



# Brookland-Cayce Fighting Bearcats



**GAME #1**  
 B-C (0-0) @ Airport (0-0)  
 Eagle Stadium  
 Airport HS  
 August 24, 2007  
 www.bcfootball.net

**Season Opener** – Brookland-Cayce will kick off its 76th season of prep football vs. arch-rival Airport at Eagle Stadium on Friday, August 24 ... B-C is 3-4 under **Coach Brad Coleman** in season openers – all vs. Airport ... From 1986-2002, the Bearcats opened its football campaign with a season opening victory just one time – 1991 vs. Airport under **Coach Phil Strickland**, an AHS graduate who is now the head football coach at Class 4A state power Gaffney HS ... Brookland-Cayce has faced the Eagles in the season opener every year since 1988 and Airport holds a 15-4 advantage ... The two teams will meet in the season finale at The Cage in a Region 5-3A contest.

**Airport Series** – The 11 game edge the Eagles have staged vs. the Bearcats in season openers has aided Airport to a 31-23 advantage in the overall series that dates back to the inaugural contest in 1966 ... B-C, being the “older brother” of Airport since the West Columbia site spawned off of the original Cayce campus in the early 1960s, won 11 of the first 12 games in the series from 1966-77 ... An Airport win in 1978 helped the Eagles hold a slim 8-6 margin in wins from 1978-88 ... But, from 1989-2001, Airport dominated the series with a 19-1 record and turned a 17-9 mark by the Bearcats into a 28-18 Airport advantage ... Since 2002, the Bearcats have won five of eight games ... At Eagle Stadium, Airport leads the series 29-22 ... B-C **Coach Brad Coleman** owns a 5-5 mark vs. Airport, which is the most wins against the Eagles for a B-C football coach since **John Daye** tallied a 4-6 record from 1980-87 ... Former Bearcats coach **Bob Montgomery** (1971-76) owns the best record against the Eagles as his teams posted a perfect 6-0 mark vs. Airport ... Legendary coach **Bettis Herlong** tallied a 4-1 record vs. Airport at the helm of the Brookland-Cayce program from 1966-70 ... Bearcats’ record by decades: (1966-69) 3-1; (1970-79) 9-1; (1980-89) 5-9; (1990-99) 1-15; (2000-06) 5-5.

B-C vs. Airport Since 2000			
Year	Site	Score	Result
2006 ...	@ Airport	(2ot) 28-21	W
2006 ...	AIRPORT	(2ot) 17-20	L
2005 ...	AIRPORT	10-24	L
2005 ...	@ Airport	7-20	L
2004 ...	@ Airport	24-8	W
2004 ...	AIRPORT	40-7	W
2003 ...	@ Airport	21-13	W
2002 ...	vs. Airport	13-10	W
2001 ...	@ Airport	6-21	L
2000 ...	vs. Airport	0-46	L

**Eight is Great!** – **Coach Brad Coleman** begins his eighth year at the helm of the Brookland-Cayce football program in 2007 ... A football letterman and 1990 graduate of BCHS, Coleman has compiled a 40-36

(.526) record at B-C, which includes a region championship in 2003 and five consecutive playoff appearances (2002-06) ... Coleman also serves as the Athletics Director at Brookland-Cayce ... He is married to the former Joni Rikard, who is an assistant principal at Airport High School, and they have a son, Tanner, and a daughter, Sydney.

Coleman vs. 2007 Opponents			
Date	Opponent	Record	Pct.
8/24 ...	@ Airport (3A)	5-5	.500
8/31 ...	RICHLAND NORTHEAST (4A)	0-1	.000
9/7 ...	DREHER (3A)	5-2	.714
9/14 ...	@ Columbia (2A)	3-2	.600
9/21 ...	WHITE KNOLL (4A)	1-4	.200
9/28 ...	@ Swansea*	4-3	.571
10/5 ...	STROM THURMOND*	2-5	.286
10/12 ...	@ Chapin*	4-3	.571
10/19 ...	@ Midland Valley*	5-2	.714
10/26 ...	AIRPORT*	5-5	.500
		<b>34-32</b>	<b>.515</b>

Coleman's Annual Record				
Year	Record	Region	Finish	Playoffs
2006	4-7	4-1	2nd	1st Round
2005	5-6	2-3	4th	1st Round
2004	9-3	3-2	3rd	2nd Round
2003	9-2	5-0	1st	1st Round
2002	4-7	2-3	4th	1st Round
2001	4-6	1-4	5th	none
2000	5-5	2-3	5th	none
<b>Total</b>	<b>40-36</b>	<b>19-16</b>	<b>1 Title</b>	<b>5 Playoffs</b>

**Still Going** – Coleman’s tenure of seven years at BCHS ranks as the longest span for a football head coach at B-C in the last 45 years ... Not since **John Daye** completed eight seasons from 1980-87 have the Bearcats been led longer by one head coach ... Coleman’s 52.6% winning mark trails only **Bob Montgomery** (63.7%, six years) and **Bettis Herlong** (59.3%, five years) during this span ... Following are the coaching tenure and records since 1961:

