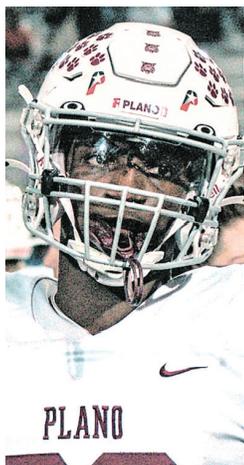


Plano WILDCATS

For the first time since 2018, the Wildcats enter the season looking to build off a playoff appearance.

Plano capitalized on three wins to open its District 6-6A schedule, which wound up paying dividends later on as the team clinched a postseason berth by outlasting Hebron and Flower Mound on a tiebreaker.

The Wildcats made gains in three seasons under Todd Ford, gradually improving their win total each year, and now Cody White takes the reins in hopes of continuing that progression. White returned to the Metroplex following a successful run at Brentwood (Tenn.), where he won four consecutive state championships from 2015-18



PLAYER to watch

DAVID NWABUOKU DEFENSIVE LINEMAN / LINEBACKER

Plano has plenty of experience back on defense from its bi-district playoff qualifier, but there's a key void up front with senior Jaxon Lee transferring to Frisco Lone Star. Nwabuoku saw plenty of playing time off the edge as a sophomore, tallying 21 tackles on the year and has already generated some Division I college interest. And while he has showcased plenty of potential up front, his versatility could be a big weapon for Plano this season. In addition to operating on the defensive line, Nwabuoku also took reps during the spring at linebacker and on offense at H-back.

during an 11-year tenure.

There's already familiarity in place with White having previously coached with Plano defensive coordinator Zack Smith at Denison, and that

side of the ball has plenty of carryover in returning talent.

There are multiple all-district selections within the front seven, led at linebacker by senior Jeff Sekula. Senior Grant Miler is another contributor at linebacker, while junior Rodney Jones compiled an all-district year of his own on the defensive line. Fellow junior David Nwabuoku gives Plano a versatile option at either level, in addition to spelling as a backup H-back on occasion.

The transfer of Texas Tech commit Jaxon Lee, now at Frisco Lone Star, left a void on the defensive line, but Plano has since shifted senior Jonathan Benson to that unit after starting on the offensive line last season.

Junior Rohon Kazadi leads the secondary alongside juniors



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOU GOODRUM

Michael Lee and Donald Smith, while Plano could use juniors DJ Hamilton and Jordan McCroy as potential two-way players. Those two will see plenty of time at receiver as well, as Plano projects to be fairly young at the skill positions on offense.

Senior Josh Campbell has played on both sides of the ball as well but figures to spearhead Plano's rushing attack this season.

Senior Jack Thomason, meanwhile, takes the reins at quarterback after leading the junior varsity team last

season. He'll pace a revamped Plano offense, with White and offensive coordinator Chuck Reid implementing an up-tempo, vertical passing attack reminiscent of the styles deployed by Art Briles and Josh Heupel.

The Wildcats' experience on offense instead lies up front, led by all-district sophomore Brock Schlef. Junior Ronnie Brown, senior Kushal Paritala, junior Warren Krasnesky, junior Rushil Doshi and senior Gibson Garrett could also contribute on the offensive line.

Varsity SCHEDULE

Aug. 25	Trophy Club Byron Nelson	Clark Stadium	7 p.m.
Aug. 31	Keller Central	Clark Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 8	Arlington Bowie	Wilemon Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 15	BYE		
Sept. 22	Plano East	Kimbrough Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	Plano West	Clark Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	Hebron	Clark Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 13	Lewisville	Max Goldsmith Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 20	Flower Mound	Clark Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	Marcus	Marauder Stadium	7 p.m.
*Nov. 3	Coppell	Clark Stadium	7 p.m.

*Homecoming

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TUESDAY - FRIDAY 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. | SATURDAY 9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

