

'Mustang Pride', coaches, team spirit among seniors' thoughts

This week's game marks the final homefield appearance for 14 Seniors on the 1977 Heppner Mustang team.

Prior to the flurry of activities that help make up the Homecoming tradition, the players were asked to respond to the following questions concerning their sport and their attitude towards it.

- ...1) Reactions to playing your final Homecoming game.
- ...2) General impressions of

your football career at HHS.
...3) What has the game of football provided you (besides sore ribs and assorted bruises)?

Ken Grieb:

- 1) "It's hard to believe this is the last home game I will play in. It's always a thrill to play here in Heppner and I wish it didn't have to end."
- 2) "It has been great playing for Heppner and

having great teams every year. It gives me a sense of pride to have the great tradition we have here in Heppner."

Gordon Hoffnagle:

- 1) "Playing in our last homecoming game should be an added incentive to the Seniors. I know it will be an incentive for me. We haven't won a Homecoming game for two years and it would be nice to win one for a change."

Jim Wishart:

- 1) Lyle, Wash. should be a tough team but our team is improving every week and I think we can get our game together and win.

"Best coaches I have played for..."

- 2) Mr. Sporseen and Mr. Conklin are the best coaches I have ever played for and the

team really plays hard for these men in competition. And we have fun doing it.

Bruce Young:

- 2) "It has been a great time, all four years have been excellent. I have had two of the best coaches in my sports career from football at HHS—Mr. Starr and Mr. Sporseen."

- 3) "I've learned to play and practice as a team and not to worry about if the guy next to me is ready, but just to depend on him and do my part...he'll do his!"

"Time sure flies when you're having fun..."

Phil Johnson:

- 1) "I didn't realize it, but time sure flies when you're having fun because we are more than half way through the season. As far as Homecoming goes, we're going to win."

Chris Wright:

- 1) "I like playing football and I enjoyed playing for HHS. Sure there were some hard times but still it is fun to work as a team and win."

Sam Myers:

- 3) "High school sports should be fun and the experience was good to have."

Jerry Cutsforth:

- 1) "I am looking forward to it after our years of hard work."

- 3) "The knowledge that teamwork is always the best way."

Jim Kenny:

- 2) "I was impressed with the coaching. They made us work hard and learn but it was worth it."

- 3) "I always wanted to know how I would react to pressure situations and playing football is a way to find out pretty fast."

"...we have lots of fun and that's what sports should be all about."

Don McEwen:

- 1) "How did the year go so fast?"

- 2) "Even though we've lost a few games, we still have lots of fun and that's what sports should be all about."

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