

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, November 13, 2020

Tupelo Public Schools (@TupeloSchools)

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COVID-19 Outbreak Forces Tupelo To Forfeit Football Playoff Game

TUPELO, Miss. — Due to an outbreak of COVID-19 positive cases on the Tupelo football team, the Golden Wave is forced to forfeit Friday night's home playoff game against Warren Central.

THS, under the direction of first-year coach Ty Hardin, finished the year 6-5 and second in the Class 6-1A division.

"Today was one of the hardest days in my coaching career, having to tell a group of young men that their season had ended on something that was out of their control," Hardin said. "I promised the guys that if they kept being tough, fought for our culture, and outwork everyone then we would keep playing. To break that promise hurts. They deserved to play on their terms tonight whatever the outcome may be. I can't thank this senior class and this football team enough for laying foundation for this football program. We will be a force in the future."

This marks the second time this year Tupelo has been involved in a forfeit, the first coming against Southaven after the Chargers were hit with their own outbreak.

The Wave also had to replace Grenada with West Lauderdale the third game of year due to the same reason.

Friday would have marked the first home playoff game since 2017, when THS lost to Warren Central, 30-13.

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