

# Newton Cardinal Football Alumni Newsletter



September 2010

Issue No. 18

## Coach's Corner

*By Ed Ergenbright Class of '81*

The 2010 football season will be a major change for the entire Newton Football program. It is a change that we saw coming about 10 years ago and with the buyout of Maytag and other factors it became a reality this past spring. This change reminds me of our entrance back into the CIC conference in 1980. We will be playing a lot of local schools and for the first time since the early 90's Newton will actually play a school with smaller enrollment than our own.

There are a lot of positives to our drop to class 3A; but, foremost our kids will have a chance to compete for a district championship and earn post season individual honors.

If you have had a chance to follow our other sports teams that compete in the Little Hawkeye Conference, you are well aware of the quality of athletes all of these schools have. Many of the schools we play have won or competed for state championships in these other sports. Our players are excited about the opportunity to play these schools in football.

If you have a chance to stop and catch a game I think you will see a group of guys who are proud to represent our school and community. We appreciate your support Newton!





# Moving the Chains

*By Eric Arnold*    *Class of '92*

*The 2010 season is upon us and after a 1-8 season last year the Cardinals are headed to Class 3A to face some new and unfamiliar competition. We will be the largest school in 3A so we have numbers at our advantage for the first time. But it's also the start of a new era and I think it's all going to be positive for Newton Cardinals players and fans. Since we're playing a whole new set of teams in 3A in District 8, I thought I would go through the 2010 schedule and introduce our competitors and give a bit of a background and scouting report so you (might) know what to expect to see on the field.*

## **Aug. 27 versus Pella Little Dutch:**

We open the season at home against the 2009 state runner-up Pella Little Dutch. Although Pella had a 6-3 regular season last year they had a good run through the playoffs beating four top ten ranked team before losing to 3A powerhouse Harlan 35-14 in the title game. Pella won playoff games at Williamsburg, at Grinnell, beat undefeated Centerville at home, and beat New Hampton in the semi finals. Their head coach is Jay McKinstrey who is beginning his 14<sup>th</sup> season at the helm. In 2009 the Little Dutch passed 263 times for 1,843 yards and rushed 459 times for 2,049 for a pass to run ratio of 36%. Watching the 2009 title game you can see Pella run some conventional formations and some shotgun spread option on offense.

## **September 3 at Oskaloosa Indians:**

The Indians record in 2009 was 2-7, but don't let that record fool you that they are a bad football team. Oskaloosa football coach Darrell Schumacher received the prestigious Walt Fiegel Coaching with Character Award at halftime of the Class 4A championship game at the UNI Dome. Schumacher is Iowa's only active coach to take four different schools to the playoffs. He coached Garner-Hayfield to the 1991 State Championship, Spencer to the 1999 semifinals, and Vinton-Shellsburg to their first playoff appearance in 2000. In 26 years of coaching, his teams have won 150 games with nine playoff appearances. Last year the Indians passed 131 times for 915 yards and rushed 362 for 1139 yards, passing the ball 27% of their snaps.

**September 10 versus Dallas Center-Grimes Mustangs:**

The Mustangs had a 4-5 record in 2009 and lost their first round playoff game to Clear Lake. 2010 brings the 7th season with Head Coach Scott Heitland. In 2009, the Mustangs reached the state playoffs for the third straight year. They return six starters on offense, and four on defense. They passed 156 times for 992 yards with 391 rushing attempts for 1,995 yards passing 40% of their offensive plays.

**September 17 at Saydel Eagles:**

The Eagles 2009 Record was 1-8. Head Coach Craig Wederquist was a two time All-American at Drake and an All State Offensive Tackle for Urbandale in 1978. He was also the 82<sup>nd</sup> pick in the 1983 USFL draft to the league champion Michigan Panthers, although he spent the whole season on injured reserve. He has been an assistant coach at UNI, Southeast Missouri, UNLV, Pacific, and the head coach at Tarlton State from 1997-1999. Looking at their 2009 stats, Saydel will feature a running game with only a few passes per game, 145 pass attempts for 528 yards, and rushing 264 times for 1,134, passing the ball 35% of their plays.

