

Sports Connection

Football: 'Just Wasn't In The Stars'

by Miranda Knake

After a tough fight, the Maquoketa Valley Wildcats fell short by one point against the Starmont Stars. Cat fans cheered on the team as they battled the Stars last Friday night. The final score of the evening was 20-19.

"I believe everyone associated with this football team is surprised that we are 0-2 at this point in the season," commented Coach Drew. "District play starts this week and that is when the real season begins."

Starmont had 233 rushing yards compared to the Wildcats' 120 rushing yards. The Cats had more passing yards with 125 over Starmont's 25 passing yards.

"The first week, our running game was productive, this week we were more productive in our passing game," noted Coach Drew. "Now we have to put the two together to compete for the District title."

Offensively, quarterback Blake Humpal achieved three touch downs at the game against the Stars. Casey Lechtenberg made two receptions for 24 yards making two touch downs and Travis Klostermann made four receptions totaling 52 yards earning the team one touch down. Robbie Mohr had three receptions totaling 49 yards.

Talking defense, Coach Drew stated that the team has to improve on their tackling. "We are not going to bring runners down with arm tackles."

Speaking of tackles, Jake Norlin led the defense with 11 tackles. Following him were Nathan Burger and Klostermann each making nine tackles. Achieving eight tackles that evening were Neal Johnson, Jacob Bawek and Chad Ries. Brian Wegmann added seven tackles to his tally, while Lechtenberg added six and Philip Roling added five. Lee Manson and Mohr each made four tackles at the game and Humpal made three. Sophomores Calvin Strum and Alex Glew each made two tackles for their team last Friday night and Jacob McDowell and Brian Sibel both made one tackle. Sibel also had one quarterback sack.

"I'm impressed on how this football team put together a fourth quarter drive to win the



Nathan Burger fights off a Starmont defender. (photo by Brian Wilson)

ball game. We weren't able to convert the two-point conversion for the win, but they showed discipline and desire to put them in a position to win," stated Coach Drew.

The Wildcats of Maquoketa Valley face the Bulldogs September 17th for this year's Homecoming game! September 24th make



Amy Conrad and Kelli Dabroski work their way up a hill at the North Fayette meet. (photo by Jessi Preussner)

Cross Country Runs at West Union

by Casi Orr

The cross country team ran at the North Fayette meet on Saturday. The new additions of the cross country team are the junior high girls which are: Sam Strum, who ran 12:29, Carly Supple, who ran a 10:36, and also Emmy Preussner, who ran 11:30.

Coach Mensen said, "By the time the last couple races began, we ended up with another warm day. We were off to a great start with terrific races by our Junior High Trio. In the fun run, Carly Supple finished in the top ten of all the junior high girls there. Emily and Sam had great races too! In the JV girls' competition, I was pleased with the efforts of all the runners. The girls varsity team finished higher than last year, 6th out of 27 participating teams. Our number one through five runners were less than a minute apart, which was great to see. However, our team score was hurt by the fact that we did not have anyone finish in the top ten or even the top twenty. I was happy with our finish, but not satisfied because I know we are still capable of much better. We had two boys participate due to numerous other commitments."

Out of 93 runners the JV girls finished in this order: Mekell Helle 45th at 22:23, Amanda Conrad 73rd at 24:12, Bonny Jaeger 76th at 24:47, and Casi Orr 80th at 25:45

The Varsity girls finished 6th out of 27 teams. The winner of the girls was West Delaware with 69 points, Maquoketa Valley girls came in with 198 points. Amanda Harris came in at 18:13 in 30th place, Callie Krafl at 18:19 in 34th, Jennifer Nurre at 18:32 in 41st, Kelli Dabroski at 18:42 in 44th, Amy Conrad at 18:59 in 49th, and Michelle Tumey at 19:20th in 63rd.

The two boys ran great also, with 124 runners. The boys' time: Jordan Keith finished 108th at 22:44 and Jeff Nurre ran at 24:26 in 116th place.

Way too go team! We will be running at Cascade this Friday night...cheer us on!