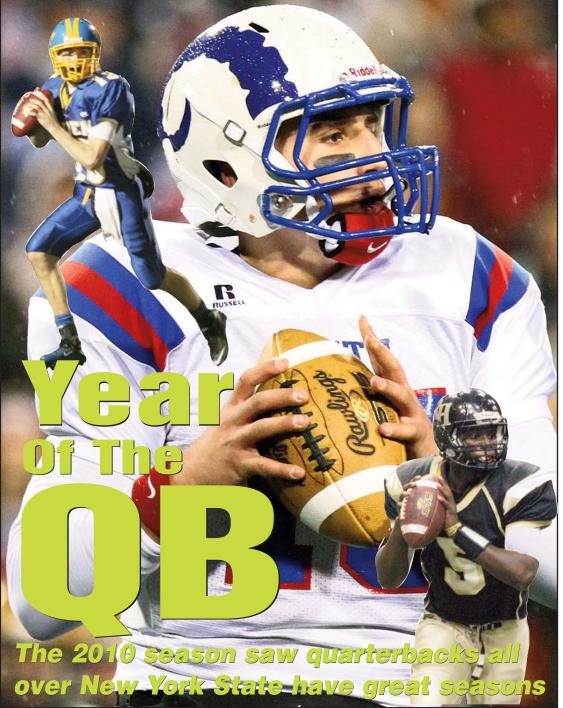
March 2011 Issue No. 10

FROM THE

# Sidelines

The Official Publication of the New York State High School Football Coaches Association

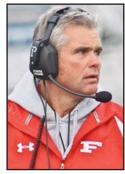


### **INSIDE:**

NYState has 35 players sign in Division I-A

NYSHSFCA names Award Winners

### **PLUS:**



Russ Cellan Makes Points at Freeport

### ALSO:

NY State Briefs President's Message Extra Point



## <u>Sidelines</u>

e Official Publication of the New York State High School Football Coaches Asso

### **Publisher** NYSHSFCA

#### **Editor**

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### Stewart among 35 NYS signees for Division I-A

Niagara Falls High School had a big week this February when one graduate starred in the Super Bowl and his youngr brother signed a Division I-A scholarship offer.

Niagara Falls graduate
James Starks, who also
starred at the University at
Buffalo, rushed for 53 yards on
11 carries in the Green Bay
Packers Super Bowl win over
Pittsburgh.

That same week, Starks' younger brother, Dale Stewart, signed a scholarship offer from the University at Buffalo.

"They're both great kids," Niagara Falls coach Don Bass said.

Bass coached Starks on the

JV level. He took the head varsity coaching job four years ago and coached Stewart for two seasons.

"He's a great kid," Bass said. "Dale is very coachable. He's a good student. He's hard working and a fast learner. You just have to give him a little direction and let natural talent take over."

While both players were star high school players, they were different, Bass said.

"James played more within the system," Bass said. "Dale was more of a free-wheeler. James was a bit faster but Dale is a bit stronger than James was in high school."

Stewart is among 35 New York State players that signed Division I-A scholarship offers, the most in years. (The complete list is on page...)

This past fall, Stewart scored 17 TDs, including scores by rushing, passing, receiving, kickoff return, punt return and interception return. He had a 99-yard kickoff return in a loss to defending state-champion North Tonawanda.

Bass says that Stewart will probably not play quarterback at UB. "I think they are planning on using him as a running back, a slot back or on defense," he said. "Of course, Dale will be in the mix as a kick return specialist too."

Bass says that the increase in Division I-A scholarship players across the state is a direct reflection on the recent increase in

"We are doing now what others states have been doing for a long time," Bass said. "With the off-season passing leagues, the year-round weight-lifting and the summer camps, football is year round, now. You have to be committed throughout the year. You can't just show up in August and play."

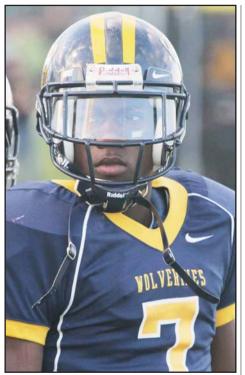


Photo by Mark Adair

Niagara Falls star Dale Stewart is one of 35 NY State players to receive Division I-A football scholarships.

### Albany's Green Tech to start in Class AA

Green Tech has never played a varsity football game and has just one season at the JV level. When the Eagles take the field for their inaugural varsity campaign this fall, they will be competing as one of 14 Class AA teams in Section II.

Green Tech, a charter school with 263 students, has been placed in the Liberty Division with Schenectady (2,140 students), Shaker (1,563), Colonie (1,390), Columbia (1,154), Niskayuna (1,052) and La Salle (472).

