

Former Broncos tackle 11-man football at all-star game

Written by Wauneta Breeze
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Connor Kayton (4), Coach Randy Geier and Jack McGraw (29), along with Coach Joseph Frecks, took part in the West Nebraska All-Star Football game in Scottsbluff Saturday, June 1. (Courtesy Photo)

By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

When it comes to football, the Wauneta-Palisade Broncos picked up Saturday night right where they left off in November.

In the 36th annual West Nebraska All-Star Football Game at Scottsbluff, the East team, led by Randy Geier with the help of Joseph Frecks, took down the West team 28-10.

Although they played eight- and six-man football during their high school years, former Broncos

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Connor Kayton and Jack McGraw played on the West defense in the 11-man contest. Kayton suited up at safety and McGraw at defensive end.

Geier said the pair played a “good, solid ball game” and did well.

The East was led by Bill Madden MVP and Sportsmanship winner Austin Cherry of McCook. Cherry completed 9-of-13 passes for three touchdowns and rushed for 63 yards and the team’s other touchdown.

The West MVP was awarded to Brian Bell of Chase County and Blake Poppe of Perkins County was the West Sportsmanship winner.

Perkins County’s Elliot Carlson gave the West a 7-0 lead to start the game. The West could only manage three more points in the game, a record-setting 47-yard field goal by Scottsbluff’s Randy Wentz.

Cambridge’s Zane Petersen ended the game with three catches for 87 yards and two touchdowns. Cody Wudtke of McCook had four catches for 69 yards.

Carlson was the leading rusher for the West with 42 yards on 10 carries. Mitch Pancost of Alliance the top receiver with six catches for 90 yards.

Quarterbacks Issac Burnham of Alliance and Luke Johnson of Potter-Dix were 4-for-9 for 90 yards and 7-of-12 for 54 yards respectively.

The West team was led by Chase County’s Dan Lenners.

It was the third consecutive year the East has won.

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Geier credited his experience as an 11-man coach and past all-star games in helping him prepare.

“It was a fun week,” Geier said. “The boys got along well. There were a lot of fun activities and the players did a good job having fun off the field and working hard on the field.”

Geier, Frecks, Kayton and McGraw will be joined by Weylin Davis, Logan Bischoff and other Nebraska six-man football all-stars at the end of June for a six-man game against Wyoming six-man players.

West Nebraska All-Star Game

East 0 21 0 7 28

West 7 0 3 0 10