

1992 ALL-AREA FOOTBALL

# The 1992 All-Area Top 11: The Players

## Curtis Albin



It was a fairytale season for Albin and his teammates at Quinter High School. The Bulldogs won a state title (Eight-Man I) for the first time in 18 years and Albin was one big reason why.

The 165-pound junior rushed for 2,052 yards and 31 touchdowns and he only got better as the competition became tougher.

Albin rushed for 238 yards in a tough semifinal playoff victory over Otis-Bison and then added a 193-yard effort in the state title game against Pretty Prairie on a muddy field in Hays.

He also returned punts and kickoffs and played cornerback on defense where he had over 50 tackles and three interceptions.

Albin was a member of Quinter's Class 1A state track and field championship squad last year, becomes the first Quinter player named to the Top 11.

**Role model** — "Barry Sanders."  
**Career highlight** — "Winning the state championship."

was even more evident during the playoffs when an injury forced him to play sparingly during a second-round loss to Wellington.

Also a fine basketball player, Brumbaugh played strong safety on defense, was the team's punter and returned kickoffs. He was a second-team All-Area selection last year as a junior.

**Role model** — "My coach, Gary Sandbo, because of his ability to make kids better football players and better all-around people."

**Career highlight** — "Playing in the 3A state championship game as a junior."

## DeShawn Fogle

What a transfer Fogle turned out to be for the Chapman Fighting Irish.



The 6-2, 205-pound senior enrolled at Chapman High School last December after he and his father moved from a military base at Hananu, Germany. His father has since retired from the military after working at Fort Riley.

"I asked (DeShawn) if any of his teammates (from Germany) would like to transfer as well," Chapman coach Rick Erickson said.

Fogle, who has been offered a scholarship by Oklahoma State and is being recruited by Kansas State and South Carolina State, was one of the state's top running backs.

Fogle rushed for 1,729 yards on 367 carries and scored eight times. His size and speed — he was a member of Chapman's 400-meter relay state title team last spring — made him difficult to bring down. He helped lead the Irish to an unbeaten regular season, an 11-1 record overall and a semifinal berth in the Class 4A playoffs.

**Role model** — "My father, who's always there to give me support."  
**Career highlight** — "Making the state playoffs."

## Jason Hooper

Hooper was a big-play artist for the Goodland Cowboys, who qualified for the Class 4A state playoffs for the second straight season.



The Northwest Kansas all-league quarterback completed 129 of 239 passes for 1,877 yards and 23 touchdowns. Only six of his throws were intercepted.

The 5-10, 165-pound Hooper also rushed for 209 yards, scored seven touchdowns and played in the secondary on defense.

Hooper helped lead the Goodland Cowboys to a second-place finish in the Northwest Kansas League behind perennial power Scott City and a 7-3 record overall.

**Role model** — "I often compare myself to other athletes, but I don't feel I use them as role models. I just try and be the best I can be."  
**Career highlight** — "The highlight of my high school career was

## The 1992 All-Area Teams

SECOND 11					
Player, School	Hgt.	Wgt.	Year	Position	
Roy Bowser, Clifton-Clyde	6-1	186	Sr.	OG-DE	
Chad Dodge, Salina Central	6-1	195	Sr.	LB	
Troy Hackney, Hays	6-2	190	Jr.	LB	
David Hudson, Ellsworth	6-2	192	Sr.	DB	
Corey Isbell, Beloit	6-1	215	Jr.	LB	
Joel McReynolds, Stockton	6-2	175	Jr.	QB-DB	
P.J. Peters, Hays	6-3	170	Jr.	QB-DB	
Mike Ruddle, Canton-Galva	6-5	225	Sr.	TE-LB	
Josh Vaddell, Plainville	5-11	175	Jr.	RB-LB	
Blaine VanKooten, Phillipsburg	6-4	200	Sr.	OT-DT	
Jesse Woodard, Goodland	6-4	190	Sr.	TE-DE-P	

  

THIRD 11					
Player, School	Hgt.	Wgt.	Year	Position	
Clint Albers, Chapman	6-1	240	Jr.	FB-DL	
Mason Bell, Atwood	6-1	205	Sr.	OL-LB	
Justin Coup, Hope	5-6	150	Sr.	QB-DB	
Erik Franklin, Smith Center	5-11	205	Sr.	RB-LB	
Scott Gengler, SJ-Beloit	6-2	215	Sr.	RB-LB	
Jason Hajek, Centre	5-11	175	Jr.	QB-DB	
Jamie McClure, Tescott	6-1	165	Sr.	QB-LB	
Shawn Schuman, Salina South	5-11	200	Sr.	FB-DT	
Mark VonFeldt, Victoria	5-10	190	Sr.	LB-P	
Jan Wiemers, Clay Center	6-1	205	Jr.	RB-LB	
Chris Yohe, Southern Cloud	5-11	215	Sr.	RB-DE	

when we qualified for the playoffs for the second year in a row."

