

Tigers go out as Winners 28-14

The West Blocton Tigers ended the 2007 season on a winning note as they put away a very tough Fultondale Wildcat team 28-14. Ten seniors made their way to midfield as captains in the final game of the 2007 season. Playing their last game in a Tiger uniform were; Corey Cook, Marquess Williams, A.J. Fulmer, Jervoris Kelsner, Shane Conroy, Brett Clements, Buddy Foster, Josh Braswell, Matthew Shadrack and Trevor Scott. The Tigers were also without senior Daniel Evans who was hurt in the Aliceville game. With the win, the Tigers ended the season with a 5-5 record.

In the first quarter, the two teams settled into a defensive struggle with neither team's offense able to get anything going. Following an exchange of punts, The Tigers took possession at their own ten yard line and began their first scoring drive. Corey Cook ripped off forty five yards followed by a thirty yard run by Marquess Williams. The Tigers were then faced with two fourth down plays once inside the Wildcat's fifteen. The Tigers converted both times and Corey Cook got the touchdown on a one yard run. Cook, who had his best game of the year, directed the Tiger attack to perfection. Keondre Hill added the PAT to make the score 7-0 in favor of Tigers.

Fultondale took the ensuing kick and returned it all the way to the Tiger's five. From the five, the Cats needed only two plays to tie the score. So in the span of less than one minute, both teams had scored and game was knotted at 7-7.

Following another exchange of punts, the Tiger offense took over at their own thirty nine with time running out in the first half. The Tigers drove the distance to pay dirt in nine plays. Big plays on the drive were runs by Marquess Williams and two passes to End Josh Cromer. The Tigers were also aided on the drive by an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty against the Wildcats. James Kelsner got the touchdown on a one yard run. Kelsner was following the blocks of Tyler Goodwin, Chapman Simmons, Joe Clements and Cody Simitherman. The PAT failed but the Tiger had a 13-7 lead going into halftime.

The second half began like the first with a defensive struggle and neither team able to get anything on their first possession. But the Tigers made good on the second chance as they went seventy yards in only three plays. Jason Edmondson came into the game as fullback to give James Kelsner a much needed rest. Edmondson made good on his chance as he got the call three straight times. The last time he ripped up the middle on a fifty five yard run for the score. Cook added the two point conversion on a run around the left side to give the tigers a 21-7 lead with 3:19 to play in the third quarter.

The 7-3 Wildcats wouldn't go quietly and took the ensuing kick and marched eighty yards in six plays to pull within seven 21-14. The touchdown came as time expired in the third quarter.

The Tigers got good field position on the ensuing kick as Ryan Cook came up with an onsides kick attempt by the Wildcats. The recovery put the Tiger offense in business at midfield. From midfield, Corey Cook ripped off thirty seven yards on the first play. The Tiger's big fullback James Kelsner punched it in from the one to cap the drive for the tigers. Keondre Hill's Pat was good and the Tigers had a solid lead with nine minutes to be played.

The Tiger defense took over the rest of the game as big plays were turned in by Justin White, Colton Smith, Buddy Foster, Dan Kelsner, Corey Cook, Brett Clements, Jacob Lindsay, Bradley Boyd, D.J Ward, Steven Cook and Jason Edmondson.

For 2008, the Tigers should return nine starters on offense and seven defensive starters. The Regions will be realigned by the State sometime before the end of the year. This year, the Tigers fell into 3A and the very tough Region Four. We'll have to wait and see how it all shakes out this time. Congratulations on the win Tigers and we're all looking forward to next year.