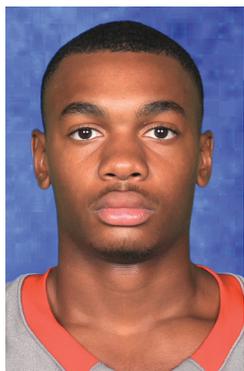


McKinney North BULLDOGS

The Bulldogs didn't miss a beat following a change in leadership, with former offensive coordinator Kendall Brewer promoted to head coach following Mike Fecci's move into administration in June 2022.

Buoyed by a 6-1 start to its season, North sewed up a playoff spot for the seventh consecutive season. On the heels of a 7-4 record, Brewer said the Bulldogs have focused on becoming a player-led program. Returning nearly 60% of its roster from last season has helped accelerate that effort, as North looks to raise the bar



PLAYER to watch

JAYDEN WALKER RUNNING BACK

Walker was under the radar heading into his junior season but finished the year among the top rushers in the Metroplex. A work-horse running back who led North to a playoff appearance in head coach Kendall Brewer's first year at the helm, Walker ran for a staggering 2,107 yards and 22 touchdowns, averaging 6.7 yards per carry along the way.

even higher in their second year under Brewer.

The Bulldogs return 13 starters from last season, including eight on a senior-laden defense. Brewer noted that 10 of the team's projected defensive starters are seniors who played

at the varsity level, and that has the head coach optimistic that North could be improved on that side of the ball even after decreasing its points allowed per game from 39.1 in 2021 to 32.3 in 2022.

The Bulldogs expect to be strong in the front seven, led up front by senior Zion Carter, a Lamar commit who has bounced between linebacker and defensive end throughout his varsity career. Seniors Sam Howard and Justin Zdeb could see expanded roles on the defensive line.

Senior Grayson Rogers led North in tackles last season and is back to help anchor the linebacker corps alongside senior Brandon Markiewicz and senior Isiah Griffin.

Seniors are scoured throughout the secondary



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as well between Keithon Davis, Sean Kessner and Jackson Lakotas, while juniors Emanuel Crosby and Dakalon Tyler battle it out for a cornerback spot opposite Davis.

North's experience at the skill positions carries over on offense. Senior Jayden Walker enjoyed a breakout 2022 as the bell-cow of the Bulldogs' rushing attack, amassing 2,181 yards and 23 touchdowns on his way to an all-area selection.

Senior Colin Hitchcock

brings similar experience to the quarterback position and he has plenty of capable options in the passing attack, including junior Kam Powell—a rising talent who earned district offensive newcomer of the year—and seniors Brandon Powell and Taylor Offord.

Senior tight end Nate Markiewicz, verbally committed to UT-San Antonio, has made strides in the passing game to complement his stout work as a run blocker.

Varsity SCHEDULE

Aug. 26	Garland	McKinney ISD Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 1	Justin Northwest	McKinney ISD Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 8	Frisco Memorial	Toyota Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 14	Lancaster	McKinney ISD Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 21	Tyler	Rose Stadium	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	BYE		
*Oct. 5	West Mesquite	McKinney ISD Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 13	Lufkin	Abe Martin Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 19	Longview	McKinney ISD Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	Forney	City Bank Stadium	7 p.m.
Nov. 2	North Mesquite	McKinney ISD Stadium	7 p.m.

*Homecoming



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