



Newsletter

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We're Off And Running

Welcome to our first newsletter for the Greendale Panther Touchdown Club. In case you are not familiar with who we are, we are a special football only, support group that provides financial assistance to the Greendale Panther football teams in the Village of Greendale. In today's world, school budgets are being squeezed tighter and tighter to the point of which programs such as football start to suffer from lack of available funds. As a direct result of that, quality and safety could be jeopardized and we do not want to see that happen to our present and future football players. The GPTC consists of alumni, past, present and future parents of players, coaches and fans of the Greendale Panther Nation. In return for your membership, you will be kept up to date on the comings and goings of Greendale football. This will include articles about the football program, past and present players and of course insider news from our Greendale Panther coaching staff.

Plans are also being made for a website so that members can stay up to date with current infor-

mation as well as up and coming events. Our plans also include uploading video highlights of that week's game just in case you weren't able to make it.

This year we were able to help out with providing money to cover extra expenses that came up during their recent trip to Madison for the State Championship game.

Hopefully, we will be able to continue helping out in ways that will benefit the program so that they can continue to maintain the high standard that they are accustomed to having.



The success of the GPTC is dependant on you, our current members, to help in promoting and recruiting new members. Funding for this club will come from membership dues, fundraisers and donations.



FINISH!

The video "FINISH" is finally finished! Rodney Mattrisch has done it again. He has taken it upon himself to video, edit and produce a 2-DVD set video that captured the entire 2006 season. This includes the entire behind the scene experience that the players and coaches went through those last two days of the season at state in Madison.

Contact Rodney at: 414-423-8039
or
Email: rdbmstudio@wi.rr.com
The cost is \$50.00 per copy.

State Runner-Up!

Greendale Football Makes First Trip to Camp Randall

On November 17th, the gridiron Panthers of Greendale made a trip about 80 miles west... to Madison. Following a defensive battle, the Panthers wound up on the losing side of a 7-3 decision. While silver will never be mistaken for gold, dozens of positives



The Panthers holding up the silver ball at State.

resulted from the best season in Greendale's storied history:

- 4 consecutive playoff wins
- Twelve 1st team All-Conference selections
- Four 1st Team All-State selections (more than any other team in the state)
- 102 active players in Greendale football (most since the 1980's)

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“While appearances at Camp Randall do not come easy for any program in the state, Coach Stoltz and the entire staff hold high expectations for the 2007 season,”

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- Several coaching accolades, including Coach Stoltz serving as the offensive coordinator in the WFCAs All-Star Game.

Greendale completed the season with a 12-2 ledger, setting a new mark for team victories in a season. The previous record of 10 had been achieved twice before, in 1981, when Greendale lost in the state semifinals and again last year when Greendale lost to the eventual State Champions Wisconsin Lutheran in the third round. Greendale also completed its second consecutive undefeated season in conference play, another first in school history.

While appearances at Camp Randall do not come easy for any program in the state, Coach Stoltz and the entire staff hold high expectations for the 2007 season, as more than 80 sophomores, juniors and seniors will return to make a run for the gold.

Along the way, a third consecutive conference title would mark the first time since the Cudahy teams of the mid-1990’s have accomplished that feat.



The 2006 WIAA Division 3 State Runner-up Greendale Panthers and their trophy



Weight Lifting

Strength Is A Virtue At GHS

Entering his seventh season as Greendale’s offensive line coach and third as its strength coach, Scott Bond gets excited when conversations turns to power lifting. Since November 2004, Bond has pulled the reigns on programming off-season weight lifting for athletes at Greendale. Weight lifting and speed training undoubtedly make players more physically competitive, but the rewards of partaking in these endeavors extend far beyond the physical. Greendale coaches state that individual and team commitment, camaraderie, and heightened confidence on the field are important byproducts of off-season training at GHS.



On February 10th, 2007, Greendale again hosted a state-qualifying powerlifting meet. Coach Bond said that twenty area schools participated, including a strong football player population from schools such as Arrowhead and Mukwonago. While off-season lifting and training involves a variety of core lifts to strengthen all parts of the body, powerlifting involves three lifts: bench

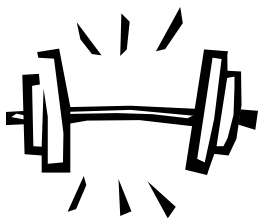
press, dead lift and back squat. Most of Greendale’s two dozen powerlifters are football players. Last year, Greendale All-State player, Eric Brunner, qualified for the state competition.

