

Agate Football Falls to Aitkin

By John Sandstrom

After a convincing 46-14 win over Hibbing in the first round of the playoffs, the Agates knew they would have a challenging contest when they traveled to Aitkin for a Saturday afternoon matchup. Unfortunately, the Agates dropped a 16-6 hard fought game which brought their season to an end. They finished with an excellent 6-3 record.

Coach Tom Nelson said that his team played well, but credits Aitkin with being a very good team. "It was a grinder of a game. We came out flat, went three and out, and we ended up getting behind 16-0. Kyler Pitkanen scored to make it 16-6 before half and that is how the game ended."

"It was an interesting season. Three times, we started a freshman in different spots and we also started several sophomores. The young players rose to the occasion and held their own."

Coach Nelson continued, "I would use the word perseverance to describe the season. When obstacles came our way, we managed to overcome them. I'm proud of our guys. We lost three games, one to Esko and two to Aitkin. Losing to these teams is nothing to be ashamed of. They are both good teams. With a few different plays or a few less mistakes, we could have won each game. Overall, it was a good year."

Sophomore Zach Bentler thought "Aitkin was a really solid team. We played well, but they just were a little better. They are a good team. It is hard because we were just a couple plays away in the games we lost."

Zach said he will really miss the seniors next year. "Many of these guys are just like my brothers. I am going to miss them so much. I have been with them everyday." Asked about his best memory of the season, he quickly answered, "The bus rides home after a win."

Aidan Adamski is a freshman who played offensive tackle and defensive end. Aidan is one of six students from Duluth Marshall who joined the team when Marshall paired with the Agates. "I was nervous when we first came, but it was a great experience. The coaches and players welcomed us and treated us like we have been friends for years. They taught us whatever they could and while the coaches were tough on all of us, they did it out of love. I couldn't have asked for more."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor,

While we are glad the council has approved the negotiated contract agreement, the need to express the disappointment with the demoralizing and hard ball tactics used by the Council needs to be brought out into the open. The "Big City" Labor attorney hired by the City went after Healthcare benefits during a Pandemic, and during a time of real worker shortages, while the city continues to have record revenues.

The bright side of this is how fortunate we feel to [have] received such a tremendous outpouring of support from the public and businesses that we proudly serve. As a workforce, we are proud to make Two Harbors a safe place where people want to live, work and play, and for our businesses to succeed and prosper.

This is a great working, Blue collar class town with a very proud and strong citizenship. Unions are well represented amongst us and unions strive to bring everyone up in order to insure that we all can earn a decent living.

We absolutely appreciate and thank everyone for all of the support that we received and wish for all of us to work together.

All for one, One for All

Thank you
Aaron Heim
Light Equipment Operator
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