

BLOOMINGDALE

CLASS 8A, DISTRICT 6

Bulls fever ... catch it!

Sophomore safety Alan Yearby may be young, but he's already impressing coaches and is one of the reasons they're so optimistic about the Bulls' fortunes this season. Bloomingdale doesn't have much of a playoff tradition, but with last year's green athletes back and more seasoned, the Bulls should contend for their second-ever postseason berth.

2011 SCHEDULE

All games at 7:30 p.m. unless noted

Sept. 2	at Chamberlain
Sept. 9	at Strawberry Crest
Sept. 16	vs. East Bay
Sept. 23	vs. Tampa Catholic
Sept. 30	at Riverview
Oct. 6	at Alonso, 7
Oct. 14	vs. Leto
Oct. 20	at Wharton
Nov. 4	vs. Plant
Nov. 10	vs. Newsome

2010 RESULTS (2-8)

vs. Lennard	6-13
vs. Leto	49-0
vs. Durant	3-40
at Steinbrenner	7-13
at Plant City	0-37
vs. Freedom	12-33
at Newsome	16-56
at King	12-38
vs. Riverview	41-12
at Brandon	10-27

2011 ROSTER

Chris Arroyo	So.
Eugene Baker	Jr.
John Baxter	Sr.
Nicholas Beesting	Sr.
Christian Bennett	Jr.
Kristopher Bjork	So.
Javon Brooks	Jr.
Dustin Bullara	Sr.
Jacob Campoamor	Sr.
Favian Cartagena	Jr.
Kevin Click	Sr.
Cody Crouse	Jr.
Logan Crouse	Fr.
Curtis Curry III	So.
Darius Davis	Sr.
Curtis Dmetroshko	Jr.
Kameron Faile	So.
Matthew Firestine	Sr.
Alec Gomez	Sr.
Brandon Gosdoski	Sr.
Kody Haley	Sr.
John Hester	So.
Demarco Johnson	Jr.
Patrick Lowe	Jr.
Jacob Martin	Jr.
Zachary Mazen	Jr.
Mitchell McDade	Jr.
Austin McGillem	So.
Fito Merzier	So.
Demetrius Minnifield	Sr.
Shakeel Mitchell	Sr.
Adam Posateri	Jr.
Nathaniel Reid	Sr.
Orlando Rodriguez	Jr.
Jackson Smigiel	Sr.
Gerard Trott	Jr.
Logan White	Sr.
James Wiehle	Jr.
Alan Yearby	So.



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"AN OLD COACH ONCE TOLD ME POTENTIAL WILL GET YOU FIRED. BUT I AM VERY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THIS TEAM." — COACH JOHN BOOTH

COACH: John Booth (third season, 2-18)
COLORS: Black, red and white
STADIUM: Charlie Harris Stadium, 1700 E Bloomingdale Ave., Valrico
PLAYOFF HISTORY: 2008
LAST APPEARANCE: Lost 48-6 to Lakeland

TIC TAC TOE

A LOOK AT THE BULLS' X'S AND O'S

OFFENSE: Bloomingdale will move away from four-wide sets and infuse more diversity into the offense this season. Expect to see some double tight end looks and traditional I-formations. "Since I've been here, we really have had that tight end presence," coach John Booth said. "We have two now so we'll be able to work multiple sets and get the running game going more."

DEFENSE: The Bulls operate out of a base 4-3 scheme but have a pair of aggressive safeties — senior Brandon Gosdoski and sophomore Alan Yearby — who like to step up in run support. "They are both very athletic," Booth said. "(Yearby) is just a 10th grader, but people will know his name in a few years."

CHESS MASTER



Booth is entering his third season as coach and has been all over the football map. Booth played quarterback at MidAmerica Nazarene before signing as a wide receiver with the Kansas City Chiefs.

He played for NFL Europe's Amsterdam Admirals and spent time with the Arena League's Kansas City Brigade. Booth also coached the wide receivers for two years at his college alma mater.

TRIVIAL PURSUIT

Was Coach really that good?
Answer: He sure was. Booth helped the Admirals win the World Bowl in 2005 and was inducted into the MidAmerican Nazarene Hall of Fame last year.

PUZZLE PIECES

CODY CROUSE, QB: At 6-foot-6, Crouse has the size and a big arm to match. Booth said, "as he goes, we go."

EUGENE BAKER, KAMERON FAILE, RBS:

Bloomingdale will look to utilize the run game more this season, and Baker and Faile will provide the punch. Baker (5-foot-11, 200) gives the Bulls a strong between-the-tackles presence while Faile (6-6, 160) has the speed to break the big ones.

JACKSON SMIGIEL, DL: A three-year starter, Smigiel (6-4, 240) will be counted on heavily to create pressure off the edge.

BATTLESHIP

WHAT COULD SINK THE BULLS IN 2011

Overcoming lack of tradition is a huge obstacle for Bloomingdale. The Bulls have reached the postseason just once in school history (2008) and are 2-18 the past two seasons. "We were very young the last two years but we have 14 returning starters this season," Booth said. "We knew we'd take our lumps but I'm very excited about where they are at right now."

CLUE

HOW THE BULLS WILL FARE

Plant is the class of the newly aligned 8A-6, but Bloomingdale has a ton of experience and should compete with Wharton and Alonso for second place and a postseason berth.

Brandon Wright, Times correspondent