Its THURSDAY NIGHT? and you know what that means!

Coming to you live from the HIGHEST point between The Music City and Louisville Kentucky, this is THE VOICE OF THE BOBCATS emanating from high atop Bobcat Field, The Brier Patch, on the campus of Greenbrier High School as we bring to you WEEK 5of High School Football across the State of Tennessee!

Thank You for joining us here tonight, I am Jim Sorrells along side my CO HOST Kevin Criswell and we are The Voice of the Bobcats, bringing you this special presentation of Greenbrier Football. Be sure to join the conversation on social media using that handle @VoiceOfCatsTN. This broadcast is Brier Built, independently funded and produced by myself and Kevin Criswell and is meant for educational purposes only. All rights reserved. The opinions reflected by the hosts do not reflect that of Greenbrier, Robertson County of the Volunteer State of Tennessee Schools or systems or the TSSAA. For more information on the TSSAA and their commitment to the youth of our community and sportsmanship, be sure to visit them at TSSAA.org. For more information on Greenbrier High School, visit them at GHS.RCSTN.NET and just one question for Bobcat Nation, are you proud to be a Bobcat?

Last Week, The Cats and The Cobras tussled at Whites Creek, leaving The Cats stranded on the banks with a 40-6 loss. It was a contest that was deadlocked at halftime, but the depth and speed of the cobras was too great. Greenbrier now sitting at 1-3 as they look toward another out of Region Contest with the Purple Panthers of Portland.

After starting off at 2-0, the Panthers were leaving a path of lit up scoreboards and clouds of dust, amassing 77 points and pitching two straight shutouts, the Panthers were feeling themselves, then along came Springfield. Now after two straight losses to The Yellow Jackets and last week to East Robertson, the new look Panthers in their new Region are looking to snap out of their funk as they focus on their task at hand.

Coming into the 2025 Campaign, Head Coach Hunter Hicks enters his 4$^{th}$ season at the helm, with an 8-12 record. Hicks, only a few years removed from a winless season as coach at White House Heritage, his first season at Portland in 2023, the Panthers went 2-8. Portland finished at 6-4 last year in Region 7-5A, for their first winning record since 2018. A 2001 graduate of Portland and a former Portland East Middle School coach, Hicks is finally starting to see the success of the process.

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Dropping back now to 4A for the next few years, Portland finds themselves matching up with some familiars in Hendersonville, Beech and Station Camp in their new region. In November of last year, Blaine Kellar of Main Street Preps reports that “a mix of highs and lows” had the Panthers sitting a few plays from second place in the region standings, Portland won its regular-season finale in grand fashion at Hunters Lane and secured the school’s first winning season in years. However, instead of second place, the Panthers finished fifth in after a series of tiebreakers. The Panthers were left out of the playoffs entirely in 2024. Now armed with that Motivation, and building off last years improvement which included wins over rivals White House and Westmoreland ***and*** a region stunner at Henry County – “One of the biggest wins in a long time that Portland football’s had”

They return most pieces of an offense that rushed for more than 1,500 yards. Defensively, star Edge rusher Avery Hughes stood out, resetting a single-season school record with 10.5 sacks.

Other returning weapons include the 6-foot-3 athlete Keilen Dalton, who rushed for 934 yards last season and scored 15 touchdowns as a tailback, receiver and kick returner.

Brogan High is back at quarterback for his senior season. With him are a stable of other skilled running backs, including Aiden Bell, Isaac Hoke and a powerful Shawn Sebring (568 yards, 6 TDs in 2024). Honorable Mention to the Place Kicker, Riley Vaught, who had 30 successful PATs last year.

Hughes, a Naval commitment, was crowned **Sumner Defensive Player of the Year in 2024. With a stellar r***esume:* 56 tackles, 20.5 TFLs, 10.5 sacks, 1 FF, 1 pass breakup

Hughes started his junior season hot with four sacks in a rivalry win at White House. He built on that throughout the season, averaging a sack and two tackles for loss per game and setting that program record with 10.5 sacks. More than a third of his tackles were for loss.

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