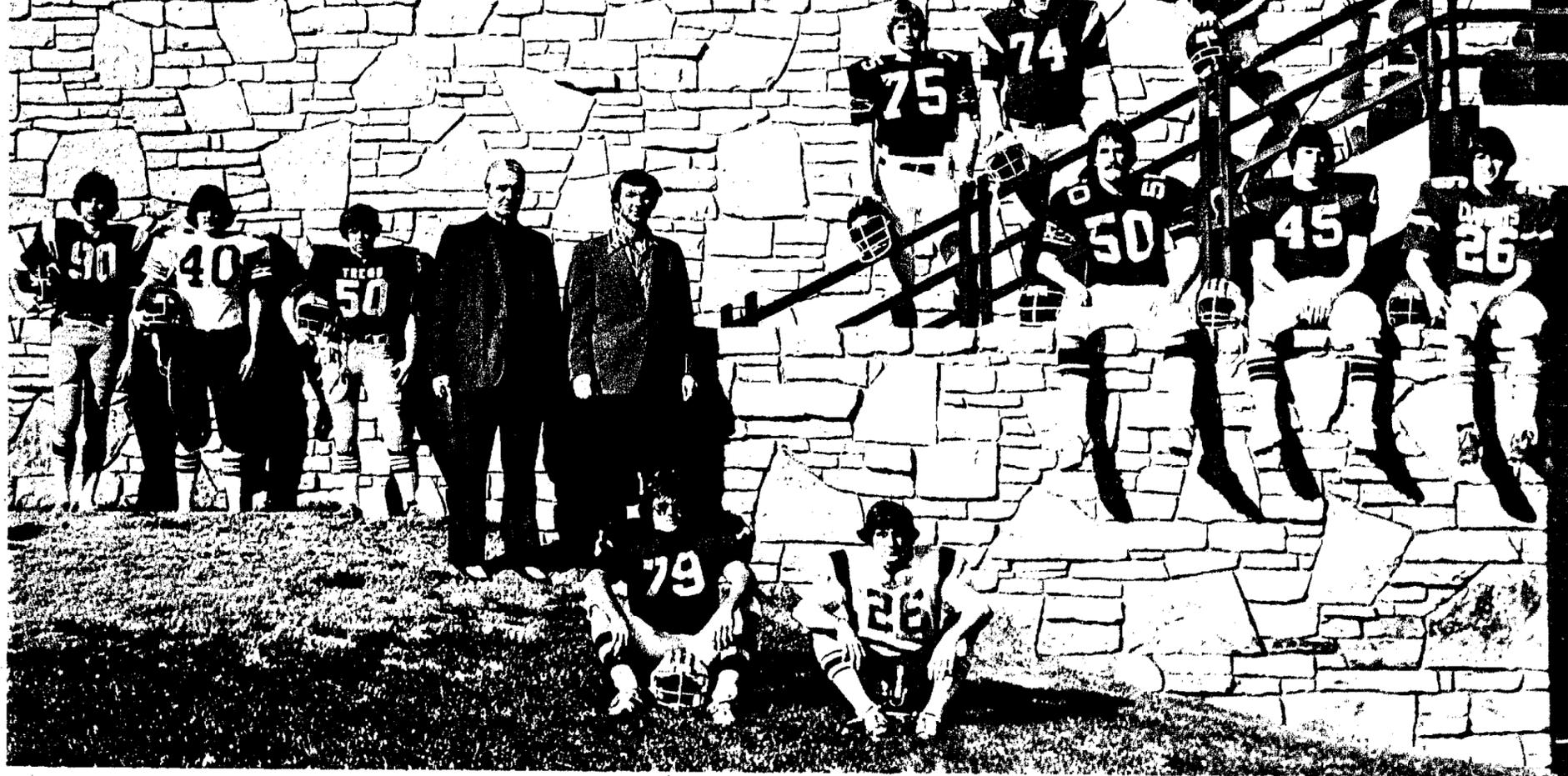


# The 1977 Salina Journal All-Area Football Team



1977 All-Area Team

Members of the 1977 Salina Journal All-Area team are from left, Tony Workman (90) of Goodland, Keith Rosin (40) of Oberlin, Jay

