

2007 FULTON FOOTBALL GAME NOTES



Welcome to Fulton High School Class 3A State Champions 2003, 2004, 2006 Fulton Falcons (0-0) vs. Oak Ridge Wildcats (0-0) August 31, 2007

About Fulton Stadium/Bob Black Field

“Knoxville’s oldest and most exciting high school football venue.” - Tim Parker

Fulton High School has played its home games on Bob Black Field for 41 years, which makes it the oldest high school field and stadium still in use in Knoxville. For the 2006 season Fulton Stadium received a new lighting system, a resurfaced track, and a new sound system. Long before Fulton played its first home game at the school, what is now known as Bob Black Field served as Fulton’s practice field. Home games from 1951-1964 were played at Evans-Collins Field. In 1964, the North Knoxville Stadium Association was established with the goal of building a football stadium at Fulton High School. The NKSA worked hard to raise money for the project from local businesses and individual donors. In October of 1964, local dignitaries gathered for the ground breaking of Fulton Stadium/Falcon Field. The original stadium, consisting of the middle section of the current stadium’s bleachers, along with temporary stands, seated 3000 people and was ready for the first game of the 1965 season on August 27, 1965 against Unicoi Co. On that historic evening, a full house watched the Falcons defeat the Blue Devils 13-0. The stadium was expanded to its current configuration before the 1969 season. Fulton lost to Sevier Co. 14-8 in the first game in the completed stadium. Falcon Field was renamed “Bob Black Field,” in honor of the coach and athletic director on September 12, 1986. In the dedication game,

Fulton defeated Alcoa 10-7 on Mike Potter’s overtime field goal. Fulton concluded the 2002 season with a perfect 8-0 home record, including three consecutive home victories in the TSSAA Play-offs. For the first time ever on November 1, 2002, Fulton hosted a live regional cable broadcast on CSS, as the Falcons defeated the Gibbs Eagles 47-7.

Fulton Stadium/Bob Black Field Timeline

- **1964** Groundbreaking for new stadium
- **1965** 1st season at Falcon Field, Fulton completes the season with a perfect 5-0 home record.
- **1967** Fulton defeats Oak Ridge 14-13 on Falcon Field en route to an undefeated season.
- **1969** East and West stands added to existing stadium.
- **1974** Perfect 5-0 record at Fulton.
- **1979** Fulton hosts 1st home play-off game. Oak Ridge 28 Fulton 14.
- **1986** Falcon Field renamed Bob Black Field.
- **2000** Press Box renovated creating a new second level.
- **2002** Fulton wins all 8 home games and advances to the BlueCross Bowl.
- **2003** Fulton posts an undefeated 7-0 home record and defeated Macon Co. 26-0 to advance to their second consecutive BlueCross Bowl.
- **2004** New scoreboard installed honoring 2003 state champions.
- **2006** New lighting system installed by McGaha Electric. Improvements also made to the track.

Field Decorations

Fulton takes great pride in the appearance of Bob Black Field. Many fans have said that Fulton's field is the best-decorated field in the area. The coaching staff spends many hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays of game weeks preparing the field for Friday's game. The drop wing falcon on the 50-yard line first appeared during the 1992 season. This is the fifth season that the falcon has been painted black. The FHS designs in both end zones debuted in 1993. The current field design has been in use since the 1996 season. The drop wing falcon logo is outlined by hand prior to the start of the season by Fulton graduates Tim Parker and Jason Harbison.

Fulton at Home

Fulton Stadium/ Bob Black Field celebrates its 42nd birthday this season, and the Falcons have been successful in the past in defending their home turf. The Falcons were 5-1 in home games last year. Fulton rallied from a disappointing home opening loss to Alcoa to post a 4-1 record in home games in 2005. The 2004 season saw the end of a record 19-game winning streak at home that began in 2001. The Falcons opened their stadium with a 19 game unbeaten streak (17-0-2) from 1965-1968. Fulton's all-time home record is 125-90-3, and Coach Coatney is 52-33 at home. Currently, Fulton has an 8-game winning streak in home playoff games, and has a home record in the playoffs of 10-2.

