

Seniors Gockley, Ledall, Bell and May named team captains

By Russ Pankonin

The Imperial Republican

Captains of this year's 2012 Longhorns football team all played key leadership roles in the success of this year's squad.

Seniors Kale Gockley, Callin Ledall, Brian Bell and Michael May were named honorary captains of a team that went 6-4 and captured a first-round playoff victory for the first time since 2006.

Head Coach Dan Lenners said his captains played a key role in creating a team unity and purpose that he hasn't seen for several years.

He said this year's team really bought in to working hard during the off-season which paid off late in the season.

He said they also overcame the loss of several players for the season due to injury.

In addition to being named team captains, the four, along with junior Justus Wallin and sophomore Kelton Fisher, were named to the C1-9 all-district team.

Trey Milner, Dan Sullivan and Justin German earned honorable mention recognition on the all-district team.

The leadership of these all-district players also proved apparent in the season-ending stats for the Longhorns.

Milner lead the rushing attack for the Longhorns with 624 yards followed by Sullivan with 611 yards.

May led the receiving with 239 yards on 16 catches and three touchdowns.

At quarterback, Gockley completed 40 percent of his passes with 10 touchdowns and only six interceptions.

On defense, Wallin and Bell tallied the most tackles, with Jeff Dickey and Fisher close behind.

Gockley led the team in solo tackles with 23 followed by Fisher with 21. Bell led the team in sacks with three and forced three fumbles.

The Longhorns finished the season with a 6-4 record, bowing out in the second round of the state playoffs. Their loss came against Boone Central/Newman Grove, who played for the C1 title against Norfolk Catholic.

Season-ending stats and members of the all-district team accompany this story.

2012 Season Record

8/31@ Gordon-Rushville W 38-0

09/07 Sidney W 48-8

09/14 @ Chadron L 20-27

09/21 @ Cozad L 20-32

09/28 Mitchell W 50-7

10/05 Gothenburg (3 OT) W 20-17

10/12 @ Kearney Catholic L 0-35

10/18 Minden W 28-15

10/25 @ Ord (Playoffs) W 21-7

10/31 Boone Central L 20-48

(Playoffs)

2012 C1-9 All-District Football Team

| Position | Name | School | HT/WT | Grade |
|----------|-------------------|------------------|----------|-------|
| OL/DL | Brian Bell | Chase County | 6-4 245 | 12 |
| OL/LB | Justus Wallin | Chase County | 6-1 215 | 11 |
| QB/DB | Kale Gockley | Chase County | 5-10 170 | 12 |
| OL/DL | Callin Ledall | Chase County | 6-3 220 | 12 |
| TE/DB | Kelton Fisher | Chase County | 6-3 180 | 10 |
| WR/DB | Michael May | Chase County | 5-9 155 | 12 |
| RB/DB | Jake Paulsen | Cozad | 5-11 160 | 11 |
| OL/DL | Jimmy Brown | Cozad | 6-1 240 | 12 |
| WR/LB | Jacob Rush | Cozad | 6-0 170 | 11 |
| FB/LB | Alex Boryca | Cozad | 6-1 200 | 11 |
| C/LB | Tanner Evertson | Cozad | 5-9 170 | 11 |
| QB/DB | Nate Bubak | Cozad | 6-0 163 | 11 |
| OL/DL | Jacob Stallbaumer | Cozad | 6-5 245 | 11 |
| OL/DL | Tanner Borchardt | Gothenburg | 6-8 245 | 10 |
| RB/LB | Logan Sheets | Gothenburg | 5-10 190 | 12 |
| QB/DB | Blake Ristine | Gothenburg | 6-1 175 | 11 |
| OL/DL | Adam Speck | Gothenburg | 6-0 240 | 11 |
| K | Trenton Long | Gothenburg | 5-11 160 | 11 |
| RB/LB | Preston Franzen | Gothenburg | 5-10 170 | 12 |
| WR/DB | Isaac Carlson | Minden | 6-0 140 | 12 |
| RB/LB | Ryan Chramosta | Minden | 5-9 165 | 12 |
| RB/LB | Quin Rutt | Minden | 5-9 185 | 11 |
| OL/DL | Mitch Muller | Minden | 6-4 270 | 11 |
| P | Landon Lempka | Minden | 6-1 175 | 12 |
| RB/LB | Alex Lowe | Kearney Catholic | 6-0 200 | 12 |
| OL/DL | David Squiers | Kearney Catholic | 6-3 265 | 12 |
| QB | Abe Clinch | Kearney Catholic | 6-2 220 | 12 |
| WR/DB | Brian Husmann | Kearney Catholic | 5-11 185 | 12 |
| OL/DL | Austin Lowery | Kearney Catholic | 5-11 250 | 12 |
| OL/DE | John Blake | Kearney Catholic | 5-10 220 | 12 |
| RB/LB | Thomas Connely | Kearney Catholic | 5-11 180 | 11 |
| DB/WR | Blake Holtmeier | Kearney Catholic | 6-1 190 | 11 |
| PR/KR | Brett James | Kearney Catholic | 5-8 165 | 12 |

Honorable Mention

Chase County

| | | | | |
|-------|---------------|-----|-----|----|
| FB/LB | Justin German | 6-2 | 225 | 12 |
| RB/CB | Dan Sullivan | 5-9 | 170 | 11 |
| RB/DB | Trey Milner | 6-1 | 165 | 11 |

Cozad

FB/LB Colin Wetovick 5-10 150 10

TE/DE Blaine Petersen 6-1 185 11

WR/DB Conor Young 5-10 140 10

Gothenburg

OL/DL Garrett James 6-2 180 12

TE/DE Logan Koehler 6 190 12

RB/LB Skyler Kottwitz 5-10 170 11

Minden

QB/DB Jonas Lovin 6-2 190 11

OL/DL Colton Barton 6-0 195 11

TE/LB Brendon Sinsel 5-10 190 11

Kearney Catholic

LB Jack Graham 6-0 190 11

LB/WR Connor Streit 5-10 185 12

WR/DE Alex Liess 6-2 190 12

DE/OL Isaac Richter 6-6 270 12