

Bits and Pieces

Edition #12

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Greg Barton

I want to publically thank some wonderful schools for giving us the opportunity to provide our Barton Football training for so many young players throughout the Northwest. In the state of Washington a big thank you to the University of Washington, and our high school partners; Foster High School, Kings High School, Juanita High School, Mercer Island High School and Skyline High School. Down south in Oregon we have some wonderful schools to thank; Lewis and Clark College, Portland Community College (Sylvania campus), University of Oregon, Oregon State University, Willamette University, Tualatin High School, and Valley Catholic High School. We have sincerely enjoyed our relationship with these wonderful schools and people.

High School Football

I hope you enjoyed the high school season as much as I have. I saw some games in both Oregon and Washington. I thought both states showed excellent talent at all levels of play. Congratulations to all the young men (and women) that played high school football in the Northwest this past season. I received emails and phone calls during the season from so many of our players and parents telling me about their games. I enjoyed those talks a lot.

Youth Football

Hey it was also fun hearing from many of our Barton youth participants telling us about their games this fall. Whether it is a 4th grader or an 8th grader, everyone I heard from was very proud of their team and teammates.

From time-to-time I like sharing things I have read. Here are some quotes for you to think about.

Eleanor Roosevelt – “Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people.”

Winston Churchill – “Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.”

Thomas Jefferson – “I find that the harder I work the more luck I seem to have.”

Vince Lombardi – “When you get in the end zone, act like you’ve been there before.”

Thomas Jefferson – “Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.”

2009 High School State Championship Games

Oregon

1A State Championship Game

My wife (Heather) and I love going to the St. Paul Rodeo on every July 4th. We enjoy the small community of St. Paul and we love the beautiful stadium where the rodeo is held. Last year I went to a St. Paul High School game and I enjoyed it very much. 1A football in Oregon is 8-man football. This year St. Paul beat Imbler High School 38 to 34 for the title. Ryan Pierson ran 40 times for 384 yards and 5 touchdowns to lift St. Paul to their first state title since 2002. Daley Smith, only a junior, made a huge goal-line interception to help give St. Paul the victory. Imbler lost for the first time in 22 games. Imbler has now played in the past 3 Class 1A final games. Coach Lee Lowe has done a magnificent job in being the head man at Imbler High School. Tony Smith is one of the top coaches in Oregon High School football. He has done a great job in building St. Paul into one of the state powers.

2A State Championship Game

In a very physical game, Scio High School knocked off Kennedy High School 14 to 7. Coulter Mastenbroek came into the game with 2,448 yards rushing. Late in the game, Mastenbroek used his sprinter's speed (he was the 2008 2A state champion in the 100 and 200 meters) to turn the corner and find the end zone for his 36th touchdown of the season to give Scio the win. Mastenbroek finished with 6,052 career rushing yards. Scio finished with a 14 and 0 record for the season. Kennedy High School, led by head coach, Randy Traeger, had a remarkable season. They started off 0 and 3 and through hard work they got themselves to the state championship game.

3A State Championship Game

Amity High School was simply too tough upfront as they beat Rainier High School 51 to 16. Lots of positive things went Amity's way. Twin brothers, Jeff and Josh Kenner, both scored two touchdowns, Jeff on runs of 31 and seven yards, and Josh on pass receptions of 12 and 27 yards. Amity was the class of Class 3A throughout the season, outscoring its opponents 590 to 98 in 13 games. Joel Magill, Amity's head coach, had a season to remember. Rainier head coach, Thor Ware, had to be proud of his team. They competed hard and put up 280 yards in total offense and finished their season with a record of 11 and 3.

