

# DUTCH RISE UP

# TRUST LOVE COMMITMENT BELIEF FAITH

Football team defeats Heelan, earning the 3A State Championship title.

History was made November 20 as the last seconds dwindled down on the jumbotron to name the Dutchmen victor in earning the 3A Football State Champions. Defeating the Saints from Sioux City may have been a catastrophic triumph but the Dutch tackled, ran, and scored more than that on their road to the Dome this season.

"Summer workouts went well simply because we had a goal in mind going into them. It was a lot easier to work out while thinking about the Dome," said senior Mason Van Gorp.

The season started on August 4 with two practices a day. The morning practice was for lifting and skills. The afternoon practices were for team building and playbook run throughs.

"Our team goal was to not only be state champions and go undefeated, but it was also to make memories with our friends that we would never forget," said junior Will Warner.

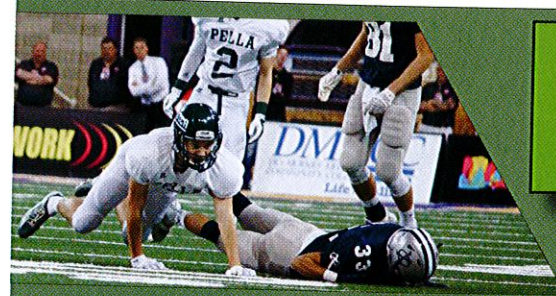
The Dutch went undefeated this season, 14-0. Their biggest defeat was against Saydel with a score of 79-6. Their closest game was against Carlisle 17-6.

"We represented our town and played with TLCBF in our minds," said junior James Krall.

After defeating Fairfield and in the playoffs the players, coaches and community traveled up Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls to verse Cedar Rapids Xavier. The Dutch defeated the saints 27-0 in the first semi-finals shutout to be recorded since 1998 for 3A.

"We all knew what we had to do to get a shot at the title, so we went out there and played football how we knew we could," said senior Trevor Argo.

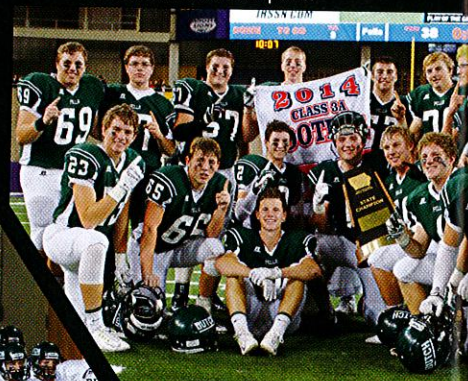
The championship game was against defending champions Sioux-City Heelan, November 20. The stands were packed with green and white. When the final buzzer sounded, the Dutch were named the 3A State Champions.



ABOVE | (Top) Junior Payson Vandellune blocks a pass from the Saints of Cedar Rapids. "Our defense had been good all year, but we were really in the zone against Xavier and that carried into the championship game as well," said Vandellune. (Bottom) Senior Quinton Murphy lands the first touchdown for the championship game versus defending champions, Sioux City-Heelan. "After the first touchdown I felt like we could win this. It was such a confidence boost to come out, drive the field, and score," said Murphy.

## ROAD to the DOME

BELOW | The team waits for the gates to the field to open as they enter the UNI-Dome for their first game versus Cedar Rapids Xavier. "I was taken over with excitement and anticipation for the game. I felt like this place was a whole different monster," said junior Nathan Henry.



ABOVE | Seniors celebrate a State title with the banner presented by the Iowa High School Athletic Association. The team will graduate sixteen seniors. "This brotherhood I'll have lifelong friends that I can turn to, and they can turn to me or any of us in any situation, and we will be there," said senior Quinton Murphy.



ABOVE | The players traveled to Cedar Falls in charter busses, expenses paid for by the Pella Booster Club. "When we all had to cram on the other bus, I felt bad for the coaches who had to sit in the aisle," said senior Todd Van Dyke.