Fose (50) of WaKeeney, (standing from left) coach Ed Buller of Beloit, Amos Donaldson (74) of Norton, Bob Runge (83) of Con-

cordia, John Charbonneau (44) of Clyde, (sitting) Steve Leikam (79) of Thomas More Prep, Brent

Biau (26) of Brewster, Grant Thierolf (50) of Beloit, Mark Schmidt (45) of Thomas More

Prep and Guy Hanson (26) of Abilene. (Journal Photo by Fritz Mendell)

## Linemen top All-Area Football team

By HAROLD BECHARD  
From 5-foot-5 Jay Fose of WaKeeney to Beloit's 6-7 Wade Wentling, The Salina Journal's 1977 All-Area Football team is one which comes in all shapes and sizes.

But the one aspect which all 12 players on the elite team have in common is that they were the very best at what they did this football season in The Journal area.

At the end positions were a pair of sure-handed receivers — Tony Workman of Goodland and Bob Runge of

Concordia. The linemen selected were Fose, Wentling, Grant Thierolf of Beloit, Amos Donaldson of Norton and Steve Leikam of Thomas More Prep. Heading the backfield is quarterback John Charbonneau of Clyde. His running mates are Guy Hanson of Abilene, Mark Schmidt of Thomas More Prep and Keith Rosin of Oberlin. Rounding out the squad is kicker Brent Biau of Brewster, one of the top small-school players in the state this season.

The players helped their teams to combined records of 89-18. Included are two state championship teams and

six more that made the playoffs.

A year ago when The Journal started its All-Area team after a 20-year absence, it was the backfield that caught everybody's eye. All four of the backfield members — Steve Sheahon of Sacred Heart, Frank Wattleit of Abilene, Rick Baluch of WaKeeney and Alan Shull of Beloit — received college athletic scholarships.

On that team a year ago were Norton's Amos Donaldson, a massive lineman, and Beloit's Grant Thierolf, the leader of the Trojan offensive and defensive lines, whose potential shown through in 1977.

It is Donaldson and Wentling who head the '77 All-Area squad, which features 11 seniors and one junior. Coaches Ed Buller of Clyde and Clayton Williams of Beloit share the first-annual Area Coach of the Year Award. Both led their teams to state titles.

Here is a thumbnail sketch of the members of the "Top 12" Area team.

**Tony Workman — Goodland**  
The 6-1, 167-pound Cowboy star was the top receiver in the area this season and ranked among the top five in the state, catching 54 passes for 509 yards and two touchdowns.

Although not particularly fast (5.1 in the 40), Workman was the main man in the clutch for Coach Richard Anderson.  
"Tony is not fast, but he is quick and catches anything he can touch," said Anderson. "He has been invaluable to our offense this season as most teams have double covered him. But that has opened up the rest of the offense."

That happened against Abilene in the second round of the playoffs. Workman was held to just two catches for 23 yards, but while being double-teamed, the other Goodland receivers caught four touchdown passes. Workman also drew two key interference calls in the 32-31 win.

**Bob Runge — Concordia**  
Runge, at 6-1 and 155 pounds, was one of the few bright spots for Coach Ron Gardner's team which went 3-6 in year in the tough North Central Kansas League.

A tough just a junior, Runge was named All-NCKL after catching 38 passes for 560 yards and four touchdowns during the year.

"He can catch the ball as well as anybody I've ever coached," said Gardner. "His best quality is his knack for getting open. I'm real pleased with the way he's come along this year."

The Panther star missed his sophomore season with a broken thumb, but bounced back strong this year.

**Amos Donaldson — Norton**

Donaldson is the biggest player on the squad at 6-3 and 238 pounds, but he's also one of the youngest. Just 17 years old, the Blue Jay star won't turn 18 until summer. And by that time, some major college will be fortunate to have his signature on a national letter of intent.

All the Big 8 schools have showed interest in the rugged lineman, as have a few major schools in surrounding conferences. Donaldson's quickness is his most attractive quality.

"What has impressed everybody about him is his super quick feet," said Coach Ted Stein. "They are right now primarily looking at him as an offensive guard or defensive end (he played offensive tackle at Norton). Some even feel that he can play defensive tackle, but I think he's too short for that."

Donaldson is a two-time All-Area selection and led his team with 143 defensive points this year.