B-C Coaching Records Since 1961			
Coach	Years	Record	Pct.
Brad Coleman	2000-06	40-36	.526
Dusty Triplett	1994-99	21-47	.309
Jake Brock	1992-93	1-21	.046
Phil Strickland	1991	5-7	.417
Keith Chapman	1988-90	6-29	.171
John Daye	1980-87	41-50	.451
Ron Autry	1977-79	5-25	.167
Bob Montgomery	1971-76	39-22-1	.637
Bettis Herlong	1966-70	29-19-6	.593
Bill Brissey	1961-64	11-31-3	.278

**B-C Continues Playoff Run** – Brookland-Cayce’s 2006 season began with five-straight losses, but the

Bearcats rebounded during region play to post a 4-1 record ... After posting an 18-5 mark in 2003-04, B-C has tallied marks of 5-6 and 4-7 ... However, ‘06 marked the fifth-straight season in which the Bearcats advanced to postseason play – the first time that has happened since 1983-88.

2006 Bearcats Schedule & Results		
Opponent	Score	Result
AIRPORT	(2ot) 17-20	L
@ Richland Northeast	8-54	L
@ Dreher	9-20	L
COLUMBIA	6-7	L
@ White Knoll	3-28	L
SWANSEA*	27-14	W
@ Strom Thurmond*	13-31	L
CHAPIN*	21-0	W
MIDLAND VALLEY*	35-31	W
@ Airport*	(2ot) 28-21	W
WILSON (3A First Round)	0-42	L

**2006 Region 4-3A Recap** – Strom Thurmond marched through the region schedule last fall with an undefeated 5-0 mark – the third straight undefeated region season for the Rebels ... In fact, you have to go back to October 11, 2003 to find a loss for Strom Thurmond in region action as Brookland-Cayce whipped the Rebels 29-7 that night at The Cage ... However, since that loss Strom Thurmond has won 18 consecutive region games ... Under the Coleman regime with the Bearcats three other schools have captured region titles during that time span – B-C in ‘03 (5-0), Midland Valley in ‘00 (4-1) and ‘02 (5-0), and Newberry in ‘01 (5-0).

2006 Region 4-3A Standings			
Team	Region	Overall	Points
Strom Thurmond	5-0	8-4	328-194
Brookland-Cayce	4-1	4-7	167-268
Midland Valley	3-2	6-5	279-210
Airport	1-4	4-7	232-240
<i>Did not make playoffs</i>			
Chapin	1-4	4-6	156-249
Swansea	1-4	3-7	136-246

**B-C Competitive in Class 3A** – Since joining Class 3A from Class 4A in 1997, B-C owns a 59-63 (.484) record – a stark contrast to the 19-85 (.183) mark compiled by the Bearcats’ from 1987-95 as a member of Class 4A ... Brookland-Cayce has qualified for the Class 3A playoffs eight times, while B-C participated in postseason action on just three occasions in its last decade of Class 4A (‘87, ‘88, ‘91).

**Beating the Heat** – Along with the usual practices and scrimmages associated with the month’s preparation for the regular season, B-C journeyed to the upstate August 5-9 for team bonding, practice, and instruction at Camp McCall in Sunset, S.C. ... The Bearcats were

joined by Walhalla HS, which is coached by former B-C offensive coordinator **John Boggs** ... **George Duncan**, a former Brookland-Cayce assistant coach, is also on the Razorbacks' staff ... In addition to Walhalla, B-C was able to scrimmage teams from Blacksburg HS, Easley HS, and Wren HS during the camp ... Brookland-Cayce hosted a scrimmage at The Cage against North Augusta HS and also conducted an Intrasquad exhibition before participating in the Lexington County Sportsarama this past Friday where the Bearcats took on Lexington HS.

**New Faces** – Looking around Region 4 finds a new head coach at Swansea as **Van Lewis** takes over for **Bucky Stroud**, who made the transition to Athletic Director at SHS ... Taylor previously served as the head coach at Cardinal Newman High School ... All other programs remain the same as far as head coaches are concerned: Airport (**Kirk Burnett**, 4th year, 12-21); Brookland-Cayce (**Brad Coleman**, 8th year, 40-36); Chapin (**Larry Grady**, 2nd year, 4-6); Midland Valley (**Rick Knight**, 10th year, 47-54); and Strom Thurmond (**Lee Sawyer**, 4th year, 32-7) ... Region 4-3A play begins the final week of September.

**Rebels Tabbed for Honors** – Strom Thurmond is the preseason favorite in Region 4-3A according to the sportswriters of *McClatchy Newspapers* around the Palmetto State ... The Rebels have captured the past three region titles ... The rest of the region is as follows: #2 Airport; #3 Chapin; #4 Midland Valley; #5 B-C; and #6 Swansea ... The Prep Writers Poll is conducted by the following panel: **Barry Byers** (*Rock Hill Herald*); **Jason Gilmer** (*Spartanburg Herald-Journal*); **David Hale** (*Beaufort Gazette*); **Josh Hoke** (*Myrtle Beach Sun News*); **Jeff Kidd** (*Hilton Head Island Packet*); and **Steve Wiseman** (*The State*).

