consecutive appearances. If the Tigers want to keep that streak alive, they'll almost certainly need to beat Sheffield (2-5, 2-2) on Friday. A loss would drop Red Bay to 1-3 in region play, with a tough road game at Sulligent (5-1, 3-0) looming next week.

The Bulldogs, meanwhile, are also in must-win mode; their only other remaining region game after Friday's trip to Red Bay is next week against region co-leader Lamar County (5-2, 4-0).

"This is a really big region game, obviously," Jackson said on Sunday night. "Our kids are excited to play it and excited about having it at home. We're expecting a really good game."

Jackson was encouraged by his team's performance last week in a hostile environment at Lamar County. Red Bay lost 21-12 but largely bottled up the Bulldogs' big-play passing attack, holding them well below their season average of 35.3 points per game.

The Tigers also made two big plays of their own



PHOTO BY KYLE GLASGOW

JET SET - Red Bay's Max Bullen (6) ran for 87 yards on just eight carries at Lamar County, including a 66-yard touchdown on a jet sweep. The Tigers will host Sheffield Friday in a critical region battle.

(touchdown runs of 71 yards by Aaron Lewey and 66 yards by Max Bullen) and had two more nullified by game-changing penalties. [A 96-yard kickoff return for a score by Bullen was negated by a flag for a blind-side block, and a 50-yard run by Lewey down inside the Lamar County 10-yard line was wiped out by a holding

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'CLASH' from page 13

Leathers, who has led the Wildcats to a 6-1 record (3-1 in region play) in his second season as head coach, wanted to make sure his players understood the magnitude of what they could accomplish this week.

"This is a make-history game for us," he said on Sunday night, driving home after a long afternoon and evening spent reviewing film of Colbert County (4-2, 3-1). "In the history of this rivalry, Colbert Heights has won this game three times, and Colbert County has won thirty. That's unbelievable. The last time Colbert Heights won was 2011. So this is an opportunity for us to make history.

"I asked our guys this afternoon, 'What do you want people to say about you when your playing time is done and you walk out that door?' They can already say that the 2017 team beat Red Bay for the first time in a long time and beat Sheffield for the first time in several years and started 6-1 for the first time since I don't even know when [2010, when the Wildcats won eight of their first nine games before losing to-guess who-Colbert County 34-31 in the regular season finale]. But this is an opportunity for these guys to really leave their mark on the program."

It's also a chance for the Wildcats to all but assure themselves of their first playoff berth since 2011 and remain in the hunt for a Region 8 championship. Leathers understands, though, that beating Colbert County for just the fourth time ever would mean so much more to folks on The Mountain.

"This is the kind of game you play football for," he said. "As a coach, it's the kind of game you coach for. It's a true competitor's dream. We're both in the same county, the same school system. We play each other in the area tournament, in every sport. Colbert County has a good football team, and they're coming to our place. We've got a good team, too.

"I think we'll have an even bigger crowd than we had last week for homecoming. Our side will be full, and you know Colbert County will bring a bunch of people, too. It'll be packed out. I'm expecting a playoff atmosphere."

Friday night will undoubtedly bring a good gate; but will it also bring a good game? After all, since beating the Indians 26-6 back in 2011, the Wildcats have dropped the last five meetings by an aggregate margin of 198-25. Last year's 41-0 loss in Leighton matched the most lop-sided defeat Colbert Heights has suffered in the series since Colbert County won the very first meeting 49-0 in 1970.

If the Wildcats are to buck that recent trend, Leathers said they'll have to overcome a significant psychological hurdle first.

"Everybody likes to talk about athleticism," he said, "and it's important. But you're always gonna have players on your team who aren't as athletic as other players on your team or as athletic as players on the other team. That's part of

it. But what people don't talk about nearly as much is the mental side of things, the psychological side. You have to believe you can win the game. And just saying you believe you can win the game is not enough. Your actions will tell whether or not you really believe you can win.

"Last year we had a pretty good team, and we went over there and got beat 41-0. Colbert County was really good, but I didn't think they were 41-0 better than us. We just didn't compete at a high level. When you really believe you can win the game, that's what gives you the motivation to compete at a high level on every play, to give max effort on every play.

