

Reiff Grows Into Leader For Trojans

Parkston All-Stater, Iowa Commit Aims For Return Trip To DakotaDome

BY JEREMY HOECK
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PARKSTON — Brady Reiff had surgery earlier this year to repair an injured left shoulder.

online

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And no, it wasn't because the standout football player at Parkston High School was carrying — figuratively, of course — his team on those broad shoulders.

Why? Put simply: Though the only Division I recruit, he's far from the only standout on a Parkston team that lost in the state championship game a year ago.

"We're going to come back this year and hopefully have a better season; get that championship," Reiff said during Parkston's first practice on Aug. 14.

That's the goal for Reiff, a University of Iowa commit and younger brother of NFL player Riley Reiff, and his Trojan teammates: Work their way back to the DakotaDome in Vermillion, site of the state football finals.

"It's fun to work your way back up there, to stay motivated to get that championship," said Reiff, who is fully healed from that surgery earlier this year.

Naturally, that was a popular topic in the nine months since that loss — even despite another state wrestling title for Parkston, including many of the same names from football.

"It makes us more anxious to get back there, because we don't want that feeling again," said senior Wes Dvorak, a returning all-state defensive back who also starts at quarterback.

The Trojans, 10-2 a year ago, graduated eight seniors from the Class 11B runner-up squad.

They do, however, return three of four all-state players: Reiff, Dvorak and senior lineman Austin Bertram.

Last season as a junior, Reiff caught seven passes for



ABOVE: Parkston senior Brady Reiff, front, listens to a coach during practice the morning of Aug. 14 in Parkston. Aug. 14 marked the first day South Dakota high school football teams could begin practices. BELOW: Reiff, right, pushes through a teammate during practice.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D

147 yards from his tight end spot, and also carried the ball 51 times for 298 yards. On defense, he was used at line-backer and as a down lineman.

Reiff's maturation into a D-I prospect — Reiff reportedly had offers from Wyoming and South Dakota State — took a big step forward in ways not found on a stat sheet, according to head coach Eric Norden.

"Physically he's growing up, getting a lot stronger and quicker, but a lot of it was mental," Norden said.

"He understood situations and how to get himself in the best position possible to make a play."

Now, as one of those seniors that underclassmen look

up to, Reiff said he realizes the responsibilities attached to the 'leader' label.

"It's a big step to really step up and be a leader," Reiff said. "But it'll help out our team, and hopefully the other seniors can do the same thing."

Among the other seniors are Dvorak, Bertram, Seth Newton, Lane Konrad, Ethan Murtha, Miles Semmler, Nate Oberembt, Tanner Reichert, Dillon Stadlman, Cameron Fanning, Jeff Hyke, Tanner Lindeman and Caleb Horstman.

Not exactly ready to talk 'dome' for the Trojans in 2014, coach Norden was, however, rather optimistic in the talent he has back this fall.

"The expectations are certainly there, we hope to do

very well, to get ourselves in a great position," Norden said.

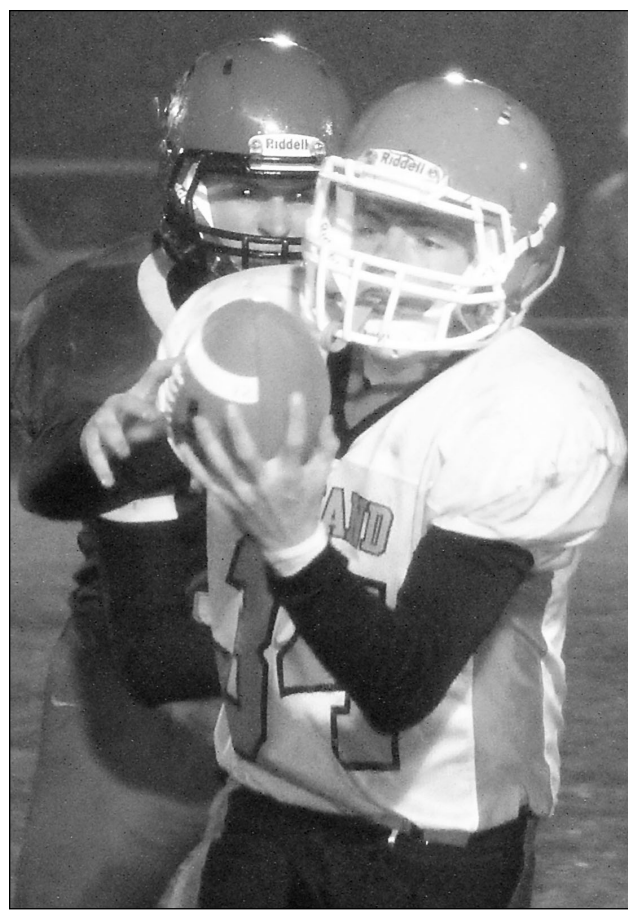
Following a quarterfinal run in the 2012 playoffs and a state title game appearance in 2013, the Trojans realize winning a championship is possible, Dvorak said.

