

# Jones takes Offensive POW honors

*Wallace, Sumpter, Robinson also honored by Touchdown Club*

**By Dennis Brunson**

Dylan Jones has been an integral part of the offense for the Wilson Hall football team all season. But with quarterback Clark Kinney out with an injury, Jones had his biggest game of the season on Friday against Heathwood Hall.

Jones, a senior, rushed for 243 yards and scored six touchdowns on just 15 carries in the Barons' 47-28 victory over Heathwood Hall on Friday.

"The ultimate goal is to win the game," Jones said. "No matter how many carries I get in each game, my goal is to be as protective as I can be."

Because of his performance, Jones has been selected as the SAFE Offensive Player of the Week for the Sumter Touchdown Club presented by FTC,

The other three selections for the SAFE Players of the Week are Kingstree center Mycheal Wallace as Lineman of the Week, Laurence Manning Academy kick returner Thomas Sumpter as the Special Teams Player of the Week and Clarendon Hall cornerback Wilder Robinson as the Defensive Player of the Week.

The quartet will be honored at the club's weekly breakfast meeting on Friday at the Sumter County Recreation and Parks' Jasmine Hall located at 155 Haynsworth Street. Breakfast will start at 7 a.m. with the program beginning at 7:30. The guest speaker will be Wofford College football head coach Shawn Watson.

## **OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK**

**DYLAN JONES**

**WILSON HALL**

**RUNNING BACK**

**SENIOR**

It's not as if Jones' carries increased by a great measure against the Highlanders. He entered the game averaging just over 10 carries a contest, but when you average 16.2 yards per carry, the numbers can pile up quickly.

"I felt like every time I got the ball that I could break free," Jones said. "My offensive line was great at doing its job. It made my job much easier."

Jones went over 1,000 yards for the season, putting his total at 1,158 yards with 17 touchdowns. Barons head coach Adam Jarecki said that Jones brings more to the table than just running the football.

“Dylan does so many things that makes the whole team better,” Jarecki said. “He does a great job of blocking when he’s not carrying the ball. He’s caught passes for us; he’s now our backup quarterback.

“He’s been consistent all year in what we do. We mix it up, we do a lot of different things. He blocks well; on screen passes, he’s the one we want to run behind. Right now, he’s stepped up with us having so many injuries. I’m proud of what we he has done.”

**LINEMAN OF THE WEEK**  
**MYCHEAL WALLACE**  
**KINGSTREE**  
**CENTER**  
**JUNIOR**

Wallace graded out at 93 percent and had one knockdown block as the Blazers ran for 278 yards in their 52-0 victory over Mullins.

The measurables for Wallace, a junior center, are 6-foot-1-inch, and 310 pounds. Being a center is what he is.

“I’ve played center since I was seven years old,” Wallace said.

Kingstree head coach Brian Smith said Wallace had a tremendous game against Mullins.

“He was physically dominant, and I think he plays the toughest position on offensive line,” the coach said. “I think the best player on the offensive line needs to be at center. Not only does he have to be physically dominant, but he has to do a great job snapping the ball. He does both well.

“He was dominant. You couldn’t ask for more. He used his leverage, driving guys out of the way. He was a big part of why we had so many yards. I hope that continues. He’s just a junior, so we expect big things from him.”

While Wallace normally has a fellow behemoth hovering over him in the trenches, he said his focus is more on getting himself and his fellow linemates in the right set as opposed to snapping the football.

“I try to make the calls on the play and get us in what we have to do,” Wallace said. “I just let them know what they’re supposed to do. I think mainly about what I have to do after I snap the ball.”

**SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK**  
**THOMAS SUMPTER**  
**LAURENCE MANNING**  
**KICK RETURNER**  
**SENIOR**

Sumpter had a 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown and had 133 yards on two returns in the Swampcats’ 37-14 victory over Orangeburg Prep.

And it wasn’t your run-of-the mill kickoff that the senior took back for a score. It was the game’s opening kickoff that put LMA out to an immediate lead and set the tone for the game.

However, the kickoff didn't necessarily go as designed. There was some miscommunication and the ball wasn't caught. Sumpter had to run back and retrieve the football at the Laurence Manning 1-yard line because it wasn't going to make it into the end zone for a touchback.

"I picked it up, turned around and there were like three or four (Orangeburg Prep defenders) there," Sumpter said. "I made a little move, followed my blockers, and I was gone."

Sumpter returned a punt for a touchdown earlier in the season. Swampcats head coach Will Furse said his player has all of the attributes to be successful as a kick returner.

"He has really good vision, he's fast, he trusts the guys up front to block for him," Furse said. "He has good hands. You put that all together and you've got a great returner. He's a weapon, very dangerous. We've got some other guys who can do this, but he's earned the right to be back there. He's done a phenomenal job."

**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK**  
**WILDER ROBINSON**  
**CLARENDON HALL**  
**CORNERBACK**  
**SENIOR**

Robinson had 11 tackles, two interceptions and one quarterback sack in the Saints' 32-2 victory over Calhoun Academy.

Calhoun uses a run-heavy, wing-style offense while operating out of the shotgun formation, so that had Robinson playing closer to the line in his cornerback position. He took advantage of it, which led to the high number of tackles and the sack.

"Me and Coach (defensive coordinator Stewart) Price had conversations and he wanted me close to the ball," Robinson said. "It was easier for me to read the plays and make some of those tackles. The defensive linemen and linebackers did a great job of taking on the blockers, allowing me to fill the holes."

"He was lining up inside the box," said Clarendon Hall head coach Todd Larrimer. "He had a good angle to read everything that was coming out of the backfield. He was making tackles inside the guard."