"One hundred percent effort is all we can give. If we can look back on it and say we did everything we could to try and win that football game, then that's all we can ask for."

The Wildcats will once again be at a disadvantage athlete-wise-as they virtually always are against Colbert County. But the Indians could be down one particularly special athlete on Friday night. Dynamic senior tailback Kobi McCoy, who rushed for more than 1,300 yards in the first five games of the season, sat out last Friday's game against Clements due to what first-year head coach Brett Mask termed a violation of team rules.

Mask told the TimesDaily that McCoy's status for this week was unclear, but the Indians didn't seem to miss him much against Clements, getting 158 yards rushing and three total touchdowns from 6'0, 235-pound senior back Chance Bates and 113 yards rushing from J'Daryus Nance in a 34-7 rout.

"They didn't miss a beat," Leathers said. "They ran the ball just as well without [McCoy] as they did with him. He's an exceptional athlete, no doubt. I coached against [current Auburn tailback] Kerryon Johnson when he was at Madison Academy, and Kerryon was a phenom. Kobi McCoy is the best athlete at the running back position that we've seen since Kerryon, but Colbert County is not a one-man show by any means.

"Chance Bates is an exceptional player, a Division One prospect. He might be a tenth [of a second] slower than McCoy, but he's a bruiser. He's hard to tackle. And they have other good backs, too. We'll have to be in the right spot defensively and play with great effort."

Leathers said that kind of effort was largely missing in last Friday's lackluster homecoming win over Elkmont. The Red Devils, whose 1-5 start to the season included a 50-6 rout at the hands of Colbert County, scored a late touchdown to cut Colbert Heights' lead to 15-13, but senior safety Kevin Shaw broke up a two-point pass in the end zone and the Wildcats held on for the win-albeit one that wasn't very satisfying.

"After the game, our guys felt like we had lost," Leathers said. "The coaches felt the same way. We had issues with



Russellville looks to keep momentum rolling against Brooks

Mike Self Franklin Free Press

A 42-21 win over St. John Paul II last Friday in Madison kept Russellville's faint playoff hopes alive. Now comes the hard part—sustaining that momentum against the reigning region champs.

Brooks (3-2, 3-1 in Class 5A, Region 8) will visit Golden Tiger Stadium on Friday for the first time since 1985 to face a Russellville team with its back squarely against the wall. The Golden Tigers (1-5, 1-3) may need to win out in region play to avoid missing the postseason for just the second time in the past 18 years, but last week's win over the Falcons was a step in the right direction.

"We needed it bad," head coach Mark Heaton said on Monday morning. "We're thankful for the win—especially a region win. It gives us a chance to keep pushing toward our goal of getting into the playoffs. We've got three tough weeks ahead."

Up first are the Lions, who were unbeaten in Region 8 play before letting a 26-7 lead slip away last Friday at home in a 29-26 loss to Mae Jemison. That same Jemison team beat Russellville 56-10 at Milton Frank Stadium on September 22.

"Jemison had a few turnovers, and Brooks did a good job of capitalizing on those and controlling the clock and time of possession in the first half," Heaton said. "Jemison was on the road, and they looked a little flat. They turned the ball over a lot, Brooks makes a couple of plays, and all of a sudden they're up big. But give credit to Mae Jemison. They fought back, and once the tide started turning and they started clicking, they were really good. They looked like the football team we played a couple weeks ago."

While the Lions were taking their first region loss, the Golden Tigers were picking up their first region win—thanks in no small part to a career night from senior Bernard Phinizee, who returned the opening kickoff 85 yards for a touchdown, ran back another kickoff 90 yards for a score and finished with 332 all-purpose yards and three total touchdowns. Fellow senior Robert Hamilton added a pair of receiving touchdowns, including one on which he appeared to be tackled after a short gain but managed to roll right off a defender and keep his feet before racing to the end zone for a 31-yard score. "Those two guys, Bernard and Robert, are the hard-

est-working guys we've got," Heaton said. "They go wide open at practice, and they're willing to do anything you ask them to do. It was big for them to have that kind of night. We've had our struggles this year, so for them to be able to see the other side of it and put some things together definitely helped.