"We believe in ourselves now," he said. "We got there last year, and we believe we can do it again."

Other goals for the 2014 season?

"Just to get better every day and make sure, as a team, we become leaders and ultimately get to the dome," Reiff said.

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.



Scotland's Alex Kotalik (34)

SD Football

From Page 5B

RB/LB), Garret Vitek (Fr., RB/LB), Trevor Fuerst (Fr., TE/LB), Robbie Willet (Fr., OL/DL), Michael Lange (Fr., OL/DL), Tanner Van Driel (Fr., OL/DL)

Tripp-Delmont-Armour

COACH: Tom Sattler
ASSISTANTS: Mark Gemar, Ron Weber, Jan Mudder

VITALS: Class 9A, Region 2, Great Plains Conference
LAST YEAR: The Nighthawks went 1-7 on the season. Gone from that squad are four letterwinners, including all-conference performer Cody Hrdlicka.

RETURNING LETTER-WINNERS: Gunnar Dally (Sr., RB/LB, 6-2, 225; 2nd team all-conference), Tanner Carda (Sr., QB/LB, 6-0, 165), Clayton Lau (Sr., RB/LB, 5-10, 170), Tanner Nuss (Sr., OL/LB, 5-10, 195), Austin Fischer (Sr., E/LB, 5-10, 235), Aaron Torres (Sr., OL/DL, 5-8, 260), Dustin

Fischer (Sr., OL/DL, 6-0, 160),

TOP PROSPECTS: Tyson Gregerson (So., RB/S, 5-8, 145), Noah Schafers (So., E/DL, 6-2, 200), Shawn Goehring (Fr., RB/S, 5-9, 135), Nic Brown (So., OL/DL, 6-2, 200), Austin Bitterman (Sr., OL/DL, 6-0, 245), Skyler Sweisberger (Sr., E/DL, 6-3, 210), Micah Schoenfelder (Jr., OL/DL, 5-8, 290), Alex Fischer (So., QB/LB, 5-10, 180), Austin Shirey (So., RB/LB, 6-0, 190), Cooper Strand (So., RB/S, 5-9, 145), Logan Fechner (So., RB/LB, 5-8, 135), Cody Fischer (Fr., OL/DL, 5-10, 175), Hunter Stoltenberg (Fr., RB/LB, 5-9, 150), Jason Schnabel (Fr., OL/DL, 5-4, 165), Mason Koehn (Fr., RB/LB, 5-6, 145), Riley Hrdlicka (Fr., OL/LB, 6-0, 145), Ty Sparks (Fr., RB/LB, 5-10, 135)

Viborg-Hurley

COACH: Brett Mellem
ASSISTANTS: Matt Brinkman, Galen Schoenefeld, Tanner Waage

VITALS: Class 9A, Tri-Valley Conference
LAST YEAR: The Cougars went 4-5 a year ago and were defeated by Leola-Frederick in the first round of the playoffs.

