

Forrest

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“We always have the defensive expectations. Our goal is we want to play great defense and run the ball on offense. We want ball control on offense so our defense isn’t on the field so much. Coach Bridges does an awesome job putting a game plan together and getting the kids ready,” Stephenson said.

That success of being able to run the ball and playing a stingy style of defense all starts in the trenches.

“The biggest strength is our offensive and defensive line. It all starts up front. We’ve got three guys returning on the offensive line and three guys back on the

defensive line. I think that’s our big key,” Stephenson said.

The Rockets’ run stretched to the Class AA state quarterfinals where Forrest saw its season come to an end against Decatur County Riverside.

After falling 15-10 in the state quarterfinals last season, Stephenson says it’s a buy-in from all parties and the Rockets have truly embraced the team-before-self mentality.

“What I like about the team overall, they’re big into the “team aspect.” Like the backs, really don’t care about the stats they get as long as they’re out there producing for the team, doing what they’re supposed to and we get that win on Friday nights,” he said.

Forrest begins the 2022 campaign at the Rock on August 19 against Eagleville.

2022 Forrest Rockets

No. 1	Chris Davis	RB/LB	Sr.	No. 54	Nathan Belanger	OG/DE	Fresh.
No. 2	Tayton Swift	RB/DB	Sr.	No. 55	Ayden Hinrichs	OT/DE	Jr.
No. 3	Antonio Marable	RB/LB	Fresh.	No. 56	Cameron Orr	OG/DE	Jr.
No. 4	Gavin Grissom	K	Jr.	No. 57	Jackson Blakemore	OG/LB	Soph.
No. 5	Ryan Hill	QB	Fr.	No. 58	Thomas Alderson	OG/DE	Soph.
No. 6	Liam Bell	RB/LB	Jr.	No. 59	Blaze Bourne	OG/LB	Fresh.
No. 7	Luke Swihart	RB/LB	Jr.	No. 60	Jackson Kramer	OT/DE	Fresh.
No. 8	Smeat Patel	WR/DB	Sr.	No. 61	Riley Durbin	OG/DE	Sr.
No. 9	Brenton Burchell	WR/DB	Sr.	No. 62	Carter Young	OT/DE	Fresh.
No. 10	Noah Helmick	RB/DB	DB	No. 63	William Carter	OT/DE	Fresh.
No. 11	Micah McClendon	RB/DB	Sr.	No. 64	Drew Glover	OG/DE	Soph.
No. 12	Aiden Cantrell	QB/DB	Soph.	No. 65	Kameron Street	C/NG	Soph.
No. 13	Houston Matlock	WR/DB	Fresh.	No. 67	Griffin Stott	OT/DE	Fresh.
No. 15	Kasen Owen	WR/DB	Fresh.	No. 68	Reggie Pearson	OG/DE	Jr.
No. 16	Bryce Tankersley	WR/DB	Jr.	No. 70	Mitchell Todd	OT/DE	Fresh.
No. 17	Landon Groeneveld	RB/DB	Jr.	No. 71	Luke Allen	OG/NG	Soph.
No. 18	Tyler Ayers	WR/DB	Sr.	No. 72	Andrew Winsett	OG/DE	Soph.
No. 21	Levi Van Patten	WR/DB	Sr.	No. 73	Jovani Monreal	OT/NG	Soph.
No. 22	Eli Bell	RB/DB	Fresh.	No. 74	Damien Street	C/DE	Soph.
No. 23	Nyles Taylor	WR/DB	Jr.	No. 76	Jordan Bishop	OT/DE	Sr.
No. 24	Carson Yates	TE/LB	Jr.	No. 77	Spence Tankersley	OT/DE	Fresh.
No. 25	Cohen Grissom	RB/LB	Fresh.	No. 78	Jackson Wynn	OT/DE	Soph.
No. 28	Chris Rorabaugh	TE/LB	Fresh.	No. 79	Mikey Stoddard	OT/NG	Sr.
No. 29	Paxton Howes	WR/DB	Soph.	No. 84	Branham Haynes	TE/LB	Fresh.
No. 30	Nathaniel Carter	WR/DB	Fresh.	No. 87	Jesse Lindeman	TE/LB	Jr.
No. 31	Jared Ross	TE/LB	Fresh.				
No. 32	Clayson Jones	TE/LB	Fresh.				
No. 35	Tegan Vanderploeg	TE/LB	Fresh.				
No. 51	Connor Crawford	OG/LB	Soph.				
No. 52	Matthew Morgan	OT/DE	Fresh.				

Head Coach: Eli Stephenson
Assistant Coaches: Ryan Bridges, Larry Chatman, Jason Daugherty, Jason Hill, Tony Johnson, Kyle Stacey, Zach Russell, Chad Hardin

2022 Schedule

Aug. 19	vs. Eagleville
Aug. 26	at Cornersville
Sept. 2	vs. Loretto*
Sept. 9	vs. Moore Co.
Sept. 16	at Summertown*
Sept. 23	vs. Marion Co.
Sept. 30	vs. Cascade*
Oct. 14	vs. Richland*
Oct. 21	at E. Robertson
Oct. 28	at Mt. Pleasant*

* Denotes Region 5-AA game

2021 Rewind

Aug. 20	at Eagleville	14-0	W
Aug. 27	vs. Cornersville	16-6	L
Sept. 3	vs. Loretto*	13-7	W
Sept. 10	at Moore Co.	21-7	W
Sept. 17	vs. Summertown*	33-7	W
Sept. 24	at Marion Co.	42-15	L
Oct. 1	at Cascade*	24-7	W
Oct. 15	at Richland*	28-14	W
Oct. 22	vs. E. Robertson	21-17	L
Oct. 29	vs. Mt. Pleasant*	25-7	W
Nov. 5	vs. Adamsville**	38-7	W
Nov. 12	Lewis Co.**	13-6	W
Nov. 19	Decatur Co. Riverside**	15-10	L

*Denotes Region 5-AA game
 ** Denotes Class 2A playoff game

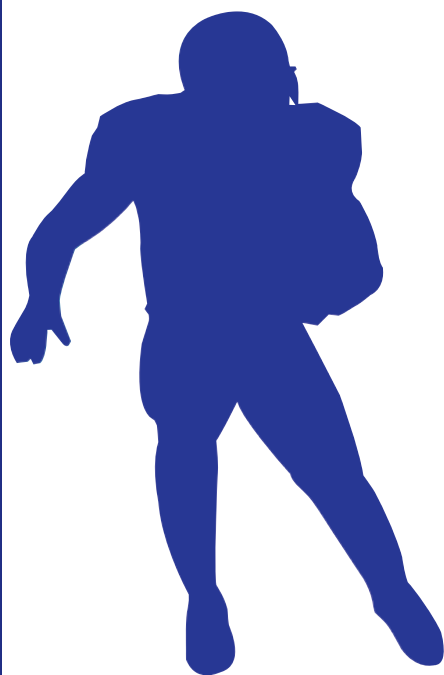
Circle Your Calendar: Sept. 30 Forrest vs. Cascade

The rivalry stretches back for years and it’s no secret these two teams don’t like each other much. Last season, Forrest snapped a six-game Cascade win-streak and picked up a key victory en route to their region title a season ago. This season’s game could bear similar implications—and the Rockets face Cascade at home.

Coach Speak

“We’ve got a lot of returning players. That last loss really left a bad taste in their mouths. We’ve really hit the weight room hard. With our offensive line—we’re a lot stronger this year.”

- Forrest coach Eli Stephenson



Best Wishes this Season!



4708 Nashville Hwy.
 Chapel Hill, TN 37034
 931-364-2236