

The Hays Daily News

93

ALL-AREA FOOTBALL

Area coaches nominate players. The Daily News sports staff makes the final selections.

11-MAN TEAMS

FIRST TEAM

Marc Fenner, sr., Goodland
Lonnie Fink, sr., Phillipsburg
Matt Fisher, sr., Norton
Scott Karl, sr., Hays High
Barry Parsons, sr., Ness City
Andy Pfannenstiel, Jr., Stockton
Shane Richards, sr., Hays High
Vance Robinson, sr., Hill City
Mark Simoneau, Jr., Smith Center
Mark Wade, sr., Hoxie
Jon O'Neal, sr., Goodland

SECOND TEAM

Chris Claussen, Jr., Oberlin
Jake Conger, sr., Stockton
Garrett Geist, Jr., Hays High
Mike Hofer, sr., Smith Center
Jon Hooper, sr., Goodland
Neil Mickey, Jr., Atwood
Jason Pfeiffer, sr., Victoria
Bryan Rupp, sr., Hays High
Aaron Sramek, Jr., Atwood
Layne Stoll, sr., Oakley
Brady Whitis, sr., LaCrosse

THIRD TEAM

Joel Applebee, sr., Russell
Nathan Copeland, sr., Ness City
Luke Conyac, Jr., Stockton
John Ihrig, sr., Goodland
John Jones, sr., Colby
Ryan Manning, sr., Norton
Derek Reinhardt, sr., Hays/TMP-Marlan
Brian Ruder, sr., Hays High
Brandon Terry, sr., Plainville
Thane VanEaton, fresh., Stockton
Kyle Vogler, sr., Oakley

8-MAN TEAMS

FIRST TEAM

Travis Anholz, Jr., Bird City-Cheylin
Josh Colley, sr., Weskan
Lance Dible, Jr., Rexford-Golden Plains
Mitchel Feldkamp, sr., Quinter
Lafe Gillespie, sr., Quinter
Brandon Grauerholz, Jr., Kensington
Jared Jackson, Jr., Kensington
Josh Reid, soph., Brewster

SECOND TEAM

Andy Beckman, Jr., Kensington
Jared Hudson, sr., Kensington
Aaron Johnson, sr., Brewster
Eric Ketchum, sr., Rexford-Golden Plains
Jesse Mussman, Jr., Almema-Northern Valley
Justin Nech, sr., Kensington
Clint Rush, soph., Brewster
Thomas Taldo, sr., Healy

THIRD TEAM

Shawn Atkins, sr., Morland
Preston David, Jr., Almema-Northern Valley
Jason Jones, sr., Logan
Cory Lindenman, Jr., Morland
Jeremy Ryan, Jr., Ransom
Rex Schertz, sr., Winona-Triplains
Bryan Wilkerson, sr., Palco
Eric Zimmerman, sr., Quinter

SUPER: Hackney's versatility key to his success

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Hackney — versatile, well-balanced and a threat on offense, defense and special teams.

"He's a great all-around athlete," Mills said of the 6-3, 195-pound Hackney, who also starts for the HHS basketball team and is an all-state hurdler and sprinter in track.

Hackney is being recruited by several NCAA Division I schools — including Arkansas, Kansas State, Kansas, Tulsa, Wyoming and Notre Dame, and also Division II Fort Hays. And each wants him to fill a different need, Mills said.

"A defensive coordinator wants him as a free safety, another wants him to play outside backer, another is trying to get him for offense," Mills said.

Hackney's stats for 1993 reveal his versatility.

Defensively, he had 87 total tackles (40 solo) with five interceptions, eight pass deflections, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery.

On offense, Hackney had 105 rushes for 576 yards, 15 receptions for 235 and three kick returns for 70 yards in scoring six TDs. And he wasn't even used much as a rusher until the latter part of the season.

Mills also said Hackney could have been the team's kicker and punter, recalling that Hackney had kicked a 57-yard field goal in practice one day.

■ **Seren Humburg** — Ness City began the season with several new linemen and a 2-2 start. And that's when Eagle coach Todd Rice said the 5-6, 175-pound Humburg came to the forefront.

"His yardage wasn't coming, but he was saying, 'We're all right,'" Rice said. "You could really see his leadership. He would be there at 6 a.m. lifting weights (in the summer) even though he had to work 12-15 hours."

Humburg finished 1993 with 1,610 yards — nearly 70 more than last

season behind a more-experienced line — and 20 touchdowns on 228 carries. He also had 10 receptions for 118 yards and one TD, returned four kicks for 116 yards — one going for an 80-yard touchdown.

Defensively for Ness City (8-3), Humburg had 23 solo and 91 assisted tackles, two fumble recoveries and an interception that he returned 56 yards for another TD.

