

CCA football team builds for the future



Special to The Clinton Courier

Clinton Christian Academy senior football players include (l to r): Seth Tanksley, James Thornton, Tanner May, Devin Trunnell, Brenden Buchanan, Braden Walker and Jay Leggett.

By Danny C. Davis

When Chris Bunio was offered the opportunity to be the head football coach at Clinton Christian Academy, he accepted the offer. Bunio, a Birmingham native, played football for four years at Mississippi College and was excited about the challenge of building the new football program.

CCA is starting its tenth year as a school and only its third year on playing eleven-man football in the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools (MAIS) association.

"I had coached in the MAIS association at Trinity Episcopal [Natchez], and at Briarwood Academy [Lake Providence, Louisiana], so I was well familiar with the setup at CCA. I am very excited about building this program into a football contender," said Bunio. "We are still trying to build a football program. Our administration is committed to athletics. They are building a gym and weight room, and we are going to have very good athletic facilities at CCA. The kids are great, and we are having a good time."

The Warriors finished 3-7 last year and

graduated thirteen seniors from their team.

Bunio said this is a rebuilding year, but things look bright for the future.

"We have only seven seniors on the team, but have a large sophomore class," said Bunio. "Right now, we are very young and inexperienced, but have some very good transfers that will contribute immediately."

One of the leading transfers is quarterback Bobby Gibson, a 6'2", 230-pound sophomore transfer from MHSAA Class 6A runner-up champion Pearl.

"Bobby is a big quarterback for this league and is throwing it well and can get three or four yards running the ball," said Bunio, who played quarterback at Miss. College. "We have a lot of confidence in Bobby to lead our offense this year."

Senior wide receiver, defensive back Jay Leggett is considered a big impact player on both sides of the ball and a team leader.

Senior running back, linebacker Brendan Walker, a New Orleans, Louisiana-area transfer at 6'0", 190 pounds will also be counted on to lead on both

cont. on page 22

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