"We hope they can carry us through the second half of the season. We need those guys to make plays. When defenses take away one of them, we need the other one to step up."

St. John Paul's defense wasn't able to take away much last Friday night. Russellville, which entered the game with 159 rushing yards total through the first five games, ran 31 times for 184 yards—including 106 on 15 carries by Phinizee and 56 on eight attempts by Hamilton. Heaton credited the offensive line (senior left tackle Will Rushing, freshman left guard Edgar Amaya, senior center John David Palmer, junior right guard Ondre Armstead and senior right tackle John David Aycock) with paving the way for the improved rushing attack, along with senior Jeff Lloyd, who worked in at fullback for the first time this season and made a major impact as a lead blocker.

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RUSSELLVILLE

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turnovers, with effort and with execution. We just weren't focused, which can happen on homecoming. There's so much other stuff going on that can be a distraction. We were glad to get to 6-1, but we also understand that if we keep playing like that, we won't win another game. We'll finish 6-4, and that's not where we want to be."

The Wildcats lost two second-half fumbles deep in Elkmont territory, but they did finish the game with 269 rushing yards on 43 attempts. Senior fullback Dylan Chandler ran for 103 yards on 14 carries, and Shaw, the team's senior quarterback, added 72 yards and a touchdown on 16 attempts. Braden McCaig and Chandler Willis carried five times apiece and combined to run for 79 yards. For the season, Shaw has rushed for 621 yards and five touchdowns on 105 attempts, and Chandler has run for 507 yards and a team-high 12 scores on 84 carries. Shaw has only attempted 47 passes (completing 21 for 322 yards and three touchdowns), but the Wildcats will likely need a balanced and complete offensive effort to put enough points on the board against a talented Colbert County defense that has held three of

four region opponents to single digits. "They're very fast and very physical," said Leathers, who served as offensive coordinator at Lexington for four years prior to taking over the Wildcat program in 2016. "They fly to the football, and they don't let up when they get there. Chance Bates is an exceptional linebacker. I've been coaching against him for four years now. He's outstanding." The Colbert Heights defense has been outstanding this season as well, holding opponents to just 12.1 points per game. Senior linebackers Chandler (57 tackles, including seven for a loss), Korey Saint (54 tackles, 2.5 for loss) and Brendan Borden (47 tackles, three for loss) lead the way, along with senior defensive end Bud Pratt, who made a team-high nine tackles last week and now has 43 (including 5.5 for loss) on the season.

The only team to have any real offensive success against the Wildcats was West Morgan, which scored 45 points in a Week 4 win. Colbert County can relate; the Indians got burned by the Rebels, too, in a 42-41 loss in Leighton the following week.

Colbert County's only other loss to date came against Class 4A rival Deshler, 35-20 two weeks ago.

"Colbert County has a really good football team," Leathers said. "We'll have to play our best game of the year to beat them. Our goal is to come out and compete at a high level on every single play. Regardless of what happens on a certain play, we have to be able to compartmentalize it and erase it and move on to the next play. They're gonna get their yards, and they're gonna make their plays. Any team with the type of dynamic players they have is gonna make plays. We just have to keep fighting.

"We'll compete at a high level on every single play and see what happens."



Bernard Phinizee Senior RB, Russellville

Phinizee helped the Golden Tigers earn their first win of the season with a terrific all-around performance against St. John Paul last Friday.

He returned the opening kickoff 85 yards for a touchdown and later took another kickoff 90 yards to the end zone. He scored his third touchdown of the night on a seven-yard run and also added a 44-yard reception.

Phinizee finished the night with a career-high 332 all-purpose yards (175 on kick returns, 106 rushing and 51 receiving) in the 42-21 win.



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'GAME', from page 13

call.]

"I was very pleased with how our kids played," said Jackson, whose team rushed for 211 yards on 33 attempts while holding the Bulldogs to just 106 yards through the air. "I thought our guys played extremely hard, and for the most part we did what we set out to do. We were able to hold them from making big plays in the passing game. The first time they threw the deep ball, [freshman corner] Jalen Vinson picked it off. They didn't really try any more deep balls after that.

