

The public health professional in me says we need to be shutting things down," said Knox County Health Department Director Dr. Martha Buchanan, adding, "the public upset, there's lots of tension and fatigue."

She said that COVID-19 has "got to impact a lot more people's lives" before they realize that the pandemic is real. Buchanan went on to say that the local health metrics are not getting better and urged the board to look at the continuing mask mandate and "Keep it as it is."

She reported 27 positive cases each day per 100,000 population in Knox County. Of those tested she said 9.9 percent were positive, down from 12 percent two weeks ago.

The board did just that and the requirement for the people to wear masks inside public and private buildings will remain in effect indefinitely until the numbers of COVID-19 cases come down.

Top row: Jack Adams, Bearde; Andrew Doane, Farragut; Zach Fisher, Karns; Ethan Fogle, CAK; Eli Hamilton, Knoxville Catholic; and Zakeyous Houston, Austin-East. Bottom row: Cedric (CJ) Roach, Fulton; Josh Scarborough, Hall's Stern Tolliver; Gibbs; Ansari Washington, Austin-East; and Colby Wheeler, Powell.



By Steve Williams

He's a player who may or may not be a starter, but gives his all in every practice and every game.

He's a player who is willing to sacrifice and play any position to make his team better.

He's a player all teammates and coaches respect and admire because he's a team guy first and foremost.

Most likely, his name has not been in a headline this season or announced on radio or TV. But he has stood out repeatedly in the background.

We call them Unsung Heroes. Each season we like to

recognize them.

Ten local high school coaches sent in players recently that fit this description:

KARNS

"We have a young man by the name of **Zach Fisher** that would be great for this," said Defensive Coordinator Lee Warren.

"He's a senior middle linebacker. He has great grades and he's always leading by example, staying positive, and is the No. 1 cheerleader when he's not on the field. He does anything he's asked to do, and he's constantly lifting his teammates up."

CATHOLIC

Eli Hamilton, sophomore outside linebacker and running back. "He's a great teammate, who works hard every day in practice," said Head Coach Steve Matthews.

CAK

"We have a senior offensive lineman, **Ethan Fogle**, who fits the description of 'Unsung Hero' perfectly," said Head Coach Travis Mozingo.

"Ethan embodies what we are trying to build in the young men of CAK. Two seasons ago, we asked Ethan to switch from offense to defense, and to also

switch jersey numbers.

"We asked that he move from defensive end, a position that he was familiar with and excelled at, to offensive line, a position that he was unfamiliar with.

"If you know football, you know that playing on the offensive line is a unique skill set and not as 'easy as it looks.'"

"Not only did Ethan accept this role change, he embraced it and dedicated himself to mastering it.

"While Ethan's position change has been a significant contributor to our recent success (just ask running back JD Dunn!).

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