When looking at recent football success, it becomes clear that Greendale’s best seasons occur when its athletes are involved in off-season training. Since 2001 (when data was first collected), Greendale has made the playoffs four times. Included in these four WIAA appearances were three conference championships. In each of these years at least 60% of the varsity football players (who were

not in another sport’s season) were involved in weight lifting and/or speed training, from January through August. However, in the two years that Greendale just missed the playoffs, less than 50% of varsity players were dedicated to the rigors of the off-season. While excitement is high these days in the land of the Panther, the off-season has only begun, and August is months of conditioning away.



Mike Hansen (the father of Greg) won the 50/50 raffle from the recently held state weightlifting meet that was held at Greendale High School. In a generous gesture, he donated back his half of the winnings to the GPTC thus making a total of \$200.00 raised at the raffle. Thank you Mike!



Freshmen Numbers On The Rise

The word “forty” usually means one thing when spoken about in football circles. However, this past fall at Greendale, its meaning transcended “the speed of a player, measured in seconds, over the course of forty yards”. For the first time in more than twenty years, the number of Greendale freshman football players totaled forty. While two-thirds of these players were products of Greendale Youth Football, the number of players new to Greendale football (either through open enrollment and/or first year players to the sport) numbered in the teens.

To be certain, it should come as no surprise that more prospective athletes are looking to Greendale football to enrich their high school endeavors; success breeds success. With three conference championships in six years at the varsity level and two more at the junior varsity level, Greendale football has a recent record of excellence without peer among conference foes. “We’ve had some great athletes come out for football in high school after never having played the sport prior to 9th grade,” Rob Stoltz stated, in a recent meeting with his players. “Unlike

many other sports, football offers athletes of all types the opportunity to realize success, since there is such a need for different areas of specialization, whether it involves running, catching, throwing, blocking, tackling, or kicking. If you’re an athlete, chances are that you’ll find your niche on a football team and experience success, individually and as part of a collective effort.”

The future looks bright for the football class of 2009. While they finished at 1-5-1 as freshman in 2006, more than 90% will be donning the pads again. To retain such a high number of players is a credit to the enthusiasm brought to the program by frosh coaches Chris Muench and Dan Rogaczewski. Word has spread to the younger players, too. Based on preliminary sign-ups, the freshman Panthers will approach, if not surpass, forty players again this fall. Coaches may need to look into scheduling additional games to better allow for all players to progress as athletes. If this happens, it won’t get any easier for Greendale’s Woodland Conference opponents in years to come.



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The Varsity Reserve

To bring our members up to date on the Varsity Reserve front, we would like to briefly describe the evolution of this piece of the GHS football program. For many of you this is the 2000’s version of Junior Varsity football. With the decline in enrollment within the Greendale School district also came lower number of football players. Although this happened in Greendale, it was not the only district affected. All schools within the Woodland Conference faced the same challenge. At the present time, GHS has three football teams; Freshman, Varsity Reserve and Varsity. The Varsity Reserve serves two functions. The first is to primarily develop Sophomores, and the second is to provide game experience for those juniors and even possibly seniors that are not seeing enough game time on Friday nights. What is interesting is that the Woodland Conference coaches voted to move the Varsity reserve games to Monday nights to allow for the “tweener players” (varsity non-starters and special team players) to compete on Monday nights and then be ready to go on Friday nights, if called upon. Although this has contributed to some tough practice logistics in preparing and practicing for the up coming varsity opponent, it has really been a great compli-



mentary training ground for our players. Things look to be quite bright for the overall Panther Football picture. Along with the conclusion of the greatest Varsity football season in school history, the news from the Varsity Reserve is very encouraging. In the first game of the year, the Varsity Reserve dropped the one and only non conference game to Waukesha West. The first Woodland Conference game with Brown Deer did not bring any better results, with the Panthers losing a tough one 17-7. It was at that time the Sophomore leadership took over and the Panther Varsity Reserve football team cranked out a 7 game winning streak and took the unofficial Varsity Reserve Conference title. The season was highlighted with a great, late, come from behind victory over cross town rival Greenfield and culminated with a 40-0 thrashing against the runner up Pewaukee Pirates of the North Division in the Woodland Conference. With the combination of returning varsity letter winners and much improved younger players, the 2007 Panthers will be ready to compete at any level!



Where Are They Now?

It Can't Happen Twice, Can It?

Well it did for the Football Greendale Panthers. Rodney Mattrisch class of 1978 and son Ben Mattrisch class 2006 combined for a rare father and son Greendale Panther Football All Conference duo!

