

WEST SALEM TITANS

West Salem led by team speed

By **DEREK WILEY**
Of the Keizertimes

West Salem is almost always a favorite to finish atop the league standings.

With the 2017 Greater Valley Conference offensive and defensive players of the year, Anthony Gould and Alex Hurlburt, returning, this season is no different.

"I don't mind as a coach saying we're talented enough to be league champions and make a playoff run," West Salem head coach Shawn Stanley said. "I'm not scared to say that. If we don't, we didn't do a very good job as coaches."

Along with Gould, who was also voted special teams return man of the year, and Hurlburt, the Titans also

bring back linebacker Micah Pugh and cornerback Stanley Green, who were both selected to the All-GVC First Team defense last season.

But West Salem does have question marks entering the 2018 season. The Titans return zero starters on both the offensive and defensive line.

Hurlburt played on the defensive line last season but is moving to linebacker.

"It's crazy to think two years in a row we replace pretty much the entire line," Stanley said. "I'm encouraged and feel real positive about those guys but until you're tested on a Friday night that's the part that's unknown."

Senior Daniel McNeely will be counted on to lead

SCHEDULE

Aug. 31 at Lake Oswego
Sept. 7 vs Bend
Sept. 14 at Grant
Sept. 21 vs Sheldon
Sept. 28 at Beaverton
Oct. 5 vs South Salem
Oct. 12 at Mountain View
Oct. 19 vs McNary
Oct. 26 at Sprague



both lines. Holden Whipple is an athletic sophomore that could break out.

West Salem's strength is team speed as Gould and Green along with Simon Thompson and Jamal McMurrin all ran on the Titans 4x100 relay team that placed second in the OSAA Track and Field State Championships last spring.

McMurrin will play receiver and defensive back for West Salem this season. Thompson, the state champion in the 110 hurdles, is the team's new quarterback.

But Stanley said Thompson, who has already made his mark with the Titans in previous seasons at free safety, is more than just a runner.

"He's been the consummate team guy and waiting his turn and he can do some things that no quarterback that I've had can do and I'm really excited," Stanley said. "He fit a ball in a window 40 yards down field. If he gets out in the open, there's not a lot of guys, even on our team, that are going to catch him."

Thompson will also continue to play defense.

"He has to for us," Stanley said. "He's too much of an impact player."