"The thing that hurt us was having a couple of big plays called back on penalties. We made some big plays, but having those two called back hurt us. We missed a field goal in the first half, too, so we definitely left some points on the field. But overall I was pleased with how we played. Several of our young guys played their best game of the season, which is what you're looking for at this time of year. To be in the game with the region champions and have an opportunity to win it at their place was big for us."

Vinson's interception was just part of a big night by several young players on defensive coordinator Jamie Purser's unit. Fellow freshmen Alex Kennedy and Cam McKinney, the team's starting inside linebackers, combined to make 18 tackles.

We had nine underclassmen starting on defense," Jackson said, "and only a couple of those were juniors. We had six sophomores and freshmen starting on that side of the ball. I was really pleased with the way they hung in there. Coach Purser did a great job getting our guys prepared for the game. He really broke [Lamar County] down and had our guys ready to play.'

Despite those efforts, the Bulldogs still managed to rush for 237 yards and go 9for-14 on third down. [Red Bay's first five opponents had combined to convert just nine of 57 third-down opportunities.]

"We really put a lot of focus on taking away their big plays in the passing game," Jackson said. "Because of that, they were able to get in some third-and-three and third-and-two situations, and they did a good job converting those. They were able to hold the ball a lot in the third and fourth quarter."

Lewey, a senior tailback, posted his fifth straight 100-yard game, finishing with 117 yards on 17 carries. His 71-yard touchdown run came on a fourth-and-one play from his own 29-yard line with a minute left in the first half, just a few plays after the Tigers had already converted a fourth-and-short inside their own 20 on a quarterback sneak.

"[Lamar County] had just scored, and we did not want to punt the ball back to them," Jackson said of his decision to go for it twice on fourth down deep on his own end. "Our goal was just to keep the football and run out the clock. But on those shortyardage plays, everybody is up close to the line of scrimmage, and if you block it well and make one man miss, it can be a big play."

Lewey's touchdown run (his eighth of the season) cut Lamar County's lead to 14-6 at the half. The Bulldogs scored midway through the third quarter to make it 21-6, but Bullen, a senior receiver, broke loose for a 66-yard run on a jet sweep with 11:00 left in the game to cut the lead to 21-12. Neither team would score again.

Bullen finished with 87 yards on eight carries, and senior receiver Luke Rooker caught three passes for 54 yards. Junior quarterback Kolby Bragwell threw for 69 yards on 4-for-15 passing, and each team threw one interception.

The Tigers now turn their full attention to Friday's must-win battle with Sheffield, which is coming off a 41-22 win over Hatton last week. Quarterback Lanier Cheattom had a monster night for the Bulldogs, rushing for 163 yards and three touchdowns on 10 carries while also throwing for 85 yards and three scores on 6-for-9 passing.

"Sheffield has some very explosive skill players and a really good quarterback," said Jackson, whose team beat Hatton 32-30 on September 15. "Their running back, Ced Carroll, runs the ball really hard. He was hurt earlier in the year, but it looks like he's back to full-speed now. I don't think there's any doubt we're gonna get their best shot this week.'

Lewey, who ran for more than 100 yards last season in a loss to Sheffield, is having a big senior season, with 728 rushing yards and eight touchdowns on 126 attempts. He's averaging 121.3 yards per game and 5.8 yards per carry. Bullen has added 245 rushing yards on just 34 attempts, an average of 7.2 yards per carry. Bragwell has also played a key role in the ground game, rushing for 366 yards and four touchdowns on 61 attempts.

As a team, Red Bay averages 252.5 yards per game on the ground.

Bragwell has also thrown for 603 yards on 33-for-77 passing, with four touchdowns and seven interceptions. Rooker has caught all four of those touchdown passes and leads the team with 19 catches for 386 yards, an average of 20.3 yards per reception.

"They key for us offensively will be to do what we do-run the ball and take our shots in the passing game," Jackson said. "Defensively, we have to contain the quarterback and limit their big plays. We have to make them earn everything they get. We can't give them anything easy.³

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Congrats to Week 6 winner <u>WHITNEY DAWSON</u>, who correctly picked 8 out of 10 games and also picked Alabama to beat Texas A&M 35-10!