## Jeff Koch

Despite missing two games with an injury, Koch still was an all-league player on the offensive line and at linebacker for the Eagles.



A three-year starter for Clifton-Clyde, the 6-0, 210-pound senior was one of the main cogs for a team that was ranked No. 1 in Class 2-1A for a portion of the season and finished the year 8-1.

Koch was called by CCHS coach Bernard Debes, "the best technical blocker we had and the most intense."

Koch finished as the team's second-leading tacklers with 77 stops and also intercepted a pass on what was one of Clifton-Clyde's best defensive units ever.

**Role model** — "I would say my parents would have to be my role models. They have given a lot to me, more than I can ever repay."  
**Career highlight** — "Probably starting on our 1990 team that went to the state finals."

## Mike Lankas

Although just a junior, Lankas is already considered one of the top players in Kansas.



The 6-2, 205-pounder rushed for 1,082 yards and scored 15 touchdowns, but his specialty was defense.

As one of Atwood's linebackers, Lankas made a school-record 135 tackles — 35 behind the line of scrimmage — and had six interceptions and four fumble recoveries.

Lankas has already set the school record for tackles (364 in 30 games) in a career and is being recruited by Big Eight and Big Ten schools.

Atwood has lost just four games in Lankas' three seasons at Atwood, but one of them came this year in a

district game against Stockton that ended the Buffaloes' hopes of a fourth-straight state championship.

**Role model** — "After my freshman year, I wanted to be like Chris Carroll, a former Atwood player. He was a great athlete and got very good grades. He inspired me to get the most out of my potential."

**Career highlight** — "Winning state my sophomore year and beating Goodland, 22-21, this season."

## Corby Milleson

Milleson was the cornerstone of the Vikings' success in the last couple of years as the team's top lineman and one of the best in Kansas.



He was a three-year starter and has been chosen to the Central Kansas all-league team for the past two seasons. He helped pave the way for a Viking offense that averaged nearly 33 points a game and 330 yards of total offense.

Milleson joins teammate Nick Brumbaugh on the All-Area Top 11, the first time the Vikings have had two players on the team at the same time. He was a third team All-Area selection last year.

**Role model** — "My father because of his work ethic. He's an extremely hard worker."

**Career highlight** — "One highlight would be playing Silver Lake in the 3A state championship in 1991. Another would be playing Wellington in the 4A regionals this year. A third would be two straight Central Kansas League titles."

## Trent VanEaton

VanEaton was one of the few seniors on a Stockton team that claimed the Class 2-1A state championship against Frontenac.



The 185-pounder, who was a full-

back on offense and a linebacker on defense, was a model of consistency on both sides of the ball. He rushed for 113 yards in a semifinal playoff win over Kinsley and then 72 in the finals against Frontenac.

But it was on defense where VanEaton really stood out. He led the team with around 140 tackles after making over 150 the year before as a junior.

VanEaton finished his high school career with a flourish, with 10 tackles and an interception in the state title game. He was a Mid-Continent all-league selection for the second straight year.

**Role model** — I especially admire Howie Long of the Los Angeles Raiders because of his intensity. He gives 110 percent every down, every season, year after year."

**Career highlight** — "Without a doubt, the biggest thrill was having the opportunity to play in the 2A state championship game this year."

## Casey Vidricksen

Vidricksen was one of the top prep quarterbacks in Kansas as he led Salina Central to a share of the I-70 League title and a semifinal berth in the Class 5A state playoffs.



The 6-2, 175-pound senior accounted for 1,300 yards of total offense and 17 touchdowns. He threw for 1,112 yards and 10 TDs and ran for another 188 yards and five TDs and was the catalyst for Central's offense that averaged 325 yards per game.

Vidricksen, who started 25 straight games at quarterback, also solidified the Mustang defense during the second half of the season when he was put at the defensive end position.

But Vidricksen's strong right arm is what most college recruiters are talking about.

"Beyond question, he had the best arm of any quarterback I've ever had a chance to coach," Central coach Marvin Diener said.

