Kenny Howell

Managing Editor

Football season is not just about the game.

It’s much more than that. It’s an attack on your senses.

As you park your car, and head toward the stadium, you feel the thumping of the drumline getting people excited for the game. You feel the cool breeze that is starting to set in as fall approaches.

As you get even closer, you start smelling the hot dogs and hamburger sizzling on the grille. You smell the fresh cut grass as the field has had one last touch up before the game.

When the teams come out, it’s a mixture of overwhelming excitement and nerves for both the team and fans.

The past few weeks have been spent anticipating the first game. The first time you hear the pads crack. The first time you team you cross the goal line and join your teammates, hoping you have that feeling many times during the season.

At the end of the game, one team gets to try to get a streak going, and the other tries to regroup.

However, both are still excited because they get to do this at least nine more times, hopefully much more.

Mt. Juliet had a dream season last year, but it did come up a game short of their goal. They are going to try to best last year with a state championship this season. They have a lot of talent to replace with the loss of a gigantic senior class. Luckily, they have a bunch of weapons coming back like Contrez McCathern, Caleb Hopkins and Jalen Graham. Add to that a talented group of youngsters, and this could be another good year for the Golden Bears.

They kickoff at home Friday against rival Lebanon. Mt. Juliet won at Lebanon last year, 38-13. Kickoff is 7 p.m.

Wilson Central tries to improve on their 2-8 season last year, where they competed with some good teams, but couldn't get over the hump. They bring in highly touted freshman Gabe Angel, who has already received an offer to play for Mississippi State.

The Wildcats kick off the season at Gallatin, 7 p.m. Wilson Central lost a close one to the Green Wave in the opener last year, 20-14.

Mt. Juliet Christian Academy also is trying to turn around a 2-8 season. The Saints travel to Community Friday for a 7 p.m. kickoff. Community got the win last year, 34-7.