RETURNING LETTER-WINNERS:

Dillon Sawyer (Jr., 6-2, 185, RB/LB), Rusten Andersen (Sr., 6-0, 185, QB/DB), Austin Wurtz (Sr., 5-10, 225, OL/DL), Dakota Flint (Sr., 5-10, 165, RB/LB), Kyle Engen (Sr., 6-3, 190, OL), Logan Brown (Sr., 6-1, 250, OL), Lucas Jacobson (Sr., 6-3, 185, OL), Matt Munkvold (Sr., 5-10, 155, DB), Wyatt Andersen (Sr., 5-10, 160, DB)

TOP PROSPECTS:

Brian Dangel (Sr., Sr., 6-1, 150, QB/DB), David Franker (Sr., Sr., 5-8, 150, RB/DB), Logan Hansen (So., 5-10, 150, QB/DB), Lucas Johnson (Jr., 5-8, 150, RB/DB), Kolton Lee (Jr., 6-3, 180, OL/DL), Martin Miller (Jr., 5-8, 165, RB/LB), Trevor Jensen (Sr., 5-8, 155, RB/LB), Walker Kroupenske (So., 5-9, 160, RB/LB), Dylan Christensen (So., 5-11, 200, OL/DL), Brady Patterson (So., 5-8, 140, OL/LB), Dylan Hjelm (Sr., 5-10, 170, OL/DL), Evan Stevens (Sr., 5-9, 150, OL/DL), Lane Kroupenske (Sr., 5-10,

240, OL/DL)

Wagner

COACH: Jason Knebel
ASSISTANTS: Mike Koupal, Riley Kirwan, Mike Barron

VITALS: Class 11B, Region 3, Southeast South Dakota Conference

LAST YEAR: The Red Raiders went 4-5 last season and lost in the first round to Parkston.

RETURNING LETTER-WINNERS:

Trevor Lensing (Sr., 6-0, 185, FB/LB; 250 yards rushing; 58 tackles), Jacob Kvinge (Sr., 6-2, 215, T/DE, 10 tackles), Andrew Soukup (Sr., 5-10, 185, C/DE, 18 tackles), Jacob Woods (Sr., 6-0, 200, LB; 15 tackles), Hunter Hewitt (Jr., 6-2, 225, T/DL; 25 tackles), Adam Cournoyer (Sr., 6-0, 200, DT; 15 tackles)

TOP PROSPECTS:

Jubal Grant (Jr., 6-1, 170), Terrell Twiss (Jr., 5-9, 165)

VIBORG-HURLEY COUGARS

Football

Aug. 29	.....vs. Parker	.....Viborg (7 p.m.)
Sept. 5	.....at Garretson	.....(7 p.m.)
Sept. 12	.....at Chester Area	.....(7 p.m.)
Sept. 26	.....vs. Centerville	.....Viborg (7 p.m.)
Oct. 3	.....at Alcester-Hudson	.....(7 p.m.)
Oct. 10	.....vs. Gayville-Volin	.....Hurley (7 p.m.)
Oct. 17	.....vs. Baltic	.....Hurley (7 p.m.)
Oct. 23	.....at Irene-Wakonda	.....Irene (7 p.m.)
Oct. 28	.....Playoffs First Round	.....TBD
Nov. 3	.....Playoffs Quarterfinals	.....TBD
Nov. 8	.....Playoffs Semifinals	.....TBD
Nov. 13	.....State Championship	.....Vermillion (10:30 a.m.)

Volleyball

Aug. 30	.....Estelline Tourn.	Oct. 6	.....vs. Hanson (V)
Sept. 2	.....vs. Canistota (H)	Oct. 9	.....vs. Baltic (V)
Sept. 9	.....vs. Dakota Christian (H)	Oct. 14	.....vs. Freeman Academy (V)
Sept. 11	.....at Wynot	Oct. 16	.....at Marion
Sept. 16	.....vs. Gayville-Volin (H)	Oct. 21	.....at Irene-Wakonda (W)
Sept. 18	.....at Bridgewater-Emery (E)	Oct. 24	.....at Bon Homme
Sept. 20	.....Cavalier Clash	Oct. 27	.....vs. Alcester-Hudson (V)
Sept. 23	.....vs. Menno (H)	Nov. 4-7	.....District 10B Tourn.
Sept. 25	.....at Centerville	Nov. 11	.....Region 5B
Sept. 30	.....at Parker	Nov. 20-22	.....State B at Mitchell
Oct. 24	.....TVC Tourn.		