Fulton Quick Facts

Location..... Knoxville
Opened..... 1951
Enrollment..... 956
District/Region... 2-3A
Home Field..... Bob Black Field
Principal..... Kitty Hatcher
Athletic Director.. Jody Wright
Head Coach..... Buck Coatney
Seasons..... 16
Record..... 113-73
Seasons Played.... 57
All-Time Record...338-263-11
Playoff Appearances..17
Playoff Record... 27-14

Coach Buck Coatney

Fulton High School's 26-7 2006 season-opening win over Austin-East on was a milestone victory for Head Football Coach Buck Coatney. The Falcons gave Coatney his 100th coaching victory as FHS head coach. This is an amazing feat, considering that when Coatney was hired in 1992, Fulton was slated to be closed. Coatney's job looked to be a temporary one. Interest in football was slipping at the school, as many players moved to other schools due to the proposed closing. The 1992 team suffered through a 1-9 season, but the lone win was an overtime victory over arch-rival West. The Fulton program improved throughout the early 90s. The Falcons made their first of 14 consecutive playoff appearances under Coatney in 1993. By the year 2000, Fulton had re-established itself as a football power in the Knoxville area. In 2002, Coatney led the Falcons to their first undefeated regular season since 1974, ending the season at the BlueCross Bowl. Coatney became the first-ever coach in Knoxville to lead his team to back-to-back state football championships in 2003 and 2004. Fulton returned to the pinnacle of Class 3A football in 2006, as the Falcons ended the season with a 14-1 record and the school's third state championship. Entering the 2007 season, Coatney has a 113-73 record as Fulton's head coach.

Coatney's roots are colored maroon and white, as his father John captained Fulton's 1959 team. Coatney was known as a hard-nosed linebacker and tight end on the Falcon teams of the late 70s. He was named to the all-state team and the *Knoxville Journal* defensive player of the year, as he led Fulton to a region championship in 1979. Current Vanderbilt coach Bobby Johnson recruited Coatney to Furman University where he earned Honorable-Mention All-American honors. He began his coaching career at Furman as a graduate assistant. After leaving Furman, Coatney spent two years as an assistant coach at Middlesburg High School in Florida. He returned to Fulton in 1987, where he served as Defensive Coordinator. He was named Fulton's 11th head coach in 1992. Coatney is the only football coach to win three consecutive KFL/PrepXtra Coach of the year honors (2002-2004). For his work in 2004, Coatney was named state coach of the year by

the Tennessee Sportswriters Association, and the Tennessee Titans. Coatney served as the defensive coordinator of the 2005 Tennessee High School All-Star team. He earned his fourth PrepXtra Bob Polston Coach of the Year award, and his third TSWA state Coach of the Year honor following the 2006 season.

Coatney's Milestone Victories

- #1 1992- FHS 17 West 7 (OT)
- #25 1998- FHS 1 Union Co. 0 (forfeit)
- #50 2001- FHS 36 Seymour 26
- #75 2003- FHS 42 Seymour 10
- #100 2006- FHS 26 Austin-East 7

2007 Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	
8/17	West @Farragut	L, 14-8
8/31	Oak Ridge	
9/7	@Anderson Co.	
9/14	@Chatt. Tyner	
9/21	Stone Memorial	HC
9/28	@Morristown East	
10/5	Scott	
10/12	Kingston	
10/19	@Catholic	
10/26	@ Austin-East	
11/2	Livingston Academy	

2006 Schedule (14-1)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	
8/11	Bearden	W, 6-0
8/25	Austin-East	W, 26-7
9/1	Anderson Co.	W, 32-0
9/8	@Alcoa	W, 24-21
9/15	@Boyd-Buchanan	W, 40-6
9/22	Tyner	W, 22-7
9/29	@Scott	W, 56-0
10/6	@Kingston	W, 40-13
10/13	Catholic	L, 27-14
10/20	Carter	W, 48-3
10/27	@ Livingston Ac.	W, 54-0
11/3	Claiborne	W, 64-8
11/10	Carter	W, 36-8
11/17	@ Catholic	W, 18-13
11/24	@ Pearl-Cohn	W, 26-12
12/2	David Lipscomb	W, 24-14

