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Thanks for the thrills of a record-breaking year to remember!

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# 2018 Bears close historic season

## PCHS climb to Georgia's AAA 'Final Four' made with big plays, comebacks, teamwork

A region championship, an unbeaten regular season and a berth in the Class AAA semifinals.

The 2018 football season reached new heights at Pierce County under the direction of second-year head coach Jason Strickland, who has enjoyed success at Lamar County and Fitzgerald.

Strickland, who is 99-39-1 in 11 seasons as a head

coach, guided the Bears to the fifth region title in school history and first since 2012. The 10-0 regular sea-

son mark was Pierce County's first since 1982. Reaching the "Final Four" was the first in program history.

For the veteran coach, it was the second time a team he has coached went 10-0. During his last season at

Lamar County, his squad would post a 12-1 mark losing in the quarterfinals.

Strickland led Fitzger-

ald to three straight semifinal appearances during his three years there. The Hurricanes reached the state

championship game in his final two years.

"Our success this year can be attributed to the charac-

ter of our senior class," said Strickland. "These guys provided the leadership that this team needed. I can look

back to March and April and I thought we had a chance to be pretty good, barring any major injuries.

"I will honestly say I did not see us reaching the semifinals, though. We have made huge strides since the debacle at Bacon County (2017 season opener) to where we are now."

As the season unfolded week-by-week and win-after-win, Strickland said he realized the 2018 edition was not bad.

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"Our success this year can be attributed to the character of our senior class."

This special section is presented here by PrimeSouth Bank as a tribute to our PCHS Bears for representing our community as winners & gentlemen. Go, Bears!



## ALWAYS A BEAR

We love our PCHS Bears and, as your hometown bank, we're proud to present this special tribute to our team.



Blackshear Market President,  
**Ty Wright**  
Pierce County High School  
Class of 1998  
NMLS#794410

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Loan Officer,  
**Cliff Knowlton**  
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