

What makes you feel powerful?



"Succeeding at something that I've been working on for a goal."

-Bryce Rosewicz ('24)

Turning Back The Clock

The Ponies reign again

The Ponies have set the standard for Minnesota high school football since their first state title in 1975. Recently, however, Ponies football hit a rough patch. Throughout the 2017-2019 seasons, the Ponies went (7-20) and were winless in the playoffs.

When looking back on the 2019 season, senior Captain Mason Wilson said, "There were a lot of guys on that team who just wanted to play football one last time. There is nothing wrong with that, but this year we didn't just want to go out there and play, we wanted to dominate."

Dominate is exactly what they did. The Ponies started the season with seven straight wins, the first of the season coming over rival opponent, Centennial. "After knocking us out of the playoffs three of the past four years, it felt phenomenal to destroy Centennial this year," said Connor McCormick, senior captain.

The Ponies kept the ball rolling after that, outscoring their opponents 206-88 points through the first seven games, and securing their second straight conference title with the week 7 win over Mounds View.

For the final game of the season, the Ponies traveled to 11-time state champion Eden Prairie. Junior Max Shikenjanski said, "We knew they were one of the top teams in the state, and we were looking forward to it all year long." The Ponies battled back from a 21-6 deficit in the 3rd quarter to tie the game 21-21 with 2 minutes left. Eden Prairie scored and won the game in the final seconds, however, handing the Ponies their first loss of the season.

The Ponies went on to beat Eagan 56-14 in the first round of the playoffs. The team missed the state tournament with a tough loss to Wayzata in the section final. Although the team fell short of their final goal of state, they have reestablished the Pony brand at the top of Minnesota high school football.

Head Coach Beau LaBore said, "They wanted to be tough. They wanted to be physical and were willing to practice that way." The team set a new standard for what it means to be a Ponies football player.

By Mason Wilson



Captains walk out to the coin toss for homecoming

S. Arndt Photo



Max Shikenjanski evades a sack.



Ponies celebrate consecutive conference titles after week 7 win at Mounds View.

S. Arndt Photo

Pages created by Bo McBride & Mason Wilson



"We've built great relationships. I mean, everybody on the team is like family. It helps with mental toughness."

-Charlie Gleason ('23)



"It helped me grow closer with the students at Stillwater and at other schools."

-Justin Fretag ('22)



"It's created a sense of family and stuff and overall was just a great time."

-Joseph Hoheisel ('24)

What has football done for you this year



O-Line All the Way - Justin Fretag (Center), Tim Weber (Right guard), Cade Koenig (Right tackle), Tom Blair (Tight end), Max Shikenjanski. (Quarterback).



Customer is allowed to have objects outside of the margin.

TRIM LINE

TRIM LINE



"Having a lot of connections in the school, whether it be like friends or counselors, even teachers."

-Thomas Blair ('23)



"Teaching younger kids or people that are uninformed of things."

-Sammy Ness ('22)

Unleash Sports 015



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Eddie O'Keefe hurdles Forest Lake defender en route to a 41-yard touchdown score.



Varsity Football: Front: Ryan McDowell, Edward O'Keefe, Mason Wilson, Jayden Leach, Connor McCormick, Mason Buck, Sean Pineda. **Row 2:** Ty Tollefsbol, Alazar Jemal, Jacob Chavez, Austin Buck, Grant Miller, Billy Lomen, Miguel Acosta, Zachariah Hunter. **Row 3:** Aidan Narveson, Michael Tague, Chance Swenson, Sammy Ness, Jorge Sandoval Chao, Ben Bollman, Colin Berg, Tyler Kordosky. **Row 4:** Bryce Rosewicz, Chris Fretag, Max Shikenjanski, Thomas Blair, Bennett Peterson, Ethan Lee, Cade Koenig, Justin Fretag. **Row 5:** Braden Wenner, Christian Hoveland, Owen Peloquin, Chase Johnson, Thomas Jacobs, Roan Hickey, Sam Young. **Row 6:** Collin Peltier, Alex Vang, Jax McGlynn, Eric Jurek, Mason Vail, Gavin Butala, Sam Olson, Jason Nunez Rodriguez. **Row 7:** Jawahn Cockfield, Adam Hassenstab, Brady Anderson, Samir Benyahia, Ryan Nelson, Cooper Keykal, Landon Weyer. **Row 8:** Tim Weber, Tyler Wiese, Caleb Tussey, Tare Porbeni, Charlie Gleason, Davis Erickson, Tyler Schmidt, Joe Hoheisel. **Row 9:** Coach Cornelius Rish, Athletic Trainer Mike Renfro, Coaches Dan O'Keefe, Ryan Bartosiewski, Matt Anderson, Bruce Brevitz, Granger Taft, Mike Puhmann. **Row 10:** Coaches Mike Weiss, Paul Wieland, Matt Hemenway, Mark Harris, Jason Caballero, Darrel Salmi, Nick Varichak, Head Coach Beau LaBore.



"This was my first year on the football team. I liked the bigger group of people. You get a more diverse experience and it's honestly more fun that way. I wish I had joined sooner."
-Tanner Voight ('22)



S. Arndt Photos

Making an interception in the 1st quarter of the Section game is Mason Buck ('22). The game signaled the end of an historically good season of football. The Ponies were off their game in the Section Championship against Wayzata, another big name in high school football.

Kicking off against Mounds View playing for a conference championship, Austin Buck, Chance Swenson, and Grant Miller begin to rush down the field to get an early lead.

Out of the Stable games are tough. Eden Prairie was no different with their roaring student section taunting the Ponies, Thomas Jacobs ('23) runs with the ball preparing to dodge a defender.

Big expectations were had by Pony Football families as Stillwater went into the Conference Championship against Mounds View. Seniors Mason Wilson, Chance Swenson, and Jayden Leach pose for a photo before the big game.