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Region 7AA Preview: NCC, Rockmart highlight new Region 7AA

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Coach Matt Jones talks with quarterback Teddy Jarrard.
File

North Cobb Christian will have the opportunity to win a second straight region championship as it competes in the new Region 7AA.

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The Eagles return quarterback Teddy Jarrard, who finished second in the county with 2,065 passing yards in his freshman season.

He is not the only key returning player. The Eagles also retained more than half of their total yardage production from last year as well as a majority of their contributors on defense.

The Eagles' biggest challenge will come in the form of reigning Region 7AA champion Rockmart.

The Yellowjackets are coming off a season where they went undefeated in region play but lost a triple overtime thriller to Pierce County 48-45 in the state championship game.

They will be led by Tristan Anderson, who had 1,000 yards receiving as a junior last season.

The Eagles and Yellowjackets will meet in an October showdown that could end up deciding the winner of the region.

"I look forward to that one, that will be a good game," North Cobb Christian coach Matt Jones said. "And our kids are excited about that, but there's so much to do between now and then to be successful in that game."

The other two contenders for the region title may be Union County and North Murray.

The Mountaineers return their leading passer and rusher in Skyler Williams, but lose his favorite target, Judson Petty, who had almost 2,000 all-purpose yards last season.

Williams and Union County finished as the runner ups in the region last year after the Yellowjackets handed them their only region play loss, in convincing 59-7 fashion. Union County will have a chance for retribution when the two teams match up in the final regular season game.

North Murray, who finished third in Region 8AA last season, will also have a chance at revenge. They face off against the Yellowjackets, who sent them home in the second round of the state playoffs last season, in Week 4.

This might be a challenge though as the Panthers have to revamp their offense after their top five players in all-purpose yards graduated.

The only other team returning to the region from last season is Murray County, which will try and improve on its 1-5 record in region play.

The region is also adding a trio of teams from Region 6AAA in the form of Coahulla Creek, Lakeview Ft. Oglethorpe and Ringgold.

Coahulla Creek and Ringgold both finished with a 4-3 record in region play. Coahulla Creek prevailed in the head-to-head matchup against Ringgold, earning them fourth place in the region, while Ringgold had to settle for fifth.

Lakeview Ft. Oglethorpe finished seventh in the region with a 1-6 record in region play.

The final team being added to the nine team region is Sonoraville, which is coming down two classifications.

Region 7AA Prediction

1. Rockmart
2. North Cobb Christian
3. North Murray
4. Union County
5. Ringgold
6. Sonoraville
7. Coahulla Creek
8. Lakeview Ft. Oglethorpe
9. Murray County



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