ABOVE | (Left to right) Seniors Andrew Pavlat, Trevor Argo, and Caleb Blom celebrate being named State Champions for the first time. "The seniors had been talking about winning the state title ever since our 5th grade MFL [Marshalltown Football League] days. We had always known that we were a special group of guys that nobody else had. Being able to accomplish the goal of winning a state title was amazing. We kept the dream alive all these years by fighting for each other. We would push each other to be in the weight room and to get better, and it all paid off," said Pavlat.

## DUTCH FINISH PLAYERS, COACHES, COMMUNITY CELEBRATE A STATE TITLE.

Following a new state championship title, the football team made the two hour journey home to celebrate with the community for a midnight open assembly. The gym bleachers were full of all emotions from yawns to glee. When the team took their seats, head coach Jay McKinstrey delivered a speech about the team's perfect season and his appreciation for a strong community support system.

"It was very exciting to see the players, students, parents, and entire community get involved the way they did. I am very grateful to all," said McKinstrey.

On November 23, the football team had their chance to present the State Championship trophy to the school. Senior Captain Garret Jansen and junior Noah Clayberg also received individual awards that were presented during this time.

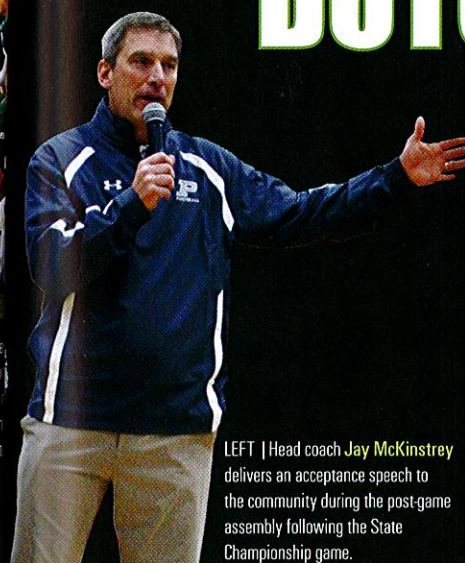
"I was honored to present the awards. They needed a principal to give the awards away, and I was more than happy to do it. Both men were deserving of their awards," said Vice Principal Jon Muller.

Jansen was awarded the Iowa Bankers Association Outstanding Student Athlete Achievement.

"Winning this award was an honor. Being selected from so many candidates is an accomplishment in itself, and then winning it was just the icing on the cake. I am very thankful for winning this award and being able to use the scholarship towards school," said Jansen.

Clayberg was named the MVP for the State Championship game, presented by the Iowa High School Athletic Association.

"The award is a temporary thing, but the teamwork and the actual game is what I will remember forever," said Clayberg.



LEFT | Head coach Jay McKinstrey delivers an acceptance speech to the community during the post-game assembly following the State Championship game.



ABOVE | (Left) Senior Taryn Ernst cheers for team with a spirit towel representing each of the fall activities, and acronyms for the football team. "I wanted to incorporate every fall activity," said Ernst. (Middle) Senior Corey Elliott cheers on team from student "Chaos" section. "Chaos section actually came from junior Noah Clayberg and I during math three when we saw a book in Mr. Cutler's room that had the title of "The Chaos Theory," and so we thought it was funny so we started saying chaos and then it went viral," said Elliott. (Right) Freshman Bailee Meyer cheers on players during the first quarter against Cedar Rapids Xavier. "I know not too many students get a chance to be a part of such an amazing experience like that, which is why I know I am so blessed and so grateful to be with such dedication and an outstanding group of people," said Meyer.



ABOVE | (Left) Midnight assembly with community. "It was overwhelming coming home with the state championship title. You didn't know what the outcome was going to be. It was really fun! Also it was cool that I had this opportunity as a freshman to be a part of this," said freshman Heather Parr. (Middle) Senior Garret Jansen receives Iowa Bankers award from Vice Principal Jon Muller. (Right) Muller presenting the MVP award to junior Noah Clayberg.