**September 24 versus Perry Bluejays:**

I wasn't able to find much information about this team. Their 2009 Record was 4-5. Their Head Coach is Jeff Mayes. They run the ball 83% of their snaps, passing 74 times for 358 yards and rushing 363 times for 1,815 yards.

**October 1 at Knoxville Panthers:**

The first thing I think of about Knoxville is their historic Ken Locke Stadium right on highway 14. A few years ago there was a lot of renovations done and the city continues to raise funds privately to restore and improve this gem of a football field. The Panthers were 2-7 last year and bring in first year Head Coach Troy Rider, who was an assistant at Dowling Catholic the last two seasons. Last year Knoxville passed 132 times for 800 yards, and rushed 300 times for 1,401 yards, but with Rider coming in as their coach with the influence of Tom Wilson I would look for the Panthers to show signs of a new style of offense and bring a new attitude to a program that hasn't had much to cheer about for a long time.

**October 8 versus ADM-Adel Tigers:**

The Tigers will pass often as they were second in the state in 2009 for pass attempts only to Marshalltown. Their 2009 record was 6-3 and they won their first round playoff game against LeMars, while losing to Harlan in second round.

## Moving the Chains Continued.....

Head Coach Michael Whisner is in his 19<sup>th</sup> season at ADM and was the conference coach of the year in 2009. ADM will be throwing the ball 55% of their plays with 321 attempts for 2,900 yards last season while rushing 263 times for 556 yards.

### **October 15 at Norwalk Warriors:**

The Warriors 2009 record was 3-6. Their Head Coach is Paul Patterson. Last year they passed 144 times for 771 yards and rushed 381 times for 1,526 yards for a passing percentage of 27%.

### **October 22 versus Carlisle Wildcats:**

The Wildcats 2009 record was 6-3. Their Head Coach is Mark Hoekstra. They had 129 pass attempts for 1,052 yards and rushed 389 times for 1,805 yards in 2009, passing 25% of their plays.

At first glance it's easy to pound your chest and think with numbers being an advantage for Newton, we should do well. I think we will find that the competition in class 3A is tougher than we realize. Just ask Sioux City Bishop Heelan who dropped to 3A a few years back, they didn't make the playoffs their first season. I think the Cardinals will make the playoffs and I see a minimum of five wins on our schedule, hopefully more. But be assured we will have a target on our backs all season as the smaller schools we will face would love to get their shots in on the largest school in 3A. Newton still has roughly 50 more students per class compared to Norwalk, Oskaloosa, and Pella who are toward the top of the enrollment list in 3A. And with the retirement of Coach Jenkins we may see some new twists on offense with our new offensive staff. It will be an interesting season for sure. Good luck to our Cardinals in 2010!

On a side note about my website [www.newtoncardinalsfootball.com](http://www.newtoncardinalsfootball.com), thanks to a few hours at the Newton Public Library and a few late nights at home, I have all the Newton Daily News press clippings and statistics from the 1980 state championship team there to view and read. It's been 30 years since that glorious season that featured Treye Jackson, Steve Morris, Todd Wheatley, Don Moles, Tom Sharp, Joe McDermott, and of course Ed Ergenbright. Who could ever forget All-State offensive lineman David Samson picking up a fumble (while playing defensive tackle) and scoring a touchdown versus Sioux City East in the semi-finals. Hope you all will relive those memories and photos on the site and keep up with new stories throughout the season.