2007 Region 2-3A Standings

Place	Team	Reg	Over
1	Catholic	0-0	1-0
2	Scott	0-0	1-0
3	Stone M.	0-0	1-0
4	AC	0-0	0-0
5	Fulton	0-0	0-0
6	Kingston	0-0	0-0
7	Livingston	0-0	0-1

Last Week

Catholic 28 Morristown West 6
 Scott County 38 Wartburg Central 6
 Smith County 28 Livingston Academy 0
 Stone Memorial 34 Cumberland County 0

This Week

Anderson County at Clinton
 Gibbs at Scott County
 Harriman at Kingston
 Knoxville Catholic at Stone Memorial
 Knoxville Webb at Austin-East
 Livingston Academy at Trousdale County
 Oak Ridge at Knoxville Fulton

Next Week

Kingston at Livingston Academy
 Knoxville Catholic at Austin-East
 Knoxville Fulton at Anderson County
 Stone Memorial at Scott County

Last Time Out...

Fulton opened the 2007 campaign with a 14-8 loss to West in the one-quarter KOC Kick-off Classic at Farragut. It was the first loss for the Falcons in Jamboree action since a 7-6 loss to Webb in 1998. Fulton took the initial drive 70 yards for a score capped-off by a Terrence Cobb TD run. West took the win following two Jake Ryan TD passes to Jake Klotzbach late in the quarter. Fulton never found the offensive rhythm after the first drive, and a fumbled handoff helped lead to the Rebels' winning score.

Tonight's Opponent-Oak Ridge

Tonight will be a very special night for the Fulton Falcons for many reasons. First, Fulton High will honor its 1967 undefeated football team. The '67 Falcons went undefeated (10-0-1), earned victories over Central, Young, Bearden, and Oak Ridge, and defeated Morristown in the Optimist Bowl. Secondly, the Falcons will wear retro jerseys similar to the 1967 team uniforms. CSS will be broadcasting tonight's game to a regional television audience. Finally, the Oak Ridge Wildcats will be making their first appearance at Bob Black Field since 1984. Oak Ridge won that game 42-13, thanks to a 301-yard rushing effort by Eric Menefee. The Wildcats finished the '84 season with a perfect 10-0 regular season record. This year, coach Stanton Stevens' Wildcats are trying to bounce back from a 2006 campaign that saw OR win five games and miss post-season play for the first time since 2001. Oak Ridge is picked to finish second in region 2-5A this year, with six offensive and defensive starters returning. The Wildcats are trying to settle a three-way race for the starting QB position. Oak Ridge is scheduled to be wearing jerseys tonight honoring its 1958 National Championship team. Stevens has an 80-21 overall coaching record, and is 18-7 in his two years back at his alma mater. Oak Ridge has an all-time football record of 550-148-11.

2007 Oak Ridge Schedule

Fri	Aug. 31	at Fulton
Fri	Sep. 7	Bradley Central R
Fri	Sep. 14	at Dobyns Bennett
Fri	Sep. 21	at Heritage R
Fri	Sep. 28	at Clinton
Fri	Oct. 5	McMinn Co. R
Fri	Oct. 12	William Blount R
Fri	Oct. 19	at Soddy Daisy R
Fri	Oct. 26	at Ooltewah R
Fri	Nov. 2	Farragut R

Fulton vs. Oak Ridge-The Series

Fulton and Oak Ridge will meet for the 16th time tonight at Bob Black Field. The Wildcats have dominated the all-time series winning 14 of the 15 games played. Fulton's lone win in the series came in 1967, as the injury riddled Falcons pulled off a 14-13 victory to keep their undefeated season alive. Fulton has been shut out by Oak Ridge six times in the series. OR holds a 3-1 advantage in games played at Fulton. The teams have met one time in the playoffs, as the Wildcats defeated Fulton 28-14 in a 1979 1st round game at Fulton. Oak Ridge went on to win the state championship in 1979. The teams have combined for seven state playoff championships. Oak Ridge earned playoff championships in 1975, 1979, 1980, and 1981. Fulton won championships in 2003, 2004, and 2006. Coach Buck Coatney holds a 3-5 record vs. Stanton Stevens when Stevens was at Austin-East (1999-2004). Coatney is a perfect 2-0 vs. Stevens in playoff games.

