

Broncos can't tame 2013's tough schedule, finish 1-7

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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Wes Anderjaska carries the ball through a hole created by blockers Hayden Pollmann (left) and Jeremiah Kerns (right). Quarterback Chase Rathe is pictured behind Anderjaska. (Diane Stamm | The Wauneta Breeze)

By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

Week in and week out this season, the Wauneta-Palisade football team faced some of the best six-man competition in the state. Six of the Broncos' eight opponents advanced to the state playoffs. As the playoffs have progressed, Sioux County, Hyannis, Silver Lake and Cody-Kilgore have reached the semifinals. All four were on the Broncos' schedule.

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Senior Wes Anderjaska led W-P throughout the season. Offensively, Anderjaska led the team with 705 rushing yards on a team high 127 attempts and 577 passing yards on a team high 33 completions. Defensively, he had 89 solo tackles and 117 total tackles. The next best was Chase Rathe with 29 solo tackles and 48 total tackles. Anderjaska also had two sacks, one interception, five passes defended, caused two fumbles and recovered four fumbles.

Co-head coach Joseph Frecks said, "Wes was really the heart and soul of our team, he was a great leader on and of the field with everything he did."

Fellow senior Hayden Pollmann had a team leading 34 receptions for 685 yards. Pollmann made 10-of-20 extra point attempts and scored a team high 10 touchdowns. Pollmann was also the team's primary kickoff returner and punter.

Frecks added, "Hayden was one of the top receivers in 6 man football this year, and was also a great leader on the team."

The Broncos also had two other seniors, Lorenzo Cavanaugh and James Martin.

After recovering from a knee injury, Cavanaugh handled kickoff duties. Cavanaugh also had four touchdowns for the Broncos, two rushing, one on a 31-yard reception and one on a kickoff return of 60-yards.

Martin kicked off for W-P early in the season, played on the defensive line and was a rushing option in the season's final game against Silver Lake. Martin had nine carries for 28 yards against the Mustangs.

Frecks complimented the pair, saying, "Lorenzo played every single position on the football field at some point in time or another this season, his flexibility and great team attitude was a great asset for our team this year. James worked hard every single day, he was a positive team player, who stepped up and did whatever we asked of him all season long."

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Rathe, a sophomore, took many of the snaps for the Broncos and completed .559 of his passes.

Also seeing quality time for the Broncos were freshman Brody Nordhausen, sophomore Joseph Sramek and juniors Gage Crowell and Chris Carl. When healthy junior Jeremiah Kerns played an important role for W-P.

"It was a very fun year. Even though our record was not what we hoped it would be, our kids worked hard every single day and improved a lot throughout the year. Coach Randy Geier and I are very proud of the boys for never giving up and continuing to stay positive and always working to get better every day," said Frecks. "We are proud of this team as a whole, and are especially proud of our four seniors for their dedication, leadership, and positive attitudes all year long!"