

better athlete, a better teammate and being the best I can be at all times for my team," Woullard said.

Woullard is a force out of the backfield and serves as the heart and soul for the Bobcats' success on the field. As a player, however, he does not say much, but rather lets his "work on the field" do the talking.

"I am not a very vocal guy but I try to lead by example through my workouts and how I devote my time and passion to the game," Woullard said.

At the age of seven, Woullard began his journey of playing football at Sacred Heart. Woullard's dad, Reginald Woullard, who was a four-year football letterman at Ole Miss from 1975 to 1979, inspires him to continue his dreams every day of winning a state championship, playing college football and one day going to the NFL.

"He motivated me to play football," Woullard said. "I was excited watching my dad. I liked to hit and it was always fun watching the football games with him."

Last year, Woullard went seven games where he carried the ball 30 or more times an averaged nearly eight yards per carry and 237 yards per game. His best games came against Jackson Academy, Copiah Academy and East Rankin Academy, where he rushed for more than 300 yards and recorded four or more touchdowns.

"He has the whole package," starting

quarterback Luke Hudson said. "We run him so much that I am scared he's going to get hurt sometimes. People say, 'hit him in the legs,' but his lower body is just as strong as his upper body."

Not to mention, the 5-foot-10, 205-pound running back ran for an unparalleled 3,085 yards.

For those interested in the numbers, this season, Woullard needs only 2,668 yards to break the record for most career rushing yards by a running back in the state of Mississippi, a record that was set back in 2000 by former Ruleville Central running back Noah Ingram, who ran for 8,254 yards during his high school career.

However, Woullard said his main focus going into the year is winning a state championship.

"I try not to keep the record in my head," Woullard said. "If it comes, it comes. Right now, I am just worried about getting wins during the season, making it to the playoffs and winning a championship."

Despite his highly-touted, on-the-field success last season, Woullard cares more about becoming a better player for his teammates by paying attention to the little things and limiting his mistakes on the field.

Woullard stressed the importance of not turning the ball over in critical situations.

"Turning the ball over is one of my pet

peeves," Woullard said. "I've worked on holding the ball high up with both hands on the ball to better my ball security skills. I want to finish every game with no turnovers or mistakes on the field."

While much of the Bobcats' success rides on the shoulders of 'Dino', the nickname PCS football players gave to Woullard because of his big head, he is only as good as the offensive linemen who block for him every play in the trenches. Woullard praises the "big guys up front" every chance he gets.

"I talk with those guys every single day," Woullard said. "They are not just my teammates; they are my friends. We have a tight bond and I give them a lot of credit and mostly all of it. I need them."

Weston Rogers, a PCS offensive lineman and center, said it is an honor to block for Woullard.

"Blocking for Woullard pumps me up. It gets me going and it really inspires me," Rogers said.

Rogers, who beat out a senior offensive lineman last season to start as a sophomore, looks to continue his growth as an athlete, but more importantly, providing solid blocks for Woullard to make a play for the Bobcats.

Rogers also said the hardest part of his position is picking up blitzes from line-



Matt Bush PHOTO

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- Isaiah Woullard