# The Game of Football

*By Avery Wilson class of '47*

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## Part 2, The Game Spreads

*This is the second in a series regarding the History of Football. Last issue we talked about the beginning origins of the game of football and how the first game was played.*

*With this issue we will discussed how the game spreads across America.*

“Even though only a small percentage of high school students went to college, schools grew larger in size. Graduates from the Eastern schools made their way west and south and took the elements of the game with them. The year the first game was played at the University of California they had only 35 students. By 1895, most teams from what are today’s major conferences fielded teams. Despite the east coast bias, players from other regions were now being recognized. The first player from another region to make the All-American team was a fullback from the University of Chicago named R.C. Hirschberger. Virginia, North Carolina and Sewanee were the top teams in the South. Sewanee won 12 straight games in 1899, including wins over Georgia Tech, Georgia, Tennessee, Texas, Tulane, LSU, Mississippi and Auburn. Only Auburn was able to cross the Sewanee goal line. Michigan and Minnesota dominated the Midwest; Kansas and Nebraska were the best in the Heartland, while California and Stanford were the standouts in the West.”

From Inside the Program Vol. 1, courtesy of Hardrock Marketing, LLC.

## 2010 Newton Cardinal Schedule

		Lifetime Record	W/L/T	Last Game Played	
Aug. 27	Pella	Here	1903-1942	5-1-0	32-0
Sep. 3	Oskaloosa	There	1909-1967	25-22-4	12-16
Sep. 10	Dallas Center-Grimes *	Here	2010	0-0-0	
Sep. 17	Saydel *	There	2010	0-0-0	
Sep. 24	Perry * (HC)	Here	1913-1952	13-3-0	46-0
Oct. 1	Knoxville *	There	1913-1946	14-2-2	13-12
Oct. 8	ADM (Adel) *	Here	1910	1-0-0	10-0
Oct. 15	Norwalk *	There	2010	0-0-0	
Oct. 22	Carlisle *	Here	2010	0-0-0	

\*Denotes District 8 Play

NOTE: Newton and Pella met during Newton's first ever football season.

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# Dope On Game

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<p><b>NEWTON</b></p> <p>Teams average weight - 145                  Lines average weight - 145                  Back field average weight - 145                  Won 5 out of 7 games.                  Scored 162 points.                  Opponents 54 points.</p>	<p><b>ADEL</b></p> <p>Teams average weight - 150                  Lines average weight - 160                  Back field average weight - 140                  Won 4 out of 5 games.                  Scored 90 points.                  Opponents 17 points.</p>
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THANKSGIVING DAY

AT FAIR GROUNDS, 3:30 P. M.

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ADMISSION = = 35c

100 Years ago, Newton and Adel played for the first time in November 1910. We will renew this series this season.



# On The Record

*By Tom Weeks Class of '67*

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*I just realized I have been doing this article for 7 years. Maybe we should take a look back at some of the first articles I did since some of these records are still in tact. So, here is the first one I did in 2003. So, just for fun, and a change, let's go back in time.*

"During a playoff game this past season (2002) against Ottumwa, Newton's Todd Friedman picked off an Ottumwa pass near the 10 yard line near the south end-zone of HA Lynn Field and raced down the west sidelines for an 89 yard touchdown run. At the moment it occurred I was sitting next to a reporter from the Des Moines Register and told him that his run "may" be a school record. But, I could not verify it at this time as I was still working on the school records for the first 100 years. So don't print it! Needless to say the Register reported the next day that in fact it had been a school record.

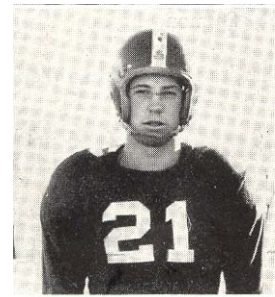
It didn't take 24 hours before I received phone calls disputing this claim. So, I dug deep into the Newton Daily News archives and found that two interceptions of greater distance have occurred.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> longest interception return was a 93 yard run-back by Terry Thorson against Ottumwa on 29 October 1976.