Although the tentative 2011 Section II football schedule was released Wednesday by Section II football chairman Gary VanDerzee, the final determination on where Green Tech will compete will come from the Section II Athletic Council, which will next meet either in March or April.

"Generally, the Athletic Council supports the recommendations from the other committees," VanDerzee said.

Green Tech football coach Pete Porcelli simply stated, "I'm just very surprised."

When contacted by the Times Union, Green Tech athletic director Bill Spath would not comment.

The school does not have a practice field (it rents time at Livingston Middle School) or a weight room. The team hopes to play its three scheduled home games at Bleecker Stadium.

VanDerzee said the football committee's rationale behind placing Green Tech in Class AA revolved around two key factors.

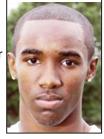
"Being a charter school, the state treats them like a private school," VanDerzee said. "The school has no tuition fees and is drawing kids from the Albany School District."

Private schools in Section II that compete in football play at various levels. Christian Brothers Academy and La Salle compete in Class AA. The others are Bishop Maginn (Class A), Albany Academy (Class B), Bishop Gibbons (Class D) and Saratoga Central Catholic (Class D).

"We're not here to jeopardize anyone," VanDerzee said. "In turn, we're not going to give (Green Tech) an unfair advantage."

### Floyd Star Being Heavily Recruited

William Floyd High School product Stacey Bedell took a big step forward during his junior campaign in terms of showing his talent and production, going over 1600 yards on the season and winning a



plethora of awards. PSU, Rutgers and Syracuse are on him most heavily right now

Stacey Bedell, a 5-foot-10, 165-pound running back from William Floyd High School in Mastic Beach, N.Y., is currently being recruited most heavily by Penn State, Rutgers, Syracuse and Stony Brook.

As a junior, Bedell carried the ball 208 times for 1658 yards and 18 TDs. He also caught 12 passes for 177 yards and two touchdowns and returned a kickoff 91 yards for another score. Bedell was named first-team All-Division, All-County, All-Long Island and All-State by the NYSSWA.

# Union-Endicott LB Getting Noticed

Endicott, N.Y., native Troy Beddoe has had visitors from many schools including Albany, Buffalo, Fordham, Maine, Pittsburgh, Rutgers and Syracuse and the linebacker will camp this summer and try and secure some



offers after sending out these junior highlights.

Troy Beddoe, a 6-foot-1, 220-pound linebacker from Union-Endicott High School has seen Albany, Buffalo, Fordham, Maine, Pittsburgh, Rutgers and Syracuse stop through the hallways of his school to visit his coach about him and right now he hopes the highlights below pique their interests.

As a junior, Beddoe registered 70 tackles, five tackles for los



### CROSS TRAINING FOOTBALL

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### **HEART OF A CHAMPION**

### **Legacy Builder**

This week we want to introduce a series on Leadership. Almost every coach will point to the following ingredients for success: 1) Leadership 2) Chemistry or 3) Character.

### **Ouestions -**

What determines a good leader? Are leaders born or developed? What gives a leader confidence?

### **WORD** - Leadership

...serving and giving your life and talent for those entrusted to your care. It's leading by integrity of heart and skillful guiding hands.

### ..... the Final 4 when it comes to Leadership.....

**Believe -** Leaders do not come to be served but serve and give themselves for the team or organization.

**Think** - Leadership is an attitude not a title.... Do all things without complaining

**Love -** "Heart Power" When you Capture the heart you capture the person.

Work - They understand leadership is action not position.

Quote - "Leadership is getting someone to do what they do not want to to do, to achieve what they want to achieve."

Tom Landry former Dallas Cowboy Coach.



Final Gun - Leadership is not easy and it is very lonely.

"Remember, before you can lead others you must be able to lead vourself."

John Wooden

Love.

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## **NYS Division I-A Signees**

Player	Ht, Wt	High School	College
Bill Allen (OL)	6-1, 270	. Garden City	. Army
Bob Blodgett (OL-DL)	6-6, 285	. Honeoye Falls-Lima	.Buffalo
Kieran Borcich (OL-DE)	6-3, 265	.Bronxville	. Boston College
Ashton Broyld (QB-FS)	. 6-3, 225	.Rush-Henrietta	Syracuse
Devon Cajuste (WR)	6-4, 222	. Holy Cross	. Stanford
Jordan Canzeri (RB-DB)	5-9, 175	. Troy	. lowa
Zenel Demhasaj (OT-DT)	. 6-5, 255	New Utrecht	Pittsburgh
Siriki Diabate (LB)	6-0, 220	.Lehman	.Syracuse
Malcolm Eugene (WR-DE)	. 6-5, 210	John Glenn	. Temple
David Evans (DL-OL)	. 6-3, 270	Sauquoit Valley	. Army
Joe Felicia (DE, OT)	. 