<u>Year</u>	<u>W/L</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Site</u>
1954	L	34-0	A
1955	L	35-0	EC
1956	L	34-0	A
1957	L	45-0	EC
1958	L	61-0	EC
1959	L	39-6	A
1960	L	39-6	A
1961	L	42-0	EC
1966	L	30-7	A
1967	W	14-13	H
1977	L	21-12	A
1978	L	41-20	H
1979p	L	28-14	H
1983	L	24-14	A
1984	L	42-13	H

In With The New...

Several new faces and freshmen will be called on by the 2007 Fulton Falcons to contribute. Transfers Derek Wilcox and Devin Crawford are likely to see action tonight in key roles for Fulton. Wilcox, a senior RB/DB will start at free safety. He has recorded 161 tackles and four interceptions in his career. Wilcox will also see time in the offensive backfield, where he has rushed for 687 career yards. Junior Devin Crawford, who moved back to Tennessee from Maryland, is slated to start at defensive tackle, and will relieve Bubba Stokes at fullback.

The freshmen class will have a big impact on the success of this year's team. Two freshmen will start on offense for Fulton, and two others are listed on the two deep. Ben Winters, son of 1988 KFL lineman of the year Chad Winters, will start for Fulton at TE. He will also see time at linebacker, and is listed as a back-up QB. Mychal Cason will try to help the young FHS offensive line come together from the right tackle position. Khiry Riddles is listed as a back up at TE and DE, and Dametrius Thomas is on the depth chart at linebacker.

Poll Watching

Poll	Fulton	Oak Ridge
AP	NR	NR
Sonny Moore	1 (3A)	3 (5A)
Murphy Fair	1 (3A)	NR
Earl Nall	1 (3A)	23 (5A)
PrepXtra	3	9

The Sonny Moore poll has Fulton listed as the number 9 team in the entire state of Tennessee. Oak Ridge is listed as the number 12 team in all of TN. The Falcons have never ended the season at number one according to AP. Here is how the Falcons have fared in the final polls.

- 1967 #6 AP, #9 UPI (No Classification)
- 1974 #2 AP, #3 UPI (Class AAA)
- 2002 #3 AP (Class 3-A)
- 2003 #3 AP (Class 3-A)
- 2004 #6 AP (Class 3-A)
- 2005 #8 AP (Class 3-A)
- 2006 #5 AP (Class 3-A)

Playoff Streak Longest in Knox

The Fulton Falcons were the #2 seed from Region 2-3A in the 2006 TSSAA playoffs. It marked the Falcons' 14th consecutive playoff trip. This is the longest playoff streak in Knox Co. The streak began in 1993, as Fulton upset Happy Valley 37-8 in the first round. During the streak, Fulton has compiled a record of 25-11 in playoff games with four championship appearances and three state championships. Fulton's playoff streak is longer than another local power, Maryville. Maryville's streak is only at 10 years. Fulton has made 17 playoff appearances, and holds an all-time play-off

record of 27-14. The last three times that Fulton has been a #2 seed, the Falcons went on to win the state championship. Additionally, every time that Fulton has advanced past the 2nd round, they have played in the state championship game.

KFL Playoff Streaks

<u>Team</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>1st Year of Streak</u>
Fulton	14	1993
Webb	12	1995
Central	9	1998
A-E	8	1999
Catholic	8	1999
Powell	6	2001

Fulton Returning Statistical Leaders

Rushing	Carries	Yards	TD
Terrence Cobb	49	282	4
Receiving	Catches	Yards	TD
Vic Smith	22	413	2
Der. Humphrey	10	211	3
Passing	Att/Comp	Yards	TD
Jock Stinson	48/82	665	6
Jonathan Blair	18/34	351	2
Tackles	Tackles	-yd	Sack
Bubba Stokes	127	15	5.5
Terrence Cobb	62	16	5.5
Vic Smith	46	2	0

Falcons on TV

Fulton makes its 16th all-time live television appearance tonight. Four of those appearances have come in the BlueCross Bowl. Fulton has an all-time record of 9-6 in TV games. The Falcons played on live TV a record five times in 2006, and compiled a 5-1 record. Fulton will be on CSS twice this season; on August 31 vs. Oak Ridge, and on October 19 vs. Catholic. Oak Ridge will again be on CSS on November 2 when they face Farragut.