But, the "grand daddy" of them all goes to Howard Bowie in 1948. His interception took place during the great Newton-Grinnell rivalry. The game that year was Newton's Homecoming game held on 1 October. Going into the game, Grinnell held a 15-12 advantage in the series that dated back to 1908. And, there was much concern over the outcome of the game as Grinnell had proven that year to be a strong team.

The game started with a Newton recovery of the opening kickoff in the Grinnell end-zone for a quick 6-0 lead. From that point on the "flood gates" were open. Newton demolished the Tiger eleven that day 79-6.

Early in the second half Newton coach W.L. Eidahl replaced all of his starters with underclassmen. This included Howard Bowie. In the second half, Bowie himself scored three touchdowns. But, the big play came in the opening minutes of the fourth quarter.



Howard Bowie  
1950 Newtonia

With Grinnell driving for a score, the Grinnell quarterback threw right. Bowie stepped in front of the receiver at the Newton 2 yard line and raced down the sidelines for a 98 yard interception return for a touchdown.

Bowie's return followed nearly the same route down the field Todd Friedman would take 54 years later!"



## Faith Moves

### Beyond The Goal Line

*By Brooks Simpson class of '85*

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### **Weak or Strong?**

Men do not like to be perceived as weak. It's a guy thing. We want our peers, family, and friends to view us as having it all together, under control, and competent. This is why we don't like to ask anyone for directions in a man's mind because it demonstrates our ability to use technology, and counter balances our need for direction thus allowing our man-quotient to remain high while simultaneously admitting we don't know where we are going.

Getting to your destination using a GPS is one thing, but finding your way in life is another matter. The digital voice of a Garmin will not lead you step by step through life's twists and turns. Yet, as men we are usually so full of ourselves (crap) that we are too proud to ask for directions. In fact, our "man culture" discourages admitting we need help lest we be perceived as "weak".

Eleven years ago, I led two Bible studies with the wrestlers at The University of Iowa: one group for athletes and another for the coaches and guys wrestling internationally. After completion of the 1999 season and another NCAA team title secured coach Jim Zalesky called a team meeting to talk about the off season and gearing up for the next year. The meeting turned out to be a trip to the wood shed for the team. Guys failed to wrestle to their potential despite the team title and changes were to be made for the next year. One of the changes announced in the team meeting, No more Bible study! I was not present at the meeting, but I heard about it from the athletes and assistant coaches. Seems the head coach had the impression that the Bible study consisted of a bunch of weak guys looking for God to do something for them that they should be doing themselves. This is the impression many guys have of Christianity in general. Faith is for weak people who need a crutch.

What about you? Do you view Christ as a crutch for weak people who just are not strong enough to get along in life? Do you view prayer as the shortcut undisciplined people take to compensate for their lack of effort in life's disciplines? If so, you aren't alone.

# Faith Moves

## Beyond The Goal Line

.....*continued*

Lots of men drive aimlessly through life too proud to humble themselves to ask the mapmaker for direction in life.

After learning about the cancellation of the Bible study in 1999, I had a sit down with the coach. In my impassioned state, I said something subtle like, "I don't give a rat's ass if these kids win an NCAA title. That is not the goal of faith. Someday they will give an account to their maker and it is my job to make sure they know Christ alone atones for sin." Yes, I realize the comment lacked subtlety, but the rest of the meeting was better. We discussed the nature of faith and the how real faith always leads to real works and a better work ethic, not sloth.

Faith is not means to get stuff you don't work for. Faith is the means by which we walk with Christ and during the walk we are shaped into His image.

*Romans 8:28-29* 28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Jesus Christ is not weak. Weak men run from danger and responsibility. Jesus embraces death on our behalf, for men too proud to even see their need for him. His life was not taken. He laid it down on our behalf. Weak men are selfish. Jesus emptied himself of his glory and took on the indignity of sin that we might be reconciled to God. There is nothing weak about Jesus. And to all who follow him he promises to mold, hammer, prune, shape and form into his image, strong in Christ.

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