

# Vikings mix in old and new this season

**By Rickey Clardy**  
Sports Writer

The Community Vikings used a big play offense to score over 25 points in four of their nine games in 2021.

With 13 players, including seven seniors returning for the 2022 season, Coach Chris Grooms of the Vikings is banking on the big play to account for a major part of the Community offense.

“We’re looking for ball players, and we’ve got a good crew of them that’s returning and been with me for four years,” Grooms said.

“The big play is pretty much our M.O.,” Grooms added. “We try to lull you asleep and hopefully we can catch one of those big plays with our skill set we’ve got.”

While the returning players will provide the Vikings with experience at key positions, Grooms will be welcoming 22 new players to the squad, including three seniors and three juniors.

“We added quite a few players,” Grooms said. “There’s a lot of people that wanted to play this year. “We’ve got some basketball players that came and want to join that senior class.”

“It should be interesting this year. We’ve also got a bunch of freshmen that joined us this year,” Grooms added.

With the new players outnumbering the returning players, it has taken some time to formulate a practice routine.

“It’s been kind of difficult because the last two years we’ve been used to working with 28,” Grooms said. “With a little more, it’s kind of hard getting them reps and moving them.”

Three of the Viking returning seniors commented on the preseason work thus far and the focus of the team.

“The practices have been good,” wide receiver Cole Crockett said. “We want to stay driven and just want to win and get better.”

There has been a consistent goal as the team gets closer to opening its season.

“Overall, it’s a team goal of making the playoffs,” quarterback Dallas Grooms said. “We all want the same goal and we’re all working to achieve it.”

“We want to make history and be the first team at Community to go to the playoffs,” Grooms added.

“We’re all driven by each other’s motivation to get there and I feel like we’re

doing a great job,” lineman Brycen Davis said.

Even with the large influx of new players, Davis said the team has quickly gotten used to each other.

“We’ve all become like a big brotherhood,” Davis said. “We’ve become a big family and we’ve been able to get along with each other really well.”

“With the group we have, it doesn’t take long to get accepted,” Crockett said. “Everybody’s got their own little group and we all end up coming together.”

The Vikings will complete the second season in the present 2-year classification cycle by competing in Class 3-A.

Community will face Region 4 opponents Giles County, Sequatchie County, Grundy County, and Cannon County with six non-region games on the schedule.

“We open up with Lewis County. That’s always a tough one,” Chris Grooms said. “We’ve also got Lookout Valley and Perry County before we start district.”

The Viking opener at Lewis County is August 19.

Community will play its home opener the following Friday against Lookout Valley.

## 2022 Community Vikings

No. 1	Maki Fleming	WR	Jr.
No. 2	JJ Jacobs	WR	Soph.
No. 3	Dallas Grooms	QB	Sr.
No. 4	Ramon Hernandez	WR	Sr.
No. 5	Jacob Harden	WR	Sr.
No. 6	Issac Jacobs	WR	Fresh.
No. 7	Braxtin Landers	WR	Fresh.
No. 8	Emery Smith	WR	Sr.
No. 9	Cole Crockett	WR	Sr.
No. 10	Drake Brown	QB	Fresh.
No. 20	Ethan O’Neal	WR	Fresh.
No. 21	Gavin Garcia	RB	Sr.
No. 22	Jordan Stanley	WR	Sr.
No. 26	Jordan Land	OL	Sr.
No. 31	Luis Butler	WR	Fresh.
No. 33	Ethan Eynon	RB	Jr.
No. 34	Wilson Richmond	WR	Soph.
No. 39	Michael Johnson	WR	Soph.
No. 42	Trenton Hancock	OL	Fresh.
No. 50	Nevin Barnett	OL	Sr.
No. 52	Thomas Bowling	OL	Jr.
No. 54	Reed Wallace	OL	Jr.
No. 56	Joseph Johnson	OL	Fresh.
No. 57	Austin Stickler	OL	Soph.
No. 58	James Bowling	OL	Jr.
No. 60	Evan Jeans	OL	Fresh.
No. 61	Dawson Chumley	OL	Soph.
No. 65	Daniel Walters	OL	Fresh.
No. 67	Brycen Davis	OL	Senior
No. 70	Coby Vincion	OL	Jr.
No. 72	Blaine Bowling	OL	Fresh.
No. 74	Daylen Fulton	OL	Soph.
No. 80	Jackson Harris	WR	Soph.
No. 81	Severen Garman	WR	Fresh.
No. 88	Isaiah Beech	WR	Fresh.