Junior colleges are looking at Humburg, who also has visited Pittsburg State University and is being sought by several other smaller four-year schools, Rice said.

■ **Brian Jackson** — In his final prep season, the 6-2, 175-pound Jackson had 44 receptions for 923 yards (21 yards per catch), with 11 TDs. He also had four kick returns for 63 yards.

Defensively, Jackson had 31 tackles (18 solo), three interceptions, seven pass deflections, forced one fumble and recovered one fumble.

"Brian can catch and run routes, and he can read the secondary and his coverages," Mills said of Jackson, who had 17 more receptions than a year ago.

"He's kind of a quiet contributor on defense. He certainly did more on defense than most realized."

Jackson's best asset may be his 40-yard dash time, at which he has been clocked between 4.38 and 4.45 seconds with at least three watches on him, Mills said. Jackson also has a 34-inch vertical jump.

He is looking at Tulsa, K-State and Wyoming as possible colleges to attend and play for, although Mills said Jackson is "on the bubble" of those schools' recruiting lists.

"He's going to have some choices. But with those 40 times, those I think will take him off the bubble," Mills said.

■ **Matt Kuhn** — Linemen are important to any football team. And the 6-2, 248-pound Kuhn helped keep

the Indians going up front.

"That's one of the hardest things about a pass offense, you think you're going to start finessing everybody," Mills said.

"With guys like Matt, he allowed us to do some things in our running game, and he could pass block, too."

Defensively, Kuhn went to end from tackle this year and made 68 total tackles (35 solo) with two lost yardage, caused two fumbles and had two fumble recoveries.

"People don't realize how well he runs to the ball," Mills said of Kuhn. "With his size and strength, his shedding blockers and running to the football was a plus for us."

But his size may cost Kuhn a Division I scholarship. Mills said major colleges need 6-5 players for Kuhn's positions, so a Division II school like Fort Hays, Emporia State or Pittsburg might be able to get Kuhn.

But he could possibly compete in any two of three sports. Kuhn also is an all-stater in wrestling, where he placed third at heavyweight last year, and in track, where he won the discus throw as a sophomore.

■ **Mike Lankas** — Having your father as a coach is not so bad for the 6-1, 218-pound Lankas.

Lankas holds school records in season and career tackles and also amassed more than 4,000 all-purpose yards as a fullback.

During Atwood's 7-2 season, Lankas set the season record of 162 tackles — he had 147 in 12 games as a sophomore — and accumulated 526 for his career.

Offensively, Lankas rolled up 1,367 yards of total offense, averaging more than 7 yards per carry the past three years. His yardage total was 4,047.

"I think it's his natural ability and competitiveness in whatever he does," said Dan Lankas, Mike's coach and father. "He hates to lose."

"I think he might have heard me

at home saying like, 'So-and-so could be so much better if he just worked much harder.'"

Those kind of challenges might have aided in the molding of this Division I prospect, who is looking at KU, K-State, Colorado, Arkansas and Penn State (a.k.a. Linebacker U.) as collegiate options.

■ **Spencer Levin** — For the coaches who have spent three years of agonizing over how to stop the 6-0, 225-pound Levin, the fact that he has one more season is not good news.

This year, Levin led Kensington to the Eight-Man Division II championship game by amassing 1,665 yards and 38 touchdowns during the Goldbugs' 12-1 season. He also had 115 total tackles and one interception at linebacker.

Those numbers might have been more, except Levin and his first-string teammates did not play but about half of each game.

"It helps when you're just a well-rounded athlete," Kensington coach Jesse Jackson said of Levin, who has twice won the Class 1A state discus title and twice finished second in the shot put at state.

"He's a silent leader and is not the pushy type. The kids respect what he does."

■ **Jeremy Lutz** — In Hays High's run-and-shoot, Lutz defined the run.

The 5-9, 155-pounder gained 940 yards on 130 carries, made eight catches for 131 yards and returned 18 kicks for 364 yards (20 per attempt) for nine total touchdowns.

He probably would have had more if running sideways was taken into account.

"Lutz always added the dimension that you had to defend his motion," Mills said. "He's one of the quickest kids I've had, his speed is good and his lateral quickness is one of the best."

From the secondary, Lutz made 25 tackles (11 solo), two inter-

ceptions and one pass deflection.

Fort Hays, Emporia State and Pittsburg State are among his Division II possibilities who have shown interest in Lutz, as well as the state junior colleges.

■ **Joel McReynolds** — The 6-3, 188-pound McReynolds has made his mark by coming up big in key situations.

In leading Stockton to the 2-1A state title in 1992, he had three touchdown passes. In this year's championship game, McReynolds rushed for two TDs.