4A State Championship Game

Wow, just how good is Marist High School? Led by Frank Geske, Marist won the championship game over Baker 55 to 16. Marist has beaten Central High School, led by quarterback Grant Hedrick (Boise State recruit) twice this year and finished 14 and 0. Tevin Cheever was terrific at quarterback for Marist (10 of 18 for 196 yards and 4 touchdown passes) and he had lot of help in this championship game. Logan Silver rushed for 4 touchdowns and 139 yards. Jeff Bedbury caught touchdown passes from Cheever for 7 and 47 yards and did his usual excellent downfield blocking. For those who follow college football recruiting, keep a close eye on

Matthew Devereux who played well on both sides of the ball this season for Marist High School. He is a 4.0 student and will be one of the top linemen in the entire Northwest next fall. He played an outstanding game on both sides of the ball. Baker High School finished their season winning 11 games with just 3 losses. Dave Johnson did a great job in coaching these young men.

5A Championship Game

Hillsboro High School wins their first state championship since 1973 beating Jefferson High School 20 to 6. Colt Lyerla had 11 tackles, five catches for 130 yards and another 61 yards on 11 carries. He scored two touchdowns, one on the ground and one receiving. For those of you from Washington who have never heard of Colt Lyerla, he is a running back, wide receiver and a linebacker who is only a junior and is 6'5 and 228 pounds (Colt has offers from Hawaii, Oklahoma, Oregon, Oregon State and Vanderbilt. He has already been selected to play in the 2010 U.S. Army All American Bowl). Dominique Mims completed 14 of 25 for 209 yards and 2 touchdowns for the Spartans. Ken Ingram was in his first year as the Hillsboro head coach and this year will be one he will remember for the rest of his life. A big thumbs up goes to Anthony Stoudamire, the head football coach at Jefferson. He did a remarkable job with his team and they should be tough again next fall. Everyone should also keep a close eye on Jefferson quarterback Elisonoa Aluesi. He started this year as a 6'7 and 225 pound sophomore. He is now training with the Barton Football Academy and he will develop into a very special player in the years to come.

6A Championship Game

This game will go down in history as one of the greatest Oregon playoff games in history. It promised to be when you look at the statistics of so many of the players that would be playing in this game from both Jesuit High School and Sheldon High School. Coming into the game, Jesuit was 12 and 1 and Sheldon was 13 and 0. Jordan Talley, the junior running back at Jesuit entered the game rushing for 1,713 yards and 22 touchdowns. Keanon Lowe had caught the ball for 594 yards and 7 touchdowns, while rushing for 903 yards and 14 touchdowns. On the other side, Jordan Johnson, the Sheldon quarterback had completed 75.5% of his passes for 3,264 yards and 44 touchdown passes with just 4 interceptions. He also found the time to rush for 1,083 yards and 19 touchdowns. John Campbell had caught 76 passes for 1,609 yards and 23 touchdowns. Cameron Abeene had rushed for 1,198 yards and 13 touchdowns and caught 38 passes for 491 yards and 5 touchdowns. Curtis White, a tight end had 38 catches for 671 yards and 11 touchdowns. So just reading about statistics, you can now see why it promised to become a special game.

Jesuit had Sheldon where they wanted them. Jesuit scored 43 points and they run successful running the football. Keanon Lowe rushed 40 times for 310 yards and 6 touchdowns. Jesuit being a running team must have dominated this game, right? Sure they had to as they also had 494 yards of total offense. Well no, because Sheldon scored 50 points to win the game. This was a game with big play guys on both sides of the ball. Every kid we mentioned above made big plays. Jordan Johnson the Sheldon quarterback was all over the field making plays, as was John Campbell and Cameron Abeene.

The final score was Sheldon 50 and Jesuit 43. Jordan Johnson will be playing quarterback for the University of Montana as he got the offer he wanted. Curtis White, from Sheldon and Jesuit's Keanon Lowe will now become teammates and play for Chip Kelly and the University of Oregon. John Campbell one of the top receivers to ever play in Oregon will now move on to play some football at one of our countries top schools; Harvard.

Congratulations to two tremendous head coaches. Marty Johnson, from Sheldon and Ken Potter, from Jesuit are excellent football coaches. Both have had wonderful football careers at their schools as both have done so much for so many.