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Franklin Free Press Football Rules Contest Week 5: October 14 Brady's Pick Your Pick **Arkansas** Alabama at Alabama Auburn at LSU Auburn **Texas A&M Texas A&M** at Florida South Carolina Tennessee at Tennessee Vanderbilt **Ole Miss** at Ole Miss Missouri Georgia at Georgia **BYU** at Mississippi St. Mississippi St. Utah at USC USC Oklahoma Oklahoma vs. Texas **TCU** at **Kansas State Kansas State Tiebreaker Score:** LSU Auburn Your Name: Phone number:

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"Jeff did a good job at fullback," Heaton said. "We'll let Roman [Cortez, another senior defensive end] work there some this week just so we don't gas Jeff too much. Those are two physical guys who like contact. I think you saw in the second half the other night, when we were running the power and kicking out the end or running iso and leading that inside 'backer with Jeff, they didn't want any more of it. He was just pancaking guys, rolling them up.

"That's what happens when you're willing to be physical for four quarters—you wear on people, and eventually you take over the line of scrimmage late in the fourth quarter. That's what we have to do in these next three region games, play four quarters of physical football and run between the tackles. That will help us control the clock a little bit more."

The Golden Tigers were balanced on offense last Friday, with freshman quarterback Luke Barnwell tossing a career-high three touchdown passes. Barnwell completed 11-of-16 attempts for 162 yards—including a deep ball to Phinizee for 44 yards. Hamilton caught three passes for 40 yards, and senior Logan Jones added two catches for 32 yards and a score.

Both teams finished with 346 yards of total offense and 16 first downs, but Phinizee's two big kickoff returns made the difference. The week before in a loss at Hartselle, Jones had kickoff returns of 81, 63 and 39 yards.

"We're getting a lot better in the kicking game," Heaton said. "We've had so much turnover in a lot of those spots. We're finally getting some consistency with the personnel on the field. Those kickoff returns were big, and I thought our punt block team put some good pressure on their kicker. We had a big punt return [by Jones for a touchdown] called back, and we made our extra points [junior kicker Kenner Perez was 6-for-6].

"Now that the personnel has been consistent, guys are getting a chance to get better at what they do."

It will take Russellville's best performance of the season in all three phases to knock off Brooks on Friday. In between losses to Fayette County to open the season and then Jemison last week, the Lions shut out Ardmore (48-0) and Lee (23-0) and held off a late really to beat Lawrence County 42-35. The Golden Tigers lost 45-0 at Lee in Week 2 and 25-6 to Lawrence County at home in Week 3.

Brooks is led by junior quarterback Lake Spurgeon, who rushed for 123 yards and two touchdowns last week against Jemison while also throwing for 129 yards and a score. Last year in Killen, Spurgeon hooked up with big-play receiver Lazarius Decatur for a pair of touchdowns in a 31-21 win over Russellville.

"Their quarterback makes them go," Heaton said. "He's grown up a lot. He's a great passer, and he's very agile with his feet. He's a good dual-threat guy, and they have some weapons to spread it out to. Offensively, up front they're still really good. Kam Stutts [an Auburn commit] still anchors their offensive line. They're big and solid and very well balanced.

"Defensively, they have one of the bigger fronts we'll see all year. They always do a good job in the secondary and at the linebacker position, too. They're sound and well coached. We'll have to be very disciplined with what we do and have great execution."

Heaton said the Golden Tigers will have to eliminate mistakes if they hope to pull the upset on Friday.

"The key for us is, we can't turn the ball over," he said. "We've got to avoid costly penalties that put us behind the sticks. If we can maintain that, we'll have a chance to stay in the game. That's what we told our guys. Let's go in there prepared to play four hard-fought quarters and give ourselves a chance at the end to win it."

After playing five of their first six games on the road [six of the first seven, counting the preseason game at Athens], the Golden Tigers will now have three of their final four games at home.

"I'm glad we get a home game," Heaton said on Monday. "It's nice to not have to get on a bus."



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