Fulton TV Games 2002-2007

Year	Team	Result	Network
2002	Gibbs	W, 47-7	CSS
2002	Ridgeway	L, 21-14	Fox/UPN

2003	Austin-East	L, 25-7	CSS
2003	Covington	W, 36-9	Fox/UPN
2004	Austin-East	L, 20-6	CSS
2004	Anderson Co.	W, 35-7	CSS
2004	Greenbrier	W, 34-6	Fox/UPN
2005	Austin-East	L, 36-33	CSS
2005	Alcoa	L, 46-8	CSS
2005	Carter	W, 42-0	CSS
2006	Austin-East	W, 26-7	CSS
2006	Alcoa	W, 24-21	CSS
2006	Catholic	L, 27-14	CSS
2006	Carter	W, 48-3	CSS
2006	D. Lipscomb	W, 24-14	Fox/UPN
2007	Oak Ridge		CSS

2003	Macon Co.	26-0
2004	Kingston	35-0
2005	Carter	42-0
2006	Anderson Co.	32-0
2006	Scott	56-0
2006	Livingston Academy	54-0

Fulton In Overtime

Fulton has played in 10 overtime games in its football history. The Falcons' record in overtime affairs is 7-3. Coach Buck Coatney's record in overtime is 4-2. His first career victory came in 1992 in overtime versus Bill Wilson's West Rebels 14-7. Anderson Co. has played three overtime games against Fulton, including a 27-26 Fulton loss last year.

Falcons Earn 77th Shutout

Defense has been a hallmark of Fulton Football down through the years. Fulton's win over Livingston Academy to conclude the 2006 regular season set a defensive milestone for the Falcons. The 54-0 victory over LA was the 77th all-time shutout for Fulton football. Fulton has recorded at least one shutout for the last 10 seasons. Coach Coatney's teams have recorded a total of 21 shutouts since 1992. The Falcons recorded a record 6 shutouts during the 1974 season. West High has been blanked by the Falcons on 8 occasions, while Fulton has shutout Bearden 6 times, and Central 5 times. Fulton shut out Claiborne Co. 48-0 in 1995. Fulton's longest shutout streak came in the 2002 playoffs where FHS recorded three consecutive shutouts against Pigeon Forge, Seymour, and Gatlinburg Pittman.

Shutouts Under Coatney

1993	Horace Maynard	33-0
1995	Gibbs	41-0
1995	Claiborne Co.	48-0
1997	West	12-0
1997	Carter	32-0
1997	Lenoir City	24-0
1998	Gibbs	28-0
1998	Austin-East	41-0
1999	Gibbs	56-0
2000	Scott	49-0
2001	Scott	76-0
2002	Pigeon Forge	43-0
2002	Seymour	34-0
2002	Gatlinburg-Pittman	24-0
2003	Gibbs	59-0

<u>Year</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>OT</u>
1981	Bearden	W, 42-41	2OT
1985	Central	L, 10-7	OT
1986	Alcoa	W, 10-7	OT
1991	@Halls	W, 21-14	OT
1992	West	W, 14-7	OT
2001	@Anderson Co.	L, 39-36	OT
2002	Anderson Co.	W, 26-23	2OT
2002	@Trousdale Co.	W, 14-13	OT
2003	@Austin-East	W, 12-6	OT
2005	@Anderson Co.	L, 27-26	OT

Did You Know...