Washington

1B State Championship Game

Will Hoppes (See our Featured player in the Barton front page) leads Tri-Cities Prep to an 80 to 40 win over Lummi completing 27 of 33 passes for 552 yards and 10 touchdown passes with no interceptions. Junior Troy Redmann was the beneficiary of all but four of Hoppes scoring strikes, finishing with nine receptions for 239 yards. Teammates Antonio Ledesma (10 receptions, 153 yards) and Kevin Ratuiste (six for 119) also topped 100 yards as the Pasco private school captured the first state title in its 12 seasons. Dan Whitsett gets a lot of pats on the back for doing such a great coaching job. Lummi quarterback Tital Jameson (18 of 44 for 385 yards and two touchdowns) and receivers Kyle Finkbonner, David James and Eric Robinson provided virtually all of the Blackhawks offense. Lummi head coach Jim Sandusky did a wonderful job of coaching this whole season.

2B State Championship Game

Adna High School beats Colfax High School 32 to 24 ending their season with a perfect record of 13 and 0. Colfax came into the title game undefeated and ranked number 1 in Class 2B all season. K.C. Johnson did a great job in coaching the team all season. Kyle Grosshans had quite a game passing for 111 yards and two touchdowns, coming up with two interceptions on defense and also scored on a crucial 32-yards run with 43 seconds left in the game with Adna facing a fourth down and 2. Anthony Tatum rushed for 119 yards and a touchdown on just seven carries with most of the damage coming on his 80-yard scoring run in the first quarter. Mike Morgan did a nice job in building his talented Colfax High School football program.

1A State Championship Game

Connell High School finishes with a perfect 14 and 0 record by beating a talented Cascade Christian High School team 28 to 7 in the Tacoma Dome. Senior quarterback Nathan Martinez threw for 186 yards and three touchdowns, with two of those going to senior wide receiver Shane Didier. Matt Hadley, a sophomore ran for 107 yards on 20 carries and made a huge 42-yard touchdown reception with four seconds left in the second quarter that put Cascade Christian in a 21 to 0 hole at halftime. Connell's defensive unit of linemen Cody Crockett, Scott Borgens, Rex Lyle, and Kraymer Eppich and linebackers Chandler Salisbury, Dyrel Whitby and Michael Casper held Cascade Christian's potent running game to 70 yards on 27 carries.

Didier finished his high school career in style, catching three passes for 101 yards for Connell High School. Didier is the nephew of former Portland State University and Washington

Redskins star tight end Clint Didier, who calls the plays for the Connell offense. Cascade Christian quarterback Kyle Stennes completed 13 of 25 passes for 129 yards.

2A State Championship Game

Lynden High School wins the 2A Washington State Championship for the second straight year beating a very tough West Valley of Spokane 16 to 6. Curt Kramme the head coach at Lynden was very happy about the win saying his team was very special. Brett Bajema carried the ball 14 times for 118 yards while Ryan Seto had 94 receiving yards. Blair Bomber, a Washington State recruit, had an interception and capped his prep career with three state championships. "It doesn't get any better," said Bomber, who played on the Lions 2006 title-winning team as a freshman. Craig Whitney the head coach of West Valley was very proud of his team knowing his team battled to the end.

3A State Championship Game

Bellevue High School wins another Washington State Championship game beating a tough Liberty High School team 23 to 17. Butch Goncharoff is an amazing story of success. The Bellevue head football coach was tested early in the season by a very tough early schedule and with some serious injuries to some very key players. Coach Goncharoff never made excuses, he just kept working his players doing the same thing they do every year; getting off the ball upfront on both sides of the ball and controlling the line of scrimmage. This might have been Coach Goncharoff's best season of coaching ever. Early in the game Bellevue controlled the football keeping Liberty off the field. In the second half Liberty came back fighting earning the respect of Bellevue. David Nguyen rushed 22 times for 105 yards and caught 3 passes for 42 yards for Bellevue. Bellevue did what they always do; they had 57 rushes to Liberty's 18 attempts and the time of possession was 34:30 compared to Liberty's 13:30. Chandler Jenkins carried 6 times for 110 yards and two touchdowns for Liberty High School. Don't feel too bad for Liberty. They showed class and fought hard against a very tough opponent. Liberty will be back as they have some outstanding young players. Trey Wheeler, Chandler Jenkins and Jake Bainton are all juniors and they will be players to watch closely in 2010. Wheeler ended his junior season passing for 2,301 yards and 29 touchdown passes. Chandler Jenkins rushed for 1,392 yards and 17 touchdowns. Wide receiver Jake Bainton is a good one and he finished with 61 receptions for 961 yards and 13 touchdowns.

