



2016 Trojans Made It To Quarterfinal Game



Members of the Barnesville Trojan football team are left to right, row one - Team Manager Dawson Gregg, Cole Tharaldson, Xavier Kadmas, Owen Jerald, Blake Ishaug, Kieran Johnson, DJ Gardner, Joey Roste, Andrew Wastweet, Brett Allmaras, Austyn Boyum, Chandler Burnside, Connor John, Bradey Berg, Brandon Holte, Junior Team Member Jacob Strand;

row two - Team Manager Brode Gray, Gabe Dent, Preston Snobl, Tyler Stage, Assistant Coach Nate Strand, Assistant Coach Aaron Schindler, Assistant Coach George Haj, Head Coach Bryan Strand, Assistant Coach Phil Trowbridge, Assistant Coach Jed Johnson,

Assistant Coach Dain Biewer, Assistant Coach Scott Snobl, Hunter Zenzen, Tristan Elliot, Team Manager Jay Tschumperlin;

row three - Matt Samuelson, Jalen Plath, Jackson Poepping, Matthew Bredman, Gavin Camperud, Nick Detloff, Jack Trowbridge, Grant Inniger, Ellis Frosle, Brady Tweeton, Jonny Kletsch, Kellan Hinsz, Stanley Schoenecker, Jonah LeNoue, Team Manager Aaron Baker;

row four - Hayden Sherva, Dustin Eaton, Jackson Wahl, Lief Enstad, Noah Vandal, Brooks Martinson, Caleb Stetz, Brady Martz, Alex Jenison, Jared Poppel, Blake Torfin, Ashton Johnson, Tanner

Kadmas;

row five - Cheerleader Jaclyn Keller, Cheerleader Jaden Webber, Cheerleader Summer Derro, Blake Anderson, Graham Abarr, Robert Mark, Chase Brenner, Noah Gray, Nolan Rick, Cheerleader Caroline Redding, Cheerleader Madison Williams, Cheerleader Tori Buckhouse;

row six - Team Manager Tate Inniger, Statistician Anna Smith, Statistician Kaitlyn Thompson, Statistician Madison Sossa, Statistician Grace Drewicke and Student Manager Ben Penner. Not pictured are Domii Leu and Hunter Anderson.

The 2016 Trojan football team will be remembered for its grit and determination. That spirit was exhibited in a come from behind win versus DGF and two wins over rival Hawley Nuggets.

"This team will go down as one that came together for a common purpose and just outworked the teams we played," said head coach Bryan Strand. "The team had an attitude that showed we could not only compete with, but we could beat everyone on our schedule."

Junior Brady Tweeton had one of the best years as any running back in Trojan history. He rushed for nearly 2,000 yards and crossed the goal line 31 times. Conner John and Brady Martz each ran up about 700 yards during the season.

With a total offense of 4,976 yards, the 2016 team surpassed the 2010 team's output.

The Trojans struggled a bit in their first game, which was played on their home field against OTC, which came within six points of the lead in the fourth quarter. With the help of a critical pass interception by Brady Martz, the Trojans prevailed 26-14.

Over the next three games, the Trojans locked the door and



Named to the 2016 8AA All-Section team were left to right, top row - Owen Jerald, Connor John, Keiran Johnson; middle row - Brady Tweeton, Joey Roste; and front row - Brady Martz.



Named to the 2016 8AA All-District team were left to right, top row - Jonny Kletsch; middle row - Connor John and Kieran Johnson; and front row - Brady Tweeton, Brady Martz and Owen Jerald.

tossed the key early. Crookston, Breckenridge and Frazee became fodder for the Trojans' appetite for big scoring drives. The scores, respectively, were 60-20, 58-13 and 61-12.

The next game was a stark contrast to the previous three. The Trojans took on the DGF Rebels, then ranked second in Class 2AA.

Late in the game and down 22-21, the Rebels were in the midst of a drive that could have resulted in a score and the game. But the Trojans "D" forced a fumble that Matt Bredman snatched up to seal the win.

Leading 20-18 at the half, the Trojans offense and defense caught fire in the second half against the Nuggets at Hawley. With the 40-18 victory under their belts, the Trojans remained undefeated.

The following game under the Friday night lights looked like the Trojans would make mincemeat out of Warroad. But the boys from way up north didn't let down after looking up at the scoreboard and seeing the Trojans ahead 40-8 at the half. Warroad out-scored Barnesville 20-12 in the second half, which was a great effort, but not enough to beat the unbeaten Trojans.

The first drive of the last regular season game versus Pelican Rapids at the Fargodome ended with a safety by the Trojan defense. The

Vikings enjoyed an 8-8 tie in the first quarter, but Barnesville made it clear they were the real deal in a 48-20 final. And it was on to the Class AA state quarterfinal.

Pillager was the next to be pillaged by the Trojans. Brady Tweeton scored three times in the first half. The Trojans opted for the two-point conversion after each of those TDs and were successful every time for a 24-0 halftime lead. Down 30-0 early in the second half, the Huskies mustered up some semblance of an offensive attack, but it was much too little and much too late. The 42-14 victory set Barnesville up for a trip to US Bank Stadium and the state semi-final game versus the Caledonia Warriors.

Just getting to the brand new Minnesota Vikings home field was thrilling for the players, coaches

and fans. Early in the semi-final game, the Trojans looked like they could make it to the final. The 13-7 Trojan lead in the second quarter was the first time the Warriors were behind in a game since 2014—and they reacted in a way that was not pleasant for the Trojans.

In the remaining nine minutes of the second quarter the Warriors went downtown with 34 unanswered points and pretty much buried the Trojan game plan. The second half was a bit less ugly, but Caledonia came out the clear winner 55-20. Take away the score and it didn't look quite as bad. Total yardage was 343 to 254 in the Warrior's favor.

"It was a fun and memorable season," Strand concluded. "I have truly enjoyed coaching this team and watching the players grow."



In 2016, senior Kieran Johnson, left, was the Most Valuable Offensive Lineman as well as the Most Valueable Player Midwest District. Junior Brady Tweeton, right, was named the Most Valuable Running Back.



Great Season Trojans!

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Great Job This Year!