And, he made a huge chase on a Riley County receiver to force a fumble and make the recovery to save a possible game-tying score early in the third quarter.

Stockton, up just 8-0 at that time, went on to take a 30-22 victory in completing a 13-0 season.

"He's always thinking," Stockton coach Phil Wilson said of McReynolds, who completed 43-of-111 passes for 877 yards with nine touchdowns and seven interceptions, and ran 117 times for 544 yards and 10 more TDs.

"(The Riley County receiver) wasn't necessarily his man, but if he's a big-play player, then that's the thing you kind of expect and he's come up big for us."

McReynolds has drawn interest from KU, K-State, Fort Hays and several junior colleges.

■ **Andy Muir** — At the 2-1A level, a 6-4, 220-pound tackle like Muir can be pretty intimidating. And Stockton's Wilson said his right tackle was double-teamed on both sides of the ball most of the season.

The result, however, was mostly to no avail — and another state title for the Tigers was the team's reward.

Wilson said the key to Muir's success was his leadership on an injury-depleted line that featured several underclassmen.

"We depended more on him when we had the injuries," Wilson said. "We run the veer, and you have to have good tackles to be successful."

While Stockton did not keep individual defensive statistics, Wilson said Muir's '93 campaign "was easily his best year defensively. He was more aggressive, he drew a lot of double teams and did well. He knocked down a lot of passes."

Wilson said Muir is not looking to continue his football career in college but instead could turn his attention to track and field, where he finished fourth at state in the 2A boys' javelin competition last year.

■ **PJ Peters** — The 6-4, 175-pound Peters returns to the Super 11, where last year he was in what Mills called a teaching situation of the run-and-shoot.

With a little more knowledge and a lot of offseason work under his belt, Peters exploded in 1993.

He completed 95-of-177 passes (53.7 percent) for 1,904 yards with 17 TD passes and seven interceptions, and he also ran for one more TD.

"I was told you couldn't run a passing offense in Kansas," Mills said, "that you can't learn the skills during the season with no spring ball or summer passing drills."

Peters did a lot of work on his own, though.

"(During offseason workouts) the first week in July, I was so impressed with his progress and that he was willing to go out and work on his own," Mills said.

Although he was not called upon to run much, Mills said Peters could run if needed.

"He can come out of the pocket and pick up 10 to 12 yards," he said.

Peters, a three-sport athlete, decided to skip wrestling this winter to try to bulk up more for college. He is looking at Tulsa, K-State, Wyoming and possibly Division II Nebraska-Kearney.



FILE / Hays Daily News

Hays High coach Larry Mills signals in a play during a game this season.

COACH: Jackson often favorite receiver

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incredible," Mills said of Peters.

Jackson, meanwhile, usually was Peters' open man, finding the seams in opposing secondaries often enough to become the leading receiver in the state.

But the Indians' attack didn't stop with those two players.

Baker loses big in semis

PUYALLUP, Wash. (AP) — Quarterback Marc Weekly threw for three touchdowns and ran for another in the first half Saturday as top-ranked Pacific Lutheran University drubbed No. 10 Baker 52-14 in an NAIA Division II semifinal football game.

The Lutes, 11-0-1, will meet No. 4-ranked Westminster, Pa., 10-2, at 1 p.m. Saturday in Portland, Ore., for the division championship. Kickoff time in Civic Stadium is 1 p.m. PST.

Senior Jeremy Lutz was a stand-out running back, senior Bryan Rupp showed his power, speed and versatility while senior tackle Matt Kuhn anchored the line.

Then there was the defense, perhaps Hays High's best in recent years.

Senior Troy Hackney starred on both sides of the ball, but it was on defense where he made opponents see stars. Senior safety Scott Karl and junior middle linebacker Garrett Geist also made the big plays on a big-play team on both sides of the ball.

So many big plays by so many players in a big-play season.

So it's little wonder that four seniors on the team are mulling NCAA Division I scholarship possibilities. And there are four more NCAA II scholarships offers awaiting a standout senior class.

Now how about 1994, without all those senior stars, coach?

"I'm excited," Mills said. "It's a

different type of challenge. I think we'll be competitive, especially by the end of the year."

But without your starting quarterback? This is the run-and-shoot, remember.

Not to worry.

Mills' quarterback next season will likely be Nate Guffey or Jason Peters. Guffey will be a junior next fall, while Peters will be a sophomore.

Guffey has loads of ability and Peters was the starting quarterback on this year's HHS freshman squad that rolled up 340 yards of total offense a game while using the run-and-shoot.

"That's very encouraging to me," Mills said of the freshman team's success.

How about this Peters kid? Doesn't that name sound familiar?

Well, yeah, he's PJ's younger brother.

And by the time he's a senior, just maybe the Indians will have their whole offense in.

