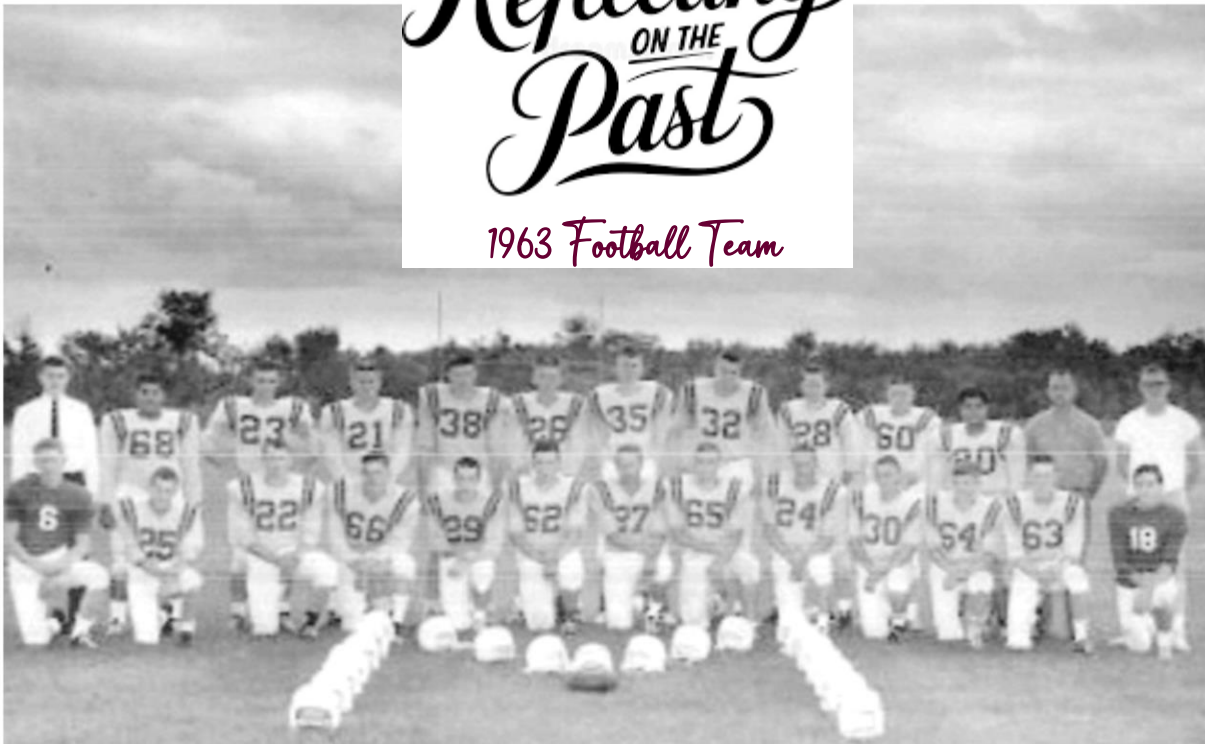


Pioneer Award

Reflecting ON THE Past

1963 Football Team



FRONT ROW: D. Sharp, T. Galik, R. Norman, B. Williams, J. Kirkland, R. Youngblood, D. McAuley, W. Cox, D. McMinn, D. Bailey, C. Thomas, M. Huddleston, R. Crawford. **SECOND ROW:** Mgr. Barton, B. Ortiz, E Day, L. Holloway, C. Holder, R. Hearne, C. Hearne, J. Maddux, F. Watts, G. Thomas, R. DeLara. **Not pictured:** G. Watkins **Head Coach:** Morrison, **Ass't. Coach:** Golphenee

In 1963, Millsap wasn't known as a football community. Like its neighbors, Millsap was known as a basketball powerhouse. But at this time, with the determination of a new superintendent and willing participants, Millsap embarked on creating its first football high school program in school history.

The program started, like most new football programs, with a light junior varsity schedule as they eased into competition. Things were simple that first year as players practiced in the bus parking lot after school until it got dark.

Later, a makeshift field was built by agriculture students and by the 1964-65 school year, more and more students began to get involved. For some of the younger athletes, the upperclassmen were seen as role models, showing dedication to a brand-new program. Early in the inception of the football program, the biggest fans were family members but as the sport has grown, so has the fan-base.

The program quickly became a huge success and the Bulldog community bought into the "Friday Night Lights" concept. During the 1970 season, just 7 short years after the Bulldog football program began, MHS found themselves with an amazing 9-1 record and were District Co-Champions.

62 years later, the Bulldogs continue to benefit from the sacrifices and efforts of the 1963 Bulldogs who stepped up and became the "pioneers" of the Bulldog football program. We thank you all!

Pioneer Award - 1963 Football Team