**Preseason Class 3A Top 10 Poll**

Rank	Team	Votes
1	Timberland	49
2	Myrtle Beach	29
3T	Clinton	27
3T	Greer	27
5	Marlboro County	25
6T	Chester	24
6T	Wilson	24
8	Blythewood	21
9T	Belton-Honea Path	17
9T	STROM THURMOND	17
10	Greenville	10

Also Receiving Votes: *Union County 4; Lugoff-Elgin 3; Fairfield Central 1; A.C. Flora 1.*

**Assessing Airport** – The Eagles will strive to match their impressive 3-0 start from last year, but **Coach Kirk Burnett** is hoping for better results the rest of the way as Airport stumbled to a 1-7 finish in 2006 ... Airport returns nine starters on defense so that side of the ball should be strong ... The Eagles' offense is banking on the health of tailback **Brandon Larry** to put six points on the scoreboard behind the blocking of fullback **Sam Guignard** ... Coach Burnett owns a 12-21 record at his alma mater and is 63-72 overall (51-51 at Ridge View HS) with four winning campaigns in 11 years at the helm of the Eagles and Blazers programs ... Airport will play at Lugoff-Elgin next week.

*What they are saying ... MidlandsPreps.com (The State)*

**AIRPORT EAGLES**

**Coach Kirk Burnett**

**2006 Record: 4-7, 1-4 Region 4-3A**

**Returning Starters:** James Green (SR-DT); Orlando Price (SR-DB); Akheem Sackel (SR-DB).

**2007 Outlook:** If experience means anything, things should be much better at Airport this year. Burnett's squad had 16 starters back, not even counting senior RB Brandon Larry, who missed most of last year with injuries. Even better, the nine starters who return on defense are all three-year starters.

**BROOKLAND-CAYCE BEARCATS**

**Coach Brad Coleman**

**2006 Record: 4-7, 4-1 Region 4-3A**

**Returning Starters:** Dakota Dozier (JR-OT); Matt Hook (SR-DT/OT); Chad Porter (SR-DE).

**2007 Outlook:** Graduation wiped 27 lettermen (19 starters) off this year's roster, so the Bearcats will be young and inexperienced. B-C has solid senior leadership in the line, according to Coleman, and the 16 returning lettermen will have to hit the ground running.

**BEARCATS IN MIDST OF REBUILDING**

*Jim McLaurin, The State | August 14, 2007*

The good news for Brookland-Cayce head coach Brad Coleman is that he won't lose a lot of seniors this year. The bad news is, they left after last year. Twenty-nine of them, to put a number on it, and of those 29, 19 were starters.

"We don't have too much back, but they're working hard and have come a long way (in the first week of practice)," Coleman said. "We had eight practices, and found out a lot."

Graduation did take a toll. Chris Montgomery, who rushed for over 1,000 yards in 2006, is gone, as well as quarterback A.J. Felder and wideout Tony McCoy. The Bearcat defense took an even bigger hit. All three linebackers - Josh Noble (101 tackles), Matt Bonaparte (93) and Phillip Chavis (88), took much of B-C's stopping power out the door with them.

But Coleman is guardedly optimistic. Sophomore Kenyatta Castleberry emerged as quarterback at the team camp the first full week of practice, and he's bringing a bunch of young ones with him.

"We're probably going to play about five or six sophomores," Coleman said. "We've got a half-dozen seniors who will start, and the rest are juniors. It's going to be a little bit of an experienced group."

And those seniors, headed by defensive tackle Chad Porter, two-way tackle Matt Hook and a couple of others, will provide stability until the youngsters get their feet wet.

The sooner that happens, the better, Coleman said. Last year's 0-5 start was hard enough on seniors, but they at least managed to recover to finish 4-7. The young ones will need a win or two early.

"It's always important to win some early so that the kids don't lose patience in what we're doing," he said. "But this group is special. They've got a lot of character and a lot of sense about them."

"They're going to push to get better and I don't think they'll accept getting off to a bad start."

**QUESTIONS WITH COACH BRAD COLEMAN**

*Jim McLaurin, The State | August 15, 2007*

**Q:** You lost a lot off last year's team?

**A:** We don't have to much back, but they're working hard and have come a long way (in the first week). We had eight practices, and found out a lot. Next week in camp will be even better. Hopefully we'll be all right. We've got some young kids, but they'll get better.

**Q:** After losing so many to graduation, how is the split, class-wise, now?

**A:** We have seven or eight seniors starting, and will probably play four or five sophomores, and the rest are juniors. It's pretty balanced. We're not senior-laden, as we have been.

**Q:** Losing the first five games last year was a heavy blow, but did winning four of the last five help with momentum for this year?

**A:** All those players who played a lot during that stretch are gone, except for two or three guys who are back. It's like it's a brand-new year. We're not talking about last year too much, other than that we don't want to get off to the kind of start we did last year. I think the momentum we're riding right now is the momentum from the off-season, and working hard in the weight room. If we've got any momentum, it's coming from there, not how we ended the year.