

Liberty REDHAWKS

The Liberty football team faced a lot of challenges this offseason. The Redhawks experienced a lot of turnover within their coaching staff, have made changes to their play scheme, and there are just 12 seniors on their roster and plenty of inexperience.

However, Liberty head coach Matt Swinnea has praised the hard work that his players put forth during spring and summer strength and conditioning and individual skills workouts. That excitement has Swinnea feeling confident that the



PLAYER to watch

JACOB NICKELL QUARTERBACK

The Redhawks will turn to Nickell to be their quarterback this season. Nickell got a couple of starts last season and has been described by head coach Matt Swinnea as a dual threat with a strong arm and can also run the ball. Nickell will look to help Liberty rebound from a 0-10 2022 season, which comes a year after Heritage won a district title and posted a 10-win season.

Redhawks can turn the corner after going 0-10 during the 2022 season.

Liberty will be more run-oriented on offense than in past years and will have a lot of two-way players.

Junior Khaleb Cooper

is expected to be the bell cow for the Redhawks' rushing attack. Cooper has been described by Swinnea as "shifty, strong, smart." Paving the way will be senior offensive linemen Sam Sherman and Weston Shelton, who are the only two returning starters on offense for Liberty. Senior tight end Ryder Pratt, who will also play at defensive end, will set the edge for Liberty's running game.

Senior Ben Doucette and junior Zein Amer will start on both the offensive and defensive lines.

Liberty has received outstanding play at the quarterback position in recent years, most recently from current SMU freshman Keldric Luster and Will Jackson. Those



RICK ROGERS / STAFF PHOTO

duties now fall on junior Jacob Nickell. Nickell got a couple of starts early in the 2022 season. Swinnea says Nickell has a strong arm and can also run the ball.

Nickell will have a brand new group of wide receivers to throw to, a list that includes senior Trey

Laurent and junior Landon Reygadas.

Defensively, junior Ke'mari Daniels has been moved from defensive end to linebacker, where he will be joined by Kiran Simon. Senior Damon Benson will anchor the Redhawks secondary.

Varsity SCHEDULE

Aug. 25	Corsicana	Community National Bank & Trust Stadium	7 p.m.
Aug. 31	Greenville	Toyota Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 8	Frisco	Kuykendall Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 14	Heritage	Toyota Stadium	7 p.m.
*Sept. 22	Reedy	Ford Center at The Star	7 p.m.
Sept. 28	Lone Star	Ford Center at The Star	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	Wakeland	Kuykendall Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 13	BYE		
Oct. 20	Centennial	Kuykendall Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	Lebanon Trail	Ford Center at The Star	7 p.m.
Nov. 3	Sherman	Bearcat Stadium	7 p.m.

*Homecoming



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