**Career highlight** — "My whole senior year."

## Sam Wilson

Wilson burst upon the high school scene this season and quickly became one of the state's top running backs.



The Mustang junior rushed for 1,382 yards on 214 carries and scored 12 touchdowns for the I-70 League co-champions who reached the semifinals of the Class 5A state playoffs.

Wilson, who hopes to play football in college, used his speed to produce several exciting runs this season. He rushed for over 100 yards in nine games and the Mustangs won all nine.

"He's really a lot stronger than what people expect," Central coach Marvin Diener said. "He's obviously a great talent but besides having great instincts, he has the ability to pull and break out of tackles and get the tough yards, too."

**Career highlight** — "Rushing for over 1,000 yards."

## The Coach



Stockton's Phil Wilson

## Wilson helps Tigers claim state crown

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title and the 1992 Salina Journal All-Area Coach-of-the-Year award. "We got manhandled."

"We knew we would be playing a similar ballclub in Atwood the next week and I wasn't real optimistic. We just gave it our best shot."

Stockton's best shot cut through the heart of Atwood's dream of a fourth straight title. The 16-7 Tiger victory all but ruined the Buffaloes' chance of making the playoff field of 16.

"We knew the loser didn't have a good chance," Wilson said, realizing both teams closed with district games against out-manned St. Francis and Hill City. "We both had two games without a whole lot of meaning. It gave us a lot of confidence to beat Atwood."

That confidence simply kept growing. After winning its final two district games, Stockton encountered Victoria — the other team to beat the Tigers in the regular season — in the first round of the 2-1A playoffs.

Stockton used an opening flurry against its Mid-Continent League rival to claim a 22-3 victory on a snowy field.

The Tigers were on their way; Stockton's head of steam carried it through two more playoff games, all the way to Wichita's Cessna Stadium where it met Frontenac for the Class 2-1A title. Frontenac never knew what hit it.

Final score: Stockton 28, Frontenac 10.

Plainville won the battle of Rooks County; Stockton should be darn happy it didn't.

"In a week we got things worked out," said Wilson, 35, a social studies teacher. "Maybe the Plainville game woke us up a bit. It was a big game."

"The key was we put that night right behind us. I wanted to get them, not to dwell on it because we had to get right back up for district. We recovered from that loss a little faster than if it had been a different situation."

That loss served as a lightning rod for the Tigers. Wilson said the impact was immediate; his team returned to practice ready to play football. Atwood was the first of seven opponents to find that out.

"I'm probably as proud of them as any team I've had," said Wilson, who is now 53-35 in his seven years in Stockton. "We didn't have one exceptional talent that carried the team. It was a team effort and we preached that the whole season."

That approach has left Wilson and his 1992 team of Tigers something no one can take away — a state title.

"It makes you as proud as anything since you achieved the best in the state in your class," Wilson said. "It's something you and your kids can remember for the rest of your lives."

Now the challenge is clear: Atwood set the tone for dominance in Class 2-1A with three straight state titles. Can the Tigers take two in a row with a win in '93? They've already claimed two in the last six years (Wilson's Tigers won in 1987).

Well, Wilson will return a good part of his team, including all five of his interior linemen.

No one, however, knows better than Phil Wilson that talent alone can't get the job done. A team sometimes has to decide it's time to win.

"We've got a good place to start," Wilson said, "but it's a matter of these kids developing leadership and deciding they're not satisfied with what they did last year."

## Coaches of the year

- 1976 — Clayton Williams, Beloit
- 1977 — Ed Buller, Clyde
- 1978 — Paul Dennis, Abilene
- 1979 — Jon Bingesser, Sacred Heart
- 1980 — Larry Friend, Plainville
- 1981 — Robert Teeter, Victoria
- 1982 — Roger Barter, Smith Center
- 1983 — David Johnson, Osborne
- 1984 — Jeff Crockett, Minneapolis
- 1985 — Neil Melillo, Norton
- 1986 — Roger Barro, Smith Center
- 1987 — Chuck Fessenden, Northern Valley
- 1988 — Gary Sandbo, Smoky Valley
- 1989 — Dan Lankas, Atwood
- 1990 — Chuck Fessenden, Northern Valley
- 1991 — Dan Lankas, Atwood
- 1992 — Phil Wilson, Stockton

## BIG EIGHT FOOTBALL

### KU fans find Hawaii trip costly

By The Associated Press  
 LAWRENCE — A Christmas Day bowl game for the Kansas Jayhawks has many of their fans pondering the economic realities of a Hawaiian holiday.