**Head Coach:** Chris Grooms  
**Assistant Coaches:** Luke Bowling, Aaron Reid, Ryan Eady

# Region 4-AAA Master Schedule

## Friday, Aug. 19

Community at Lewis Co.  
Giles Co. vs. Lincoln Co.  
Cannon Co. vs. Monterey  
Sequatchie Co. at S. Pittsburg

## Friday, Aug. 26

Community vs. Lookout Valley  
Giles Co. at Nolensville  
Cannon Co. at Cascade  
Sequatchie Co. at Marion Co.

## Friday, Sept. 2

Community — BYE  
Giles Co. vs. Grundy Co.  
Cannon Co. at Sequatchie Co.

## Friday, Sept. 9

Community vs. Huntland  
Giles Co. vs. Columbia  
Cannon Co. at Tenn. Heat (at Mt. Juliet Christian)  
Sequatchie Co. — BYE

## Friday, Sept. 16

Community vs. Giles Co.  
Cannon Co. at Lookout Valley  
Sequatchie Co. vs. Grundy Co.

## Friday, Sept. 23

Community at Cascade  
Giles Co. vs. Page  
Cannon Co. vs. DeKalb Co.  
Sequatchie Co. at Bledsoe Co.

## Friday, Sept. 30

Community vs. Sequatchie Co.  
Giles Co. — BYE  
Cannon Co. vs. Grundy Co.

## Friday, Oct. 7

Community vs. Huntland  
Giles Co. vs. Columbia  
Cannon Co. at Tenn. Heat (at Mt. Juliet Christian)  
Sequatchie Co. — BYE

## Friday, Oct. 14

Community at Cannon Co.  
Giles Co. vs. Sequatchie Co.

## Friday, Oct. 21

Community vs. Hart Co. (Ky.)  
Giles Co. at Cleveland  
Cannon Co. — BYE  
Sequatchie Co. vs. Whitwell

## Thursday, Oct. 27

Community at Grundy Co.  
Giles Co. vs. Cannon Co.  
Sequatchie Co. vs. White Co.

## 2021 Region 4-AAA Final Records

Giles Co.	12-1, 3-0
Community	2-7, 0-4
Sequatchie Co.	4-7, 2-1
Grundy Co.	2-7, 1-2
Cannon Co.	7-5, 2-1

## 2021 Rewind

Aug. 20	at Lewis Co.	35-14	L
Aug. 27	at Lookout Valley	60-7	W
Sept. 10	Perry Co.	46-0	W
Sept. 17	at Giles Co.*	57-7	L
Sept. 24	vs. Cascade	33-14	L
Oct. 1	at Sequatchie Co.*	36-26	L
Oct. 15	vs. Cannon Co.*	56-30	L
Oct. 21	at Hart Co. (Ky.)	54-12	L
Oct. 29	Grundy Co.*	14-0	L

\* Denotes Region 4-AAA game

## Coach Speak

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**-Viking coach Chris Grooms**

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Aug. 26	vs. Lookout Valley
Sept. 9	at Perry Co.
Sept. 16	vs. Giles Co.*
Sept. 23	at Cascade
Sept. 30	vs. Sequatchie Co.*
Oct. 7	vs. Huntland
Oct. 14	at Cannon Co.*
Oct. 21	vs. Hart Co. (Ky.)
Oct. 27	at Grundy Co.*

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