Cross Country

Aug. 29	.....Beresford Inv.	.....Bridges GC, Beresford (10 a.m.)
Sept. 10	.....Freeman Academy Inv.	.....Valley View GC, Freeman (3 p.m.)
Sept. 13	.....Augustana Meet of Champions	.....Sioux Falls (9 a.m.)
Sept. 17	.....Freeman Inv.	.....Valley View GC, Freeman (1 p.m.)
Sept. 22	.....Alcester-Hudson Inv.	.....Alcester GC (4 p.m.)
Sept. 27	.....Platte-Geddes Inv.	.....Platte (10 a.m.)
Oct. 1	.....Parker Inv.	.....Par Mar GC, Parker (2 p.m.)
Oct. 8	.....Irene-Wakonda/TVC Inv.	.....Glenridge GC, Irene (3 p.m.)
Oct. 15	.....Region 3B	.....Valley View GC, Freeman (1 p.m.)
Oct. 25	.....State Meet	.....Broadland Creek GC, Huron (1 p.m.)

NIORBARA-VERDIGRE COUGARS

Football

Aug. 29	.....vs. Creighton	.....Niobrara (7 p.m.)
Sept. 4	.....at Bloomfield	.....(7 p.m.)
Sept. 12	.....at Hartington-Newcastle	.....(7 p.m.)
Sept. 26	.....vs. Boyd County	.....Verdigre (7 p.m.)
Oct. 3	.....at Neligh-Oakdale	.....(3 p.m.)
Oct. 10	.....vs. Elgin Public-Pope John	.....Verdigre (3 p.m.)
Oct. 17	.....at Clearwater-Orchard	.....Orchard (7 p.m.)
Oct. 24	.....vs. North Central	.....Niobrara (2 p.m.)

Volleyball

Sept. 4	.....vs. Creighton/Osmond (V)	Oct. 2	.....Clear-Orch/at Wausa
Sept. 9	.....vs. Ewing/EPPJ/Stuart (N)	Oct. 7	.....vs. Winside (N)
Sept. 11	.....vs. Elkhorn Valley (V)	Oct. 9	.....St. Mary's/Stuart/at N. Cent.
Sept. 16	.....Santee/at O'Neill St. Mary's	Oct. 14	.....Stuart/Clear-Orch (N)
Sept. 18	.....vs. Neligh-Oakdale (N)	Oct. 16	.....at Elgin Public-Pope John
Sept. 22	.....vs. Clearwater-Orchard (N)	Oct. 20-21	.....Knox Co. Tourn.(Wausa)
Sept. 23	.....at West Holt	Oct. 27-31	.....NVC Tourn.
Sept. 25	.....Ewing/Spalding Acad./at Clearwater-Orchard (C)	Nov. 3-4	.....Sub-District C2-8 O'Neill
Sept. 30	.....Clear-Orch./at Boyd Co.	Nov. 7	.....District C2-4 Final
		Nov. 14-16	.....State C2 at Lincoln

Cross Country

Sept. 8	.....Niobrara-Verdigre Inv.	.....Niobrara State Park (4:20 p.m.)
Sept. 11	.....Boyd County Inv.	.....Butte (4:15 p.m.)
Sept. 15	.....Neligh-Oakdale	.....(4:30 p.m.)
Sept. 19	.....O'Neill Inv.	.....(3:30 p.m.)
Sept. 25	.....Creighton Inv.	.....(4 p.m.)
Oct. 3	.....West Holt Inv.	.....(4 p.m.)
Oct. 10Bloomfield Inv.Rolling Hills CC (3:30 p.m.)
Oct. 16DistrictsTBD (TBD)
Oct. 24State MeetKearney (noon)

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