The prospect became official when Nebraska beat Oklahoma on Saturday, and Kansas got the invitation to play Brigham Young in the 1992 Aloha Bowl.

It will be the Jayhawks' first bowl appearance since 1981, when Kansas met Mississippi State in the Hall of Fame Bowl in Birmingham, Ala.

"This is a reward for our football team and staff," Kansas athletic director Bob Frederick said.

While Hawaii sounds good in December, the cost will be a tough hurdle for a lot of students who have faithfully followed Kansas.

Mike McClarnon of Lenexa is one student who would love to fly to Hawaii to see the game. The beach would be nice, too.

But McClarnon is a realist. "I would have to work full time for about a month," he said. "But I can't do that. So, that would mean about three months part time."

The sentiments were echoed by many fans interviewed in Allen Fieldhouse Friday night as the Jayhawks' basketball team defeated Australia Gold Coast, 113-48.

"If someone pays for the ticket, I'd love to go," Eric Johnson of Leavenworth said. "But I can't afford it."

Someone is buying tickets for Lawrence High School students Jessica Wachter and Monica Frohock, both seniors.

"My mom works for the university," said Wachter, daughter of assistant athletic director and business manager Susan Wachter.

Frohock is excited to tag along, especially since she has only been to a beach once. "(Jessica) called me at work and told me. I can't believe I'm going."

A die-hard football fan and alumnus, Rick Zankel of Overland Park, said he won't be getting to Hawaii in part because of the recession, but he was upbeat about the team's prospects.

"I think it's a good chance to solidify what they've worked on all season," he said. "It's going to come down to who wants it more, and I think we're going to be hungrier."

Meanwhile, McClarnon kept figuring out how he could never afford to go to Honolulu.

In addition to the three months of flipping burgers or whatever, "I'd have to cut down on food and going out on weekends," he said. "And

maybe cut out a cable bill or something."

**ALOHA BOWL NOTES:** Brigham Young was co-champion of the Western Athletic Conference with Hawaii, but the Cougars lost to the Rainbows, who will represent the WAC as league champions in the Holiday Bowl.

While Kansas likely will be missing linebacker Larry Thiel (broken leg), BYU injuries leave them with sophomore Tom Young, the quarterback who started the season No. 4 on the depth chart.

Young is the younger brother of 49ers quarterback Steve Young. He has played in just four games.

"I don't think we'll change appreciably what we'll attempt to do," BYU Coach LaVell Edwards said. "It's been unreal for us, really."

Because of the expense of traveling to Honolulu, Kansas does not have to share any of its \$750,000 payout with the Big Eight.

Athletic Director Bob Frederick said the charter airline for the team and administrative staff will cost about \$327,000, and, under NCAA rules, each school must purchase tickets equal to one-sixth of the stadium's capacity. Aloha Stadium seats 50,000, and Frederick said Kansas is obligated to buy about 8,000 tickets.

### Oklahoma's season ends with frustration

By The Associated Press  
 NORMAN, Okla. — An Oklahoma football season that started with great fanfare ended with fans up in arms, and with players and coaches looking for answers.

Cale Gundy became the school's career passing leader, but Oklahoma won only three of the nine games he started. Coach Gary Gibbs was second-guessed by the fans and media, as usual, and by his players.

The season's record was 5-4-2, Oklahoma's worst since going 3-7 in 1965.

"At the beginning of the year we talked about how this could be a tough year and it obviously has been a tough year," Gibbs said Friday after a 33-9 season-ending loss to Nebraska.

"I think when you analyze each game, it goes back to key plays or a big play here or a bobbled ball here. At some point in time, we need to get that thing to come our way."

Oklahoma looked tremendous in the first game, a 34-9 road victory over Texas Tech. Gundy

set a school record for passing yards as the Sooners unveiled their one-back, three-receiver formation.

After beating Arkansas State, the Sooners lost to a strong Southern California team 20-10. The Sooners managed only 48 yards on the ground with the one-back set, and those running woes would continue.

Against Texas, Oklahoma had 96 yards rushing and lost 34-24. The Sooners gained only 104 yards in a sluggish 17-3 victory over Iowa State, then suffered their worst day of the year when they gained 27 in a loss to Kansas.

When they got better balance in the offense, such as against Colorado and Oklahoma State, they still didn't win.

"We had some frustrating games," Gibbs said. "I think the two most frustrating games were the Colorado game and the Oklahoma State game. In both, we felt we should have won. The way things turned out, it didn't come our way."