-Three former Fulton football players have played in the NFL, while two others participated in NFL camps. D.D. Lewis (c/o 1964) holds an NFL record with 5 Super Bowl appearances with the Dallas Cowboys. D.D was a stalwart on the Doomsday Defense from 1968-1981. He is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame from his days at Mississippi State... Ron Widby (c/o 1963) was a four-sport letterman at Tennessee, and played in the ABA before moving on to punt for Dallas and Green Bay. He played in 2 Super Bowls with Dallas, and was a member of the 1971 Pro Bowl team. Widby averaged 42 yards per punt in his 5-year NFL career. He also played on the PGA Seniors Tour in 1996...James Yarbrough (c/o 1982) made it to the NFL as a safety for the New York Giants in 1987. Yarbrough recorded 14 interceptions in his college career playing for Frank Beamer at Murray State...Jykine Bradley (c/o 1998)

participated in Buffalo's training camp in 2002, before moving on to NFL Europe. He is currently a member of the Hamilton Tiger-Cats of the CFL... All-American Linebacker Jackie Walker (c/o 1968) was drafted in the 6th round of the 1972 NFL Draft by the 49ers, but never played in a game.

-Knoxville grocer/politician/radio & TV host Cas Walker was a driving force in the building of Fulton Stadium. Walker, who lived in North Hills, would push for donations for the stadium fund on his morning radio show.

-Two other Fulton graduates are head coaches of area high school teams. Steve Brewer is the head coach at Sevier Co., and Eddie Courtney is the head coach of the Farragut Admirals.

-Fulton has had three players named as finalists for the Mr. Football Award. Jeff Mitchell (Back, 2001), DeMarcus Stevens (Lineman, 2002-2003), and Dennis Rogan (Back, 2005-2006) were honored as one of the top players in Class 3A. Despite not winning Mr. Football, both Stevens and Rogan earned BlueCross Bowl MVP honors.

-The three maroon stripes on Fulton Stadium are in honor of the school's three state championships.

Falcon Talk

Fulton QB Jock Stinson has a 16-2 career record as a starter. ...Region 2-3A has produced teams that have played in the BlueCross Bowl for the last six years, and five state champions. Livingston Academy was state champion in 2005, and Fulton and A-E have also won gold balls. ... Fulton's 2007 schedule features six schools (A-E, Morristown East, Oak Ridge, Tyner, Kingston, Livingston Academy) that have won a combined total of 14 state football championships ... Five teams on this year's schedule advanced to the playoffs last year (Morristown East, Tyner, Catholic, Kingston, Austin-East). ... Media members can find complete coverage of the Falcons on the web at www.fultonfootball.com. This year's website will feature live game streaming and audio replays of every game courtesy of WKCS Radio. CSS will have the live telecast of tonight's game. Mark Packer will be on play-by-play, and Todd Kelly will provide color commentary. On the radio, the OR broadcast will be handled by David Clary.

WKCS-FM 91.1 will have the Fulton radio broadcast with Russell Mayes, Chuck Wilson, Bradley Cooper, and Josh Nevius. The SportsAnimal 990 AM will also be broadcasting the game with Dave Nathan and Mic Dearstone.

Remembering Bill Wilson

Fulton High School alumnus and long time local high school football coach Bill Wilson passed away this spring due to complications from a massive heart attack. Wilson, 58, was a 1967 graduate of Fulton, where he helped lead the Falcons to an 8-3 record in 1966, and a victory over Loudon in the Rockwood Jaycee Bowl. Wilson played college football at Carson-Newman College, and was named as a member of the Eagles' All-Century Football Team. He replaced Bill Young as head coach at West High in the late 1970s, and held that position except for one year until his retirement in 1998. He was known as a tireless promoter and fundraiser for his program. Wilson created the summer Punt-Pass flag football league in the late 80s. Under Wilson's leadership, the Rebels made three playoff appearances, and earned district championships in 1979, 1993, and 1994. The 1994 West Rebels team defeated Unicoi Co. (21-0), Scott (22-18), and Seymour (14-10) in advancing to the TSSAA state semi-finals. The football field at West was named Bill Wilson Field in his honor. Following his retirement from coaching, Wilson continued to promote high school football as a radio and TV analyst. Wilson served as the Drivers Education supervisor for Knox Co. Schools. In 2006, Wilson came out of retirement to become the head football coach at Bearden High school.