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West Salem roster

#	PLAYER NAME	POS.	YR	HT.	WT.	#	PLAYER NAME	POS.	YR	HT.	WT.
1	Simon Thompson	QB/DB	12	6-3	210	47	Ethan Ruetters	RB/DB	10	5-3	155
2	Gideon Giles	WR/LB	12	6-0	190	48	Tyler Jones	WR/DB	10	5-9	150
3	Noah Juarez	WR/DB	12	6-1	180	49	Logan Russo	WR/DB	10	5-10	150
4	Gannon Bendix	WR/DB	12	6-0	185	50	Holden Whipple	OL/DL	10	6-5	255
5	Austin Galberth	WR/DB	11	6-0	170	51	Isaac Barnecht	OL/DL	10	5-9	200
6	Jamal McMurrin	WR/DB	12	6-0	170	52	Ivrit Herrera	OL/DL	10	5-10	175
7	Stanley Green	RB/DB	12	5-9	165	53	Alex Hurlburt	OL/LB	12	6-3	230
8	Nick Paslay	WR/DB	11	6-1	165	54	Anthony Alvarado	OL/DL	11	5-11	190
9	Jaedyn Coberly	WR/DB	11	5-9	165	55	Daniel McNeely	OL/DL	12	6-0	235
10	David Chavarria	WR/DB	12	5-7	135	56	Roc-Keem Keebler	OL/DL	12	6-3	240
11	Caleb Groves	RB/LB	12	6-1	145	57	Nicholas Alvarado	OL/DL	11	5-11	197
12	Brian Juran	QB/DB	12	6-1	190	58	Colin Olson	OL/DL	10	6-1	175
13	Noah Franco	RB/LB	12	5-8	175	59	Brendon Books	OL/DL	12	5-9	190
14	Brandon Eyre	QB/DB	10	5-9	150	60	Jalen Hawley	OL/DL	11	5-10	215
15	Chasetin Worst	WR/DB	12	6-0	150	61	Andrew Shaw	OL/DL	11	6-1	235
16	Shami Powell	WR/DB	12	5-8	156	62	Jake Brown	OL/DL	12	6-1	190
17	Micah Pugh	W/LB	12	6-3	215	63	Alex Ramirez	OL/DL	12	6-1	260
18	Jackson Lowery	QB/DB	10	6-3	185	64	Ethan Hoppe	OL/DL	11	6-0	240
19	Garrett Evans	WR/DB	11	5-9	160	65	Jorge Marquez	OL/DL	11	6-2	225
20	Jerron Love	WR/DB	10	5-10	145	66	Quintin Schilling	OL/DL	11	6-0	275
21	Tony Butler-Torrez	WR/DB	11	5-9	155	67	Tyler Zandofsky	OL/DL	11	6-0	250
22	Nate Garcia	RB/DB	10	5-11	160	68	Kai Holdaway	OL/DL	11	6-1	270
23	Anthony Gould	WR/DB	12	5-10	170	69	Preston Gabriel	OL/DL	11	6-1	280
24	Griffin Ailstock	WR/DB	10	6-1	170	70	Moises Saldana	OL/DL	11	5-8	289
25	Trevonte Doe	RB/DL	12	6-1	190	71	Jaden Perez	OL/DL	10	5-5	180
26	JT Martin	RB/LB	11	5-9	175	72	Ruben Garibay	OL/DL	10	6-1	240
27	Kyle Mitsuyasu	WR/DB	11	5-11	180	73	Brett Collins	OL/DL	12	5-10	285
28	Jake Tinseth	RB/DB	11	5-9	165	74	StevieRay Harrington	OL/DL	11	5-11	230
29	Zariya Powell	WR/DB	11	5-10	140	75	Aksel Merchant	OL/DL	11	5-10	230
30	Deaun Armstrong	WR/DB	11	5-10	140	76	Fausto Brambila	OL/DL	10	6-0	250
31	Benjamin Nagle	WR/LB	10	5-9	155	77	Miles Lens	OL/DL	10	6-0	240
32	Ioane Titalli	WR/DB	11	5-10	160	78	Conner Moore	OL/DL	10	6-0	260
34	Kaiden Reidhead	W/DL	11	6-3	205	79	Cameron Van Leuven	OL/DL	10	5-9	200
35	Kobe Hernandez	W/DB	11	5-8	140	80	Jaron Roach	WR/DB	10	5-4	116
36	Kyla Gordon	K	12	5-8	170	81	Santiago Cecchini	W/LB	10	5-10	180
37	Izak Schaecher	W/LB	11	5-11	175	82	Omar Solares	WR/DB	10	5-6	145
38	John Kenny	WR/DB	10	5-7	120	83	Diego Cotter	WR/DL	10	5-10	175
39	Andrew Bulgin	WR/LB	10	5-8	180	84	Jack Livengood	WR/LB	10	5-8	150
40	Zach Combs	W/LB	12	6-1	215	85	Anthony Pugh	W/DL	10	6-4	210
41	Jack Bennett	RB/LB	10	6-1	170	86	Cooper Johnson	W/LB	10	5-10	180
42	Jordan Whitaker	RB/LB	12	6-0	205	87	Justin Schmidt	WR/DL	10	6-0	175
43	Aiden Rojas	RB/DB	10	5-3	130	88	Anthony Kapteyn	WR/LB	12	6-1	170
44	Nano Ruelas	WR/DB	10	5-8	155	89	German Leon Lopez	K	11	5-11	196
45	Yashar Powell	WR/DB	10	5-6	144	90	Adrian McConnell	OL/DL	10	6-2	190
46	Trystan Paine	RB/LB	10	5-10	155	91	Arian Jacobo	W/DL	11	6-0	205

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