**Wade Wentling — Beloit**  
The tall and lanky Trojan star is another player who has major colleges drooling. College recruiters see Wentling as a Ted Hendricks-type of linebacker or defensive end, comparing him to the well-known Oakland Raiders star.

Although double-teamed most of the time, Wentling still was able to get in on 90 tackles, and was a terror as a pass rusher.

"Wade was our big play man all year long," said Coach Clayton Williams. "It seemed like when we needed a play to turn the game around, he did it for us."

Along with being an outstanding football player (Big 8 schools are interested); the 6-7 senior is also fond of the indoor sports. He was a Top 20 pick in basketball by The Journal this season. He has been all-league in both basketball and football for two years.

**Grant Thierolf — Beloit**  
The 6-4, 200-pound Thierolf doesn't have the college scouts after him as much as his teammate, but his brilliant playoff games against Oberlin, St. Marys and Peabody may change that picture.

For the year, the Trojan center-defensive end made 92 tackles, knocked down four passes and recovered a fumble. He liked to intimidate his opponent early in the contest, a tactic that usually was successful.

Thierolf was an All-Player last season and is the hub of an offense which ran the veer-offense better than any other in Kansas. As a two-year starter and part-time starter his sophomore year, the Trojan star has played for

three consecutive Class 2A state champions.

The major colleges are still undecided about him because of his speed. But there are several quick halfbacks who were caught from behind by Thierolf who know differently.

**Jay Fose — WaKeeney**

At 5-5 and 142 pounds, Fose is easily the littles player on the squad, but there probably wasn't an individual on the "Top 12" who played with more intensity and spirit.

Fose was a Mid-Continent League

first-team selection for two years at both offensive guard and linebacker, and has been a three-year starter for Coach Earl Barber.

This season he was in on 90 tackles for the 9-1 Golden Eagles and more than held his own against players 80 to 100 pounds heavier than him.

"We think it's mental toughness that makes a good player and Jay has plenty of that," said Barber. "He's real quick and gets the jump on bigger people. He ran a 4.9 40-yard dash when

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### Buller and Williams: Two of the best around

By HAROLD BECHARD  
To say that The Journal's Area Coaches of the Year, Ed Buller of Clyde and Clayton Williams of Beloit, have had successful years would be the understatement of the year.

They have 50 years of coaching experience between them and have a record of 365 wins 89 losses and 9 ties. They've coached 15 undefeated regular-season teams between them and have won four state titles. And 1977 was the best year yet for Buller and Williams, two of the most respected coaches in the state.

Both schools dominated their respective divisions — Clyde in 1A and Beloit in 2A. Both went 13-0 during the year and Beloit has the longest winning streak in the state at the moment with 33 consecutive wins.

**Coaches 38 years**

Buller has been coaching for 38 years now and 34 of them have been at Clyde. He has an impressive record of 271-65-7 and has had 10 unbeaten teams. If the football playoffs would have begun in the '50s, Clyde might have had a few more trophies in their trophy case.

Back in the early years, the Blue Jay mentor coached everything at Clyde — track, basketball and football — and took the basketball team to the state tournament twice. During that time the Blue Jays dominated the Solomon Valley League, winning the championship 20 out of 25 years. The first four years he coached at Agenda and Bucklin before moving to Clyde.

Buller went to high school in Inman and each summer, he and his

wife Maurine, travel down there to relax. He attended Bethel College and graduated from Kansas State.

He has a son named Stan, who graduated from Princeton University and taught at Kansas University and Nebraska.

"He has been able to see several Clyde games each year, but since he moved to California he isn't been able to anymore," said Buller. "This Fall he wishes he was back in Kansas."

Clayton Williams without a doubt is one of the best coaches in the state today as his record of 94-24-2 in 12 years indicates. The Plainville native's first coaching job was in Ness City where he compiled a 16-6-2 mark and two league championships. It was then to Beloit and you know the rest... three 2A state titles, five playoff appearances and a 33-game winning streak.

**From Plainville**

The Trojan boss was a prep star in Plainville, lettering all four years in football. He then went to Fort Hays where he won three letters and after that played a year of semi-pro with the Omaha Mustangs.

The Kansas Coaches Association has named him 2A coach of the year twice and he was also a coach for the West Shrine team in 1976.

Clayton and his wife Sharon have two children, Amy Jo, who is nine years old and Chad, who is seven.

