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PAYBACK

Bears tarnish Titans, earn district championship

BY MOLLY GUCKIAN

With a huge rivalry and district championship on the line, the Bears Varsity Football team defeated the Southgate Anderson Titans with a score of 20-17 on November 7 earning them the title of District Champions.

The team lost to Southgate during the regular season with a score of 35-21, and making Friday night's victory in Southgate only made the win that much sweeter.

"It felt great," senior offensive/defensive lineman Mickey Bozymowski said. "We beat Southgate and we avenged our loss from the regular season."

Senior captain and wide receiver Andrew Matt is very proud of his team and believes that the second Southgate game is the one that truly counts.

"I'm very proud," said Matt. "We came back from a loss and beat them later in the season when it matters the most."

After knocking out the Titans the Bears

will advance to regional finals against the Southfield Blue Jays on November 15.

Head Coach Ron Adams is happy for the team and believes the team will forever remember their district championships.

"I was happy for our seniors," said Adams. "I told the team before the [Southgate] game it was their defining moment and that no one would ever be able to take it away from them. It is something they'll remember for the rest of their lives."

Senior tight end Matt Rumley believes that winning the Southgate game was perhaps one of the best sensations he's ever had in football.

"[Beating Southgate] was probably the best feeling I've had in football," Rumley said. "We beat Southgate, our archrival, and it was for the district championship."

The Bears defense only let Southgate score three points before half time, and Adams believes it was the defense's best game yet.

"It's the best effort we've had all year," Adams said. "Defensively, guys like Zach Morelli,

Dan Sheets, and Chris Trevino really stepped up and met the challenge."

Senior running back Andreas Vasquez was proud of his team's defense.

"It was the best defense I've ever seen our team play. Ever," Vasquez added.

Senior captain, and quarterback Kyle Timmis also believes the defense did an outstanding job.

"They played all four quarters," Timmis said.

On the flip side, senior captain and offensive line guard and linebacker Chris Trevino believes the other side of the ball had a noteworthy performance too.

"We got an early jump on them and it was good enough to win the game," Trevino said.

Regardless of how solid the team has been performing lately, the team believes there is always room for improvement.

"We've got to continuously get better, it never ends," Adams said.

The team is constantly striving for that.

"We just need to keep up the intensity in practice and keep the same mentality we had against Southgate," Timmis said.

Even though the pressure on the team intensifies each week, the Bears are just happy to soak up their victory week by week.

"I've been doing this for 20 years now and I can't remember feeling any better," said Adams.

Because of the continual practices, the team has grown together and is very tight.

"We're actually teammates," said Trevino. "We can count on each other instead of doing it by ourselves."

Timmis believes this team is the best he's been a part of.

"I'm really proud of this team," Timmis said. "It's the best team I've ever been on, hands down. We're good together as a team. We come together when we need to."



(above) Senior offensive/defensive lineman Dan Sheets tackles Southgate quarterback Kyle Wentzel at their District-winning game against Southgate. Photo: Molly Guckian



(right) The Bears get ready to play hard defense against Southgate. Photo: Molly Guckian

Tennis wins League, competes in States

BY ALYSSA BEAMISH

Boys tennis went off to states for the second consecutive year on October 17, following their first place finish in the Mega White league championship on October 14.

"Last year we were very young and inexperienced," Regional Coach of the Year Pat Haley said. "This year we had the benefit of what we learned last year."

To qualify for states, they had to score 18 points at regionals. The team scored 22 points and brought home second place.

"I'm very happy with the way the season went this year," Haley said. "We were league champs and we almost won regionals, I am so proud of the team as a whole."

The team was only three points away from winning their region. In the state tournament, senior Victor Reyes had one win in the singles matches; while two doubles senior Scott Smiddy and sophomore Ben Mekolon and three doubles, senior Richard Fry and sophomore Justin Vellmure each got a doubles win.

"I think next year we will be able to go back to states," Haley said. "There are a lot of seniors graduating, but I'm not worried at all because we have a good JV team."

JV was first place in their league and many players from JV will be moving up. Some of these

guys would have moved up last year but there were not enough spots open, according to Haley.

They will lose seven seniors this year. Those seniors led the team to states for the past two years and some are paired with sophomores for doubles teams, which will shake things up, but the team is confident.

There are a lot of people graduating including my partner, but I'm not too worried," Vellmure said. "I think I will be fine and will be able to adjust with who ever my new partner is. Or maybe, hopefully, I will be able to play singles."

Winning was consistent for everyone throughout the season, from one singles through the lower parts of the lineup. Kevin Golowic played one singles. He beat every one singles player in the league at some point. Sophomore Gerald Mayhew won regionals and leagues as two singles.

The doubles teams were just as successful. Scott Smiddy and Ben Mekolon won regionals as 2 doubles and Justin Vellmure and Richard Fry were 3 doubles regional champs. At leagues, doubles teams swept the field winning in the number one (Berecz and Nolan Gage), two, three, and four (Brian Arnoldy and Evan Baum) doubles matches.

But winning was not all this team was good at. They had fun often as well.

"They always kept me laughing," Haley said. "They got along very well."



Sophomore Gerald Mayhew, 2 singles, won his match at regionals on October 9. Photo: Mrs. Haddad