

A Perfect Season

By Max Novak

Yearbook Sports Feature

(Note to judge: Because we are a small school,
we also include junior high sports in the yearbook.)

“I’ve never seen anything like it. This team wowed even the opposing teams. I couldn’t even get a picture of the offense because every time they got the ball, they ran it in for a touchdown on the first play,” Mrs. Severance, the journalism teacher said to the students honoring the seventh and eighth graders phenomenal football season.

Last year the junior high boys had a great record of 4-2, but this year they went beyond what anyone expected when they posted a 6-0 record. With this 6-0 record, they surpassed all of their expectations, but they never let it change how they approached the game.

"The 6-0 record never got to my head; I still played as hard as I could no matter what," seventh grader Boone Smith said.

With the 6-0 record and the dominant wins, they were honored to be ranked as the number one junior high six man football team in the United States.

“We all played as a team and worked together,” eighth grader Hunter Sherwood said. “Every time we stepped on the field, we had a goal to play our hardest and to the best of our abilities.”

Because the team did so well, they had to use the 45 point rule in every game, where they ran the clock and stopped keeping score. Because of this, some of the younger players got more

playing time. "My favorite game was against Pawnee City because it was my first game, also because I got to tackle someone," seventh grader David Loarca said.

Also, because of being so far ahead of the other teams, the starters didn't get as much playing time as they would have in a normal game. "I would have liked to play more, but I also understand that we didn't want to just keep killing the other teams," eighth grader Payton Zoubek said.

This season was way different from other years. "This year's team is unique compared to the others years because lots of the players had played midget football in elementary school," Head Coach Spencer Kotas said. "It allowed us to have a big head start at the beginning of the season."

The coaches were extremely happy with the effort this year's team put in. "One thing I liked most about this year's team was their dedication, hard work and accountability, " Assistant Coach Brandon Sullivan said. "Another thing is the drive; they had to be better. It was like they wanted it more than the other teams."

The Coaches favorite game was the Meridian game. "The Meridian game was my favorite because we started off slow but then responded in the second, third, and fourth quarter and won big," Head Coach Spencer Kotas said. "It was almost like a switch flipped inside of them."

"Meridian was my favorite game too because when we decided to wake up, we were hitting harder than ever. We were hitting harder than at the beginning of the year," Assistant Coach Sullivan said.

Overall, the whole team benefited from their success.

“It was a good season for us because it never ceased to challenge us. Finishing a season that ended up better than we expected is the best feeling, especially when it was 6-0. Going 6-0 wasn’t just about winning games, it was the friendship and the teamwork that pulled us through together,” eighth grader Myles Vyhnales said.