

# Celina BOBCCATS

Last year marked the eighth time in the past nine seasons that Celina has advanced at least three rounds deep in the playoffs—a model of consistency rivaled by few programs in the area.

The challenge for the Bobcats heading into their 2023 campaign is maintaining that standard after graduating an accomplished senior class that included numerous multi-year starters. While that means several new starters this fall—Celina is projected at returning just 11 starters from last season—the Bobcats were able to divvy out reps to

a plethora of backups last year throughout a district schedule where the team won all six games by an average of 45.8 points.

Take senior quarterback Knox Porter, for example. Last season's backup behind center, Porter still attempted 52 passes and totaled 565 yards and eight touchdowns through the air on his way to an all-district second-team nod.

He'll take the reins as the team's starting quarterback, while the Bobcats will look to upstart rushers in junior Harrison Williams and sophomore Logan



## PLAYER to watch

### BEN THOMAS DEFENSIVE LINEMAN

The Bobcats haven't lacked in depth throughout their defensive front seven over the years, including players who have won their district's defensive player of the year nod each of the past two seasons. Keep an eye on Thomas, a multi-sport athlete who runs for the school's track team, to make it three in a row for Celina. Thomas returns as one of the team's key components up front and is looking to build off a junior year that produced 56 tackles, including 12 for a loss of yardage, as well as seven sacks, two forced fumbles and a pair of safeties.

Gutierrez to stabilize the backfield after both ran for at least 6.0 yards per carry last season.

That unit will operate behind an offensive line anchored by junior tackle Zadyn Dimas, who was named the district's offensive newcomer of the year last season. Senior Tyler Weeks is another all-district performer in the trenches.

Celina figures to be young at receiver, looking to senior Kaleb Hill and sophomore

Bowe Bentley out wide with head coach Bill Elliott noting that seniors Cade Biagini and Jamisen Driver could also see some reps on offense as well.

Biagini and Driver double as all-district defensive backs, combining for more than

110 tackles last season, and they'll be among the standout returners for a unit that surrendered just 13.2 points per game last season.

Stout play within the front seven was another big reason behind that success, and the Bobcats aren't lacking in that area. Senior Ben Thomas brings plenty of speed off the edge and junior linebacker Cooper Farrow logged 90 tackles as a sophomore. Elliott lauded the strides made during the spring by senior Ronnie Foreman at linebacker, as well as senior Grayson Buchanan up front and sophomore Karter Lorick.

## Varsity SCHEDULE

Aug. 25	Paris	Bobcat Stadium	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 1	Bishop Lynch	Roffino Stadium	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 8	Prosper Walnut Grove	Bobcat Stadium	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 15	Anna	Bobcat Stadium	7:30 p.m.
*Sept. 22	Carrollton Ranchview	Bobcat Stadium	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 29	BYE		
Oct. 6	North Dallas	Franklin Field	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 13	Wilmer-Hutchins	Bobcat Stadium	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 20	Dallas Carter	Kincaide Stadium	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 27	Dallas Pinkston	Bobcat Stadium	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 3	Frisco Panther Creek	Kuykendall Stadium	7:30 p.m.

\*Homecoming



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**GO BOBCATS**

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