



Newsboy photo/Jimmy Galvan

IN THEIR FIRST DAY IN PADS, Jasper players participated in a four-on-four drill which featured blocking and running techniques.

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"People can talk it but you have to do it," Brooks said. "We are finding out right now, who wants it and who doesn't. We are going to trim it down to the people who want to be here. That's been the hard part because you have to make that commitment to win at football. It takes a special person to do that."

And with the Bulldogs coming off a dismal 2-8 season last year, Brooks knows that winning attitude needs to be reinstalled into this football program.

"Football is a tough sport and you have to love this game — it has to be in your heart," Brooks said. "We are looking for those who love it, who love to play it and if you don't, then you are not going to make it in this program because we demand too much."

One factor that is apparent for the Bulldogs this year during the early practices is the increased intensity level. Brooks said he has instilled that early on with this team to prepare them for the upcoming season.

"Football is an intense sport and we want practice to be harder than any game," Brooks said. "When they play a game, they will think this is easy."

Presently, the Dawgs are hitting the field from 7:30-9:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. At 10:10 a.m. the team runs timed sprints before returning to the practice field at 11:30 a.m. for another practice.

"We are going to be ready to play a game," Brooks said. "Right now, they don't understand some of things that we are doing but eventually they will understand it."

This type of regime might come as a shock for returning players to the Bulldog football program.

"We're just not going to accept anything less than their very best," Brooks said. "We are going to be aggressive and it might be the few and the proud on Friday nights for the Bulldogs."

"The 11 that are going to be out there are going to hit," Brooks said. "There are no shortcuts. We could make it easy but that's not going to help us win."

Brooks said that even though football is the sport being taught, another valuable life lesson is being worked on well during these practice sessions.

"The bottom line is winning football games and we are also trying to teach these guys to be men," Brooks said. "You have to roll out of that bed every

day and you know it's going to be tough but you still go. It's like going to work; it's something that you have to do.

"If you have any quit in your heart, you're not going to make it in this program," Brooks said. "You can't be a quitter in life or football and if you have any of that in you, it will show."

And take a good look at Brooks on the sideline of any practice and you'll find a coach fully involved in the practice. Brooks can often be found working with the offensive and defensive linemen during practice sessions.

"Games are won in the trenches," Brooks said. "Those are not the guys who get the praise but those are the guys that make things happen. If you win those wars, you're going to win some football games."



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JASPER COACH DAVID BURT watches kicker **David Beck** kickoff during special teams drills Monday afternoon. The Bulldogs are in their second week of two-a-days practice.

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Things That I Ponder

America?



Why do I live in this country when I could live anywhere in the world I want to live? Why indeed? It seems most public opinion is generated by pollsters and then fed to the public by TV. Where do they get their ideas? They have never called me! Were we to accept the present polls we are being roasted by global warming, over run by illegal aliens and all our children are on drugs!

Reality check! Most of us go to work every day, grateful to be earning a living! (about 96%) All of us are free to worship whomever we choose. We can also ignore this freedom if we choose. Our access to good food has many of us eating too much of it!

Momma said there are starving children in Africa so clean up your plate! Does that make sense? I've wondered about that for many years. Cleaning my plate did not help those poor babies one bit, did it? The Army taught me to take all I want then to eat all I took!

Now there is a concept. How about we take on all of this life we want, then live it to fullest! We know there will be challenges to our version of how this life is to be lived. Face them and grow through them to become a better person as a result of overcoming the challenges.

There are too many wonders to be seen and experienced in this country to even consider living anywhere else in the world. Live an attitude of gratitude every day and see if the world doesn't look better to you. I live here because this is my home. My home is what I know and what I love, I was born free and am grateful today for the freedom that allows me to say and do pretty much what I want to do and say!

The staff at Consolidated Health Care Services, Inc enjoy the freedom to see their clients and meet the client's needs within the scope of good, sound medical practice.

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