And now, could you think of two more deserving coaches for the first annual Journal Area Coach of the Year?

### All-Area Team

FIRST TEAM				
Player — School	Hgt	Wgt	Yr.	Position
TONY WORKMAN — Goodland	6-1	167	Sr.	End
BOB RUNGE — Concordia	6-1	155	Jr.	End
AMOS DONALDSON — Norton	6-3	238	Sr.	Lineman
WADE WENTLING — Beloit	6-7	207	Sr.	Lineman
GRANT THIEROLF — Beloit	6-4	200	Sr.	Lineman
JAY FOSE — WaKeeney	5-5	142	Sr.	Lineman
STEVE LEIKAM — Thomas More Prep	6-1	190	Sr.	Lineman
JOHN CHARBONNEAU — Clyde	5-10	170	Sr.	Back
KEITH ROSIN — Oberlin	6-0	170	Sr.	Back
MARK SCHMIDT — Thomas More Prep	5-11	186	Sr.	Back
GUY HANSON — Abilene	6-0	170	Sr.	Back
BRENT BLAU — Brewster	5-11	165	Sr.	Kicker

SECOND TEAM				
Player — Team	Hgt	Wgt	Yr.	Position
MARC GALLAGHER — Clyde	6-1	160	Jr.	End
DOUG DOUBEK — Belleville	6-0	175	Jr.	End
KEN BASKY — Oberlin	6-2	240	Sr.	Lineman
GREG ROGAN — Salina South	6-1	210	Sr.	Linebacker
DENNIS BERGMANN — St. John's-Beloit	6-1	190	Sr.	Lineman
CLARENCE COX — Salina Central	6-0	235	Sr.	Lineman
DAVID METZLER — Brewster	6-1	215	Sr.	Lineman
KIRK MASKA — Hays	6-0	180	Sr.	Back
GARRET SCHMIDT — Thomas More Prep	5-10	170	Sr.	Back
DAVE DAGEFORDE — Clay Center	6-3	190	Sr.	Back
BRIAN NEWCOMER — WaKeeney	6-0	189	Sr.	Back
TRIM KRONE — Beloit	6-0	180	Sr.	Kicker

THIRD TEAM				
Player — School	Hgt	Wgt	Yr.	Position
JEFF IRELAND — Beloit	6-2	167	Sr.	End
DOUG CRANDALL — Eastern Heights	6-0	157	Jr.	End
TRACY LAKE — Goodland	6-1	165	Sr.	Lineman
FRANK EILERT — Beloit	5-10	162	Sr.	Linebacker
BILL CHRISTNER — Abilene	6-1	170	Sr.	Linebacker
BART BALTHAZOR — Clyde	6-0	205	Sr.	Lineman
MARK CHALKER — Herrington	6-2	215	Jr.	Lineman
SCOTT SIEMSEN — Lebanon	5-11	165	Sr.	Back
MARK JENNINGS — Oakley	5-11	165	Sr.	Back
MARK HUMBARGER — Herrington	6-2	185	Sr.	Back
STEVE FEIGHT — Clyde	5-9	185	Sr.	Back
MARC WINCKLER — Sylvan Grove	6-1	178	Sr.	Kicker

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
ENDS — JEFF WILSON — Abilene; TODD ELLIOTT — Hope; TED EBERLE — Waconda East; TROY LAKE — Goodland; RON MEREDITH — Minneapolis; ROGER VRBAS — St. Francis; MIKE HANSEN — Sacred Heart; CURTIS JANSEN — Solomon.  
LINEMEN — MIKE COLLINS — Chapman; BRIAN DREILING, Thomas More Prep; BILL BEFORT, Thomas More Prep; WAYNE DILLON — Norton; KEVIN KELLY — Logan; WAYNE NICHOL — Oberlin; STAN ERICSON — Clyde; STEVE SCHOEN — Waconda East; IAN DRAKE — Beloit; CHARLES HAAS, Quivira Heights.  
BACKS — ANDY HEIDRICK — Glasco; KEVIN CARTER — Salina South; MARK SMITH — Salina Central; JOHN WOLTERS — Atwood; LEE NEWELL — Goodland; DARREN GALE — Eastern Heights; BRIAN KOSTER — Waconda East; JEFF WEAVERLING — Mankato; SYD SCHERLING, Smith Center; MIKE WILKISON, Logan.