North Alabama captures crown

FLORENCE, Ala. (AP) — Cody Gross scored on a 1-yard sneak with 10 seconds remaining, the final blow in a wild fourth quarter as North Alabama claimed the NCAA Division II championship with a 41-34 victory over Indiana, Pa., on Saturday.

North Alabama, which went to the final period trailing 24-14, scored three touchdowns and was beginning to celebrate after taking a 34-24 lead with just over three minutes remaining.

But the Indians marched quickly down the field to score on Michael Mann's 1-yard run with 1:51 remaining, recovered an on-side kick and got in position for Michael Geary's 34-yard field goal with 40 seconds to play in regulation.

The teams seemed headed to the first overtime game in the 21-year history of the Division II championship, but Gross wasn't through. The 5-foot-9 sophomore ran 28 yards on the option, then threw a 38-yard pass to Demetrea Shelton inside the

1. After intentionally grounding the ball to stop the clock, Gross took the ball on a sneak into a pile of players. For a moment, it looked like he had been stopped but an official running in from the far sideline signalled touchdown.

After one final play by Indiana, the overflow crowd of 15,631 at North Alabama's home stadium stormed the field to celebrate a 14-0 season and the school's first national championship. The Indians finished 13-1, losing in the title game for the second time in four years.

In that 1990 game, Indiana was routed by North Dakota State 51-11, giving up 37 points in the second half. This time, though, it was the Indians who seized the momentum after the break.

Michael Woods threw a 2-yard scoring pass to Dan Glass and a 24-yarder to Theo Turner to turn a 14-10 halftime deficit into a 24-14 lead heading to the final quarter.

Then, like a great heavyweight

fight, it was North Alabama's turn to rally. The big play was a blocked punt by Israel Raybon which gave the Lions the ball at the Indiana 28. Three plays later, Gross threw a 24-yard scoring pass to Shelton, but the score remained 24-20 when the extra point was botched.

North Alabama's next two possessions belonged to Brian Satterfield. The senior fullback rambled 7 yards for a touchdown to put North Alabama ahead with 8:22 remaining, then appeared to seal the victory on a 20-yard scoring run with 3:17 left.

Indiana ran just 1:23 off the clock in going 70 yards in nine plays, capped by Mann's short TD run, to make it 34-31. On the kickoff, the ball bounced high in the air and was grabbed by the Indians' Jack Creech. Six plays later, Geary's left-footed kick into a stiff wind made it 34-34 and set the stage for Gross' heroics.

Satterfield rushed for 180 yards on 23 carries.

Pair of Tigers picked for Snow Bowl

By TERRY GASTON

Hays Daily News

Two members of the Fort Hays State University football team have been selected to play in the Snow Bowl, the inaugural NCAA Division II All-Star Charitable Football Game.

Both FHSU safety-cornerback James Hardy Jr. and linebacker Aaron Mata have been picked to play in the Jan. 6 game, which will be played at the Fargodome in Fargo, N.D. Both will play for the West team.

Hardy, a 6-foot, 188-pound senior from Denver, set a Fort Hays school record with seven interceptions, with three coming in one game. He finished the year with 66 total tackles, nine pass deflections and three forced fumbles.

Mata, a 6-2, 283-pound senior from La Junta, Colo., had 104 tackles with four quarterback sacks. He also forced two fumbles recovered

two, deflected four passes, intercepted one and blocked three kicks.

Both Hardy and Mata were first-team all West Region selections and are eligible for All-America honors as a result.

"I think both of them are deserving" to be selected to the Snow Bowl, FHSU coach Bob Cortese said. "Mata is as good as anyone in the country, and James had a good year — a lot of interceptions, a good player."

"We're flattered and honored that we got two of them into the game."

The players selected to participate will report for workouts Jan. 1 and begin practicing the next day.

Proceeds from the Snow Bowl will go to the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children. The game is sponsored by the Fargo-Moorhead (Minn.) Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Coaches for the game are retired college coaches. Former University

of Nebraska-Omaha coach Sandy Buda will coach the East, and Don Morton — former coach at North Dakota State University and assistant at Tulsa and Wisconsin — will lead the West.

Ross Fortier, the East's defensive coordinator and former head coach at Moorhead State University, said an NCAA rule prohibits the event from using active coaches unless a guarantee of \$100,000 can be guaranteed for the benefitting charity.

Three other Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference seniors were selected to play for the West as well: Fort Lewis (Colo.) College receiver Johnny Cox, Colorado School of Mines offensive lineman Jackie Crisp and New Mexico Highlands University linebacker Bob Green.

Emporia State University has one player selected in defensive back Ken Miller, as did Pittsburg State University with offensive lineman Doug Bullard.