## **SENIORS**

# Road to the DOME



Hook

Mickey Hines



Castro

Rodman



Corcoran

#### By Kelsey Shady

The football team had a record breaking season. We watched senior breaking season. We watched senior Connor Herrmann defy gravity to grasp the ball and make an extraordinary catch in the end zone at state finals, we saw Tristan Wirfs sacrifice his body each week to save his teammates from being tackled, and we were awed by sophomore quarterback Drew Adams who continually threw the ball as skillfully as a college player. as a college player.

"Ithinkbeinginvolvedandwinning two state championships, one as a coach and one as a player prior to coming here gave me some background knowledge about things we need to do prior to coming into the contest," Head Coach Lance Pedersen said. Pedersen is in his second year at Mount Vernon.

Nearly all of the players said their most memorable part of the season was beating Anamosa to go to the Dome, or beating Albia to play in the

championship. Thanks to their coach they were able to have these amazing moments. "I felt like I had to practice each day and perform at a high level each game so I wouldn't let my teammates down," senior Connor Herrmann said.

Friendships and bonds were important to the team. "It was the best team environment I've ever been a part of," said junior running back Jack Cochrane.

The word they broke down their huddles on was "family" because that's what they were to each other. "It carried us a long way," Pedersen said of their relationship.

Junior Sam Moore said their chemistry as a team is what motivated him throughout the season.

"We were so close to winning it all, we left it all on the field," said Ian Bootsmiller.

"Wecan'twaittowinthebigtrophy next year," said Moore.

### What did you take away from this season?



"We all became really good friends, win or lose. - Bryce Cox '16



"I took away great friendships and memories with my friends and coaches that I will remember forever."

- Connor Herrmann '16



"Always family."

Lake quarterback. 3. The defensive line attempts to block a punt against Central Lee. 4. The Mustangs line up at the start of the semi final game against Albia. The Mustangs won and advanced to the championship round. 5. Sophomore Drew Adams takes the ball down the field. Adams had 245 completed passes

this season. **6.** Senior Joe Corcoran tackles a Monticello opponent. Corcoran had a total of 60 solo tackles throughout the season. **7.** Seniors Connor Herrmann and Joe Corcoran celebrate after Herrmann scores a touchdown against Spirit

Lake in state finals. Herrmann had a total of 1434 receving yards

- Jack Bootsmiller '17







Team

Marion Solon **NE Goose Lake** Camanche Monticello CPU Anamosa Cascade Tipton **Beckman Catholic** Central Lee Anamosa Albia Spirit Lake

92

**Us-Them** 

37-14

14-35 53-14 43-00 50-19 20-12 42-45 27-20 44-07 41-14 41-28 33-20 24-21 56-70

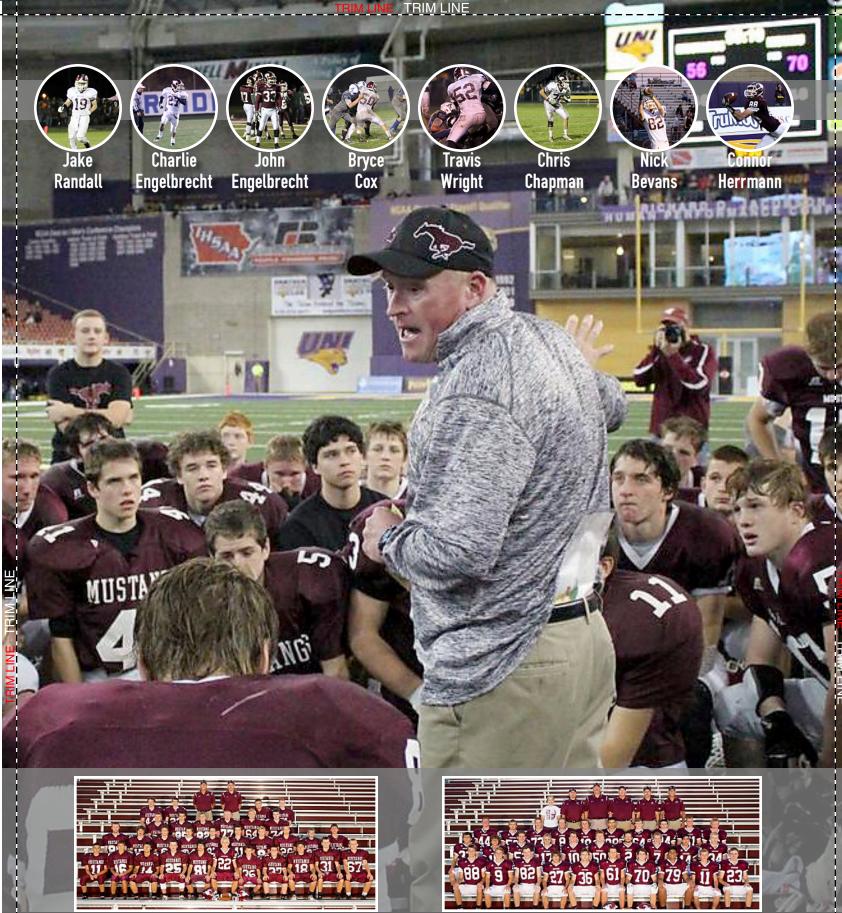












JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM. Front Row: G. Akers, T. Elliott, J. Torres, G. Randall, P. Hampton, C. Martin, M. Martin, N. Casey, C. Merrill, T. Dickson, J. Arnold. Row 2: M. Zobac, J. Dietsch, P. Ryan, M. Louwagie, R. Clark, A. Louwagie, B. Booth, J. Hunter, I. Appleton, K. Woods. Row 3: M. Stanbro, M. Gearhart, T. Koske, C. Connolly, M. Vislisel, N. Guillaume. Back Row: C. Woodley, C. Martin, Coach Studt, C. Voigt, P. Schultz, A. Deeb.

VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM. Front Row: C. Herrmann, D. Adams, N. Bevans, C. Engelbrecht, S. Moore, A. Lueth, C. Chapman, T. Wirfs, R. Koske, Z. Vislisel. Row 2: J. Engelbrecht, C. Rodman, T. Wright, J. Corcoran, J. Cochrane, B. Cox, M. Hines, C. Snedden, C. Castro, I. Reid. Row 3: J. Bootsmiller, H. Hormann, J. Butz, T. Hook, J. Randall, J. Peters, Z. Perry, C. Clark, I. Bootsmiller, J. Booth. Back Row: Manager M. Rechkemmer, Coach Haddy, Coach Nosek, Coach Pedersen, Coach Voigt, Coach Studt.

Head Coach Lance Pedersen talks to the team after the record-breaking state championship game Nov. 23. The photo tells the story of the hard fight with the high-scoring loss recorded on the scoreboard: Mount Vernon 56, Spirit Lake 70. Photo by Bailey Priborsky.

Football layout by Maggie Rechkemmer and Jessie Brokel 93