Rodney a standout, hard running power fullback, earned All Conference Honors during the football season of 1977 and the team's most valuable player award. He not only was a great player during his younger years, but also became one of the outstanding assistant coaches in GHS football history. Rodney started his coaching career in 1980 with the then Vince Lombardi Youth Football team in Greendale. At that time the league had a total of 8 teams. The league now has over 60 teams. As the defensive coordinator under the late great Coach Steve Gavinski and Coach Jim Arens, Rodney was instrumental in bringing home two conference championships in the 1990's. Along with that, he and the rest of the coaching staff in 1991 earned Coaching staff of the year, after Coach Gavinski's passing, then leading the team to an undefeated Conference Championship. Rodney

is a process engineer at the Kinetic Company in Greendale and still resides in Greendale with his wife of 21 years, Dawn.

Their son Ben Mattrisch followed right down the same Panther Parkway be it not as straight. Ben's path started as an infant with a staph infection in his right leg that caused damage to the growth plate in his right knee. After nine surgeries, 80 round trips to the Mayo Clinic and 11 years of excruciating rehab and therapy, the Mattrisch family delivered the next Panther football star. "It was something I'll never forget, I can tell you that. But you know what? I wouldn't trade it because it made me the person I am today." With that attitude Ben went on to become an all star linebacker at Greendale and was an inspirational leader for the, then, most successful 2005 undefeated Woodland Conference Champions. An undefeated streak that still stands today in conference play. Ben is now enjoying college life at Edgewood College in Madison.

The Greendale Football Panther family thanks and salutes the Mattrisch family for all they have contributed to us over the years!!!!



Extra Yards

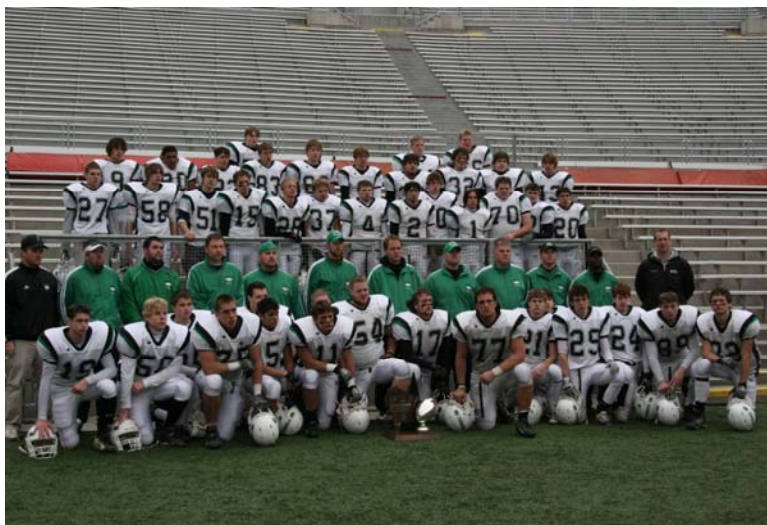
Eric Brunner (#77) has been awarded a full scholarship for football to Illinois State University. Illinois State is a Division 1-AA school that is located in Bloomington, Illinois.

Dan Huber (#54) has been awarded a partial scholarship for football to Southwest Minnesota State University. Southwest Minnesota State is located in the southwest corner of Minnesota in the town of Marshall.

Coach Rob Stoltz is a new dad! Rob and his wife Jenny are the proud parents of a new baby daughter, Ellery Lane Stoltz. She was born at 2:30pm on Feb 13th at St. Joseph's Hospital. Everyone is doing great! Congratulations to both of them along with their extended family on the new addition to their family.



Greendale Panther Touchdown Club



The 2006 WIAA Division 3 State Runner-up Greendale Panthers

The Greendale Panther Touchdown Club would like to thank everyone for their continued support. Without your contributions, we would not be able to provide the football program with support needed.

Question or comments:

Looking to get involved with the **GPTC**? Questions, suggestions and comments about the Touchdown Club can be emailed to any of the following club representatives:

- (Tim Nethery) rnethery@wi.rr.com,
- (Jeri Johnsen) jerijohnsen@wi.rr.com,
- (Rodney Mattrisch) rmattrisch@wi.rr.com,
- (Keith Ringelberg) keith@ringelbergfinancial.com

Donations and/or membership fees for the GPTC can be sent to:

Greendale Panther Touchdown Club
P.O. Box 281
Greendale, WI 53129

**YOUR PANTHER
FOOTBALL CONNECTION**