

Tuscola Community Unit School District #301

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Michael Smith, Superintendent

April 5, 2016

Press Release: Cola Wars are Back!

Tuscola CUSD #301 is honored to announce the return of the Cola Wars. Tuscola and Arcola have agreed to play varsity and junior varsity football games in 2018 and 2019.

Barring no playoff games between now and then, 2018 will be the 105th meeting between the two teams. Tuscola holds a narrow edge in the series, 54-44-6.

On Friday, August 31, 2018 Tuscola will host the Purple Riders at Memorial Field, Tuscola, Illinois. A junior varsity game will be played on Monday, September 3, 2018.

On Friday, September 6, 2019 Arcola will host the Warriors. A junior varsity game will be played on Monday, September 9, 2019.

Quotes:

Andy Romine, Tuscola Head Football Coach

"This fills a void the people of both communities, and the area as a whole, have been missing since Tuscola left the Little Okaw Valley Conference and joined the Okaw Valley Conference in 2007. The players and fans of both communities deserve to see this game played by two of the most tradition-rich programs in the state.

The meetings between the teams in the playoffs in 2007 and 2011 demonstrate how important the rivalry is to both communities. It's exciting to have it back and brings another reason for which our program and town can be excited!"

Brad Allen, TCHS Principal

"Tuscola football has a foundation based on tradition and success. Historical rivalries bring a level of unmatched excitement to the field. The Cola Wars will re-connect a century of games with the present, uniting everyone in the support of their respective communities. It should be fun."

Ryan Hornaday, Tuscola Athletic Director

"I was honored to play and coach several Cola Wars...couldn't be more pleased to renew the tradition.

Michael Smith, Superintendent

"It is an honor for Tuscola to be a part of one of the great rivalry games not only in the state of Illinois, but in the entire country. We are thrilled our student body, our families and our alumni can once again experience this game between two proud communities."

Michael Smith
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