4A State Championship Game

Skyline High School beats Ferris High school 45 to 21 for the Spartans third straight title. Jake Heaps goes 15 of 25 for 254 yards and a 4A title-game record four touchdown passes. Kasen Williams, one of the top junior football players in the country came up with three touchdown catches on 8 receptions for 89 yards. Nick Beauchamp came up with a huge game rushing 18 times for 115 yards. Nick Washburn ended his great career adding 61 yards rushing yards to his excellent pass blocking skills that helped Heaps in finding his receivers. Cooper Pelluer did a nice job on both sides of the ball and the offensive line was tremendous. Defensively, Skyline continued their great play which they have shown all season long. Jase Butorac was giving a great effort as an offensive tackle and a defensive tackle. He showed up with an attitude of being physical. Ferris played a good game but they just couldn't match Skyline's team speed.

Skyline plays great defense, with everyone in the lineup who can run. You can mention every single defensive player for Skyline as the key to their defense is playing TEAM defense. Connor Halliday showed Washington State fans that they chose the right quarterback by completing 26 of 44 passes for 254 yards. I saw some good things with Halliday. I believe he will have a nice PAC 10 career at WSU. Jordan Tonani, Jason Bates, and Beau Bozett all got open and caught the ball well for Ferris. What can anyone say about Skyline High School? They have played at a very high level for three years. They have met the challenge head on. When they didn't get it done, they never made excuses. When it came to winning championships, they sure stepped up time-after-time. Mat Taylor sure did a nice job of coaching. Hey he replaced a coaching legend in Steve Gervais. This is never easy for a young coach. I was impressed with how Coach Taylor competed as a coach. It is tough enough following a legend, but then to face teams every Friday night that are looking at this game as a "state championship game", this is a tough job as you can never let your team come up flat or you are in trouble. To keep the team focused for 2 years is not an easy thing to do as a coach. I give Coach Taylor a lot of pats on the back for a job well done.

Let's make sure to note that some of the top players in the Northwest were not playing in the Oregon or Washington state championship games. I thought the Northwest was loaded with outstanding football players this past year. In addition to the excellent seniors I saw a whole bunch of excellent underclassmen. I believe the football will be excellent in the 2010 season.

The challenge to the returning players is to not be satisfied with your performance as an underclassman. If you are going to be a senior, now you will need to step up your leadership abilities. I feel the best way to lead is by example. If your teammates always see you in the weight room and they see you working hard and not messing around, they will respect you a lot. If they hear you talking positive about your coaches and teammates, they will have nothing but respect for you. Your goal should be to become the hardest worker on your team.

There were a lot of great seniors playing in the Northwest this past year. My challenge to you guys who will be seniors is simple; work hard to be the best football player you can be. Have a great attitude and work ethic. Be a class person in everything you do. I wish you all the best for 2010.

To you younger players - keep working hard to improve each and every day. The weight room is a big part of football for players at any position. Have a great attitude each and every day. Be positive and loyal to your teammates and coaches. Don't do a lot of talking when you are young. Work hard and be prepared that you must earn everything you receive in football when you are young.

I wish each one of you the best always. Sit down and draw up a plan of attack for what you want to accomplish in football, your workouts and in school. Don't just come up with the goals of what you want to accomplish, also come up with your plan of attack. What do you have to do to accomplish these goals? It is very important to have your thoughts and dreams on paper.

Enjoy being young and have fun!!!!!!