Next week

Fulton will open up Region 2-3A action next week on the road at Anderson Co. The Mavs hold a 5-4 advantage in the series. Fulton has not fared well at the Paul Bostic Sports Complex in the past, only winning once at AC. The Falcons shut out Anderson Co. last year 32-0. Local kick-off is at 7:30 Friday.

This edition of the Fulton Football Game Notes was compiled by Russell Mayes. Any media inquires concerning the Falcons should be directed to Mayes at 594-1259.

1967 Fulton Falcons Football Roster

No.	Name	Position
10	Larry Brock	QB
11	Randy Woods	B
12	Mike Cockrum	B
21	Ricky Bridges	G
22	Tommy Cook	B
23	Gary Raley	B
30	Skipper Bean	B
31	Vince Ingle	B
32	Ed Taylor	B
33	Bob Gough	B
40	David Smith	B
43	Louis Bridges	E
50	Butch Sprain	C
51	Ted Williams	C
52	David McNeal	G
60	Mickey Walker	G
61	Doug Young	G
62	Steve Calhoun	G
63	Thomas Pearson	G
64	Gary Lakins	G
65	Steve Sparks	T
66	David Mize	T
73	Ralph Majors	T
74	Max Overton	T
75	Herb Newton	T
76	Roger Davis	T
80	David Holt	E
82	Roy Brown	E
83	Jackie Walker	E
84	Ernie Tracy	E
85	Mike Lewis	E
86	Fred Patterson	E

Fulton Football 1967

Record 10-0-1 KFL Champions

Date	FHS	Opponent	Score	Place	
1-Sep	45	Rule	7	H	
8-Sep	6	Sevierville	0	A	
15-Sep	19	Powell	0	A	
22-Sep	7	Central	0	A	
29-Sep	12	Holston	12	H	HC
6-Oct	21	Clinton	7	A	
13-Oct	19	Young	13	A	
20-Oct	14	Oak Ridge	13	H	
27-Oct	23	Bearden	19	H	
3-Nov	28	Oliver Springs	0	A	
Nov	27	Morristown	6	EC*	
Scored	221	Allowed	77		



Fulton High School would like to welcome back the 1967 Fulton Falcons. The "Mighty Mites" are the only undefeated team in school history (10-0-1), and the only team in school history to beak Oak Ridge.

*Optimist Bowl at Evans-Collins Field

Remembering the Undefeated 1967 Fulton Falcons

By: Russell Mayes

Fulton High School is honoring the 40th anniversary of one of its greatest teams, the undefeated 1967 Falcons. In addition to being the only undefeated team in school history (10-0-1), the '67 team earned the KFL "AA" championship, defeated Morristown High in the Optimist Bowl, and concluded the season ranked as the number 6 team overall in the state. 1967 was the high point of Coach Lon Herzbrun's rebuilding effort at Fulton. Herzbrun had revitalized the Fulton program from the time of his hiring in 1963. Prior to the '67 season, his teams earned three consecutive bowl bids, a KFL championship in 1965, a Jaycee Bowl victory over Loudon in 1966, and the grand opening of Fulton Stadium/Falcon Field. Herzbrun's teams at Fulton were known as the "Mighty Mites"; undersized teams that relied on speed and toughness. The '67 version of the Mighty Mites was not expected to challenge for a KFL championship. The coaching staff had to find a way to replace 19 seniors from the '66 squad, and develop an offensive backfield led by mostly juniors. Captains Skipper Bean and Steve Sparks, along with linebacker Jackie Walker provided senior leadership and playmaking ability. Despite the uncertain outlook for the 1967 season, the Falcons bonded together to overcome the odds, and complete one of the most memorable teams in school history.

The 1967 opener was a huge success, as the Falcons put up 25 fourth quarter points in a 45-7 victory over Rule. Seven Falcons scored touchdowns for Fulton, and the defense held the Bears to only 67 yards of offense. Fourth quarters

belonged to the Mighty Mites in 1967. A touchdown run by Bean with two minutes left in the game gave the Falcons an important 6-0 victory at Sevier Co. in week two. The defense continued its strong play in the third game. The Falcons shut out Powell 19-0, as Bean added two more TD runs. It was the first time the Panthers had been shutout in 15 games. The Battle of North Knoxville was next, as Fulton faced undefeated and third-ranked Central High at Pruden Field. The Bobcats were fresh off a victory over second-ranked Johnson City. An overflow crowd witnessed another defensive struggle at Central. Jackie Walker turned in one of the finest defensive efforts in Fulton history, recording 33 tackles. The outcome was again decided in the fourth quarter. After stopping Central inside the 10-yard line, Fulton put together a game winning 83-yard drive led by shifty 133-pound QB Larry Brock. Brock used both his scrambling and passing ability to keep the drive alive. Facing a third and six situation at the Central ten-yard line, Brock rolled out to pass. No one was open, and Brock scampered into the end zone to give the Falcons the winning 7-0 margin. Fulton staged a remarkable 12-point comeback the next week to salvage a 12-12 tie vs. Holston on homecoming. After a win over Clinton and a hard-fought 19-13 victory over Young at Duff Field, the Falcons were 6-0-1, and ready for their toughest test.

Oak Ridge had long been a thorn in the side of the Fulton program. The Wildcats were a perfect 9-0 against Fulton prior to the 1967 match-up, only allowing the Falcons a total of 19 points. The Mighty Mites were crushed by a 30-7 decision in Oak Ridge the previous year. Many people believed that Oak Ridge would be the team to end the

Falcons' undefeated season. Once again, the game would be decided in the fourth quarter.

The Falcons recorded the initial blow of the game, as Fulton running back Ed Taylor dashed 82-yards through the Wildcat secondary to give Fulton a 7-0 lead in the first quarter. The Maroon and White were efficient on the ground in the game, rushing for 244 yards. Oak Ridge closed the score to 7-6 in the second quarter, but Fulton was able to block the extra-point attempt after an offsides penalty negated a missed extra-point on the previous conversion try. Fulton's only completed pass of the night was a fourth-quarter touchdown pass from Brock to Vince Ingle. Walker's extra-point kick was good and Fulton led 14-6. On the next Oak Ridge drive, Walker cemented his legacy in Fulton football lore. Most die-hard Fulton fans can tell you all about the night that a vicious Walker hit put an Oak Ridge player in St. Mary's Hospital. Wildcat running back Danny Sutton rolled out with the football around mid-field. Deciding to pass or throw, Sutton paused for a split second, allowing Walker size up the Wildcat. Walker had almost ten yards of open field between him and Sutton. Walker closed quickly, and met Sutton who had just turned up the field. Walker's body blow knocked both players out of the game, and Sutton spent the night at St. Mary's. The Wildcats answered with a 46-yard touchdown pass to cut the lead to 14-13. Fulton recovered the bloop onside kick and ran out the clock on one of the biggest victories in school history.

Much work was still to be done for the '67 Falcons following the Oak Ridge triumph. The Falcons clinched the KFL championship the next week with a 23-19 victory over Bearden. Linebacker

Butch Sprain was the hero of the Bearden win. Sprain blocked four Bearden punts in the game and forced a safety. Following the Bearden win, the team accepted a berth in the Thanksgiving-day Optimist Bowl against Morristown. Fulton wiped out Oliver Springs 28-0 in the regular season finale to finish the regular season 9-0-1. Fulton again was a major underdog against the Morristown Hurricanes. Morristown was undefeated in the Optimist Bowl, but Fulton dominated from start to finish in the 27-6 victory. QB Larry Brock shredded the Hurricanes through the air, completing 12 of 19 passes for 174 yards. Fulton scored on its first drive of the game as Brock hit end David Holt on his first of two touchdown catches. Ed Taylor and Tommy Cook added touchdown runs for Fulton. The defense shined again, as Fulton held Morristown to zero rushing yards. Walker earned defensive MVP honors, leading the Falcons in tackles, and adding two interceptions. Walker would go on to earn all-state honors in 1967.

The 1967 Fulton Falcons overcame injuries, inexperience, and lack of size to become the only team in Fulton history to complete an undefeated season. Coach Lon Herzbrun's Mighty Mites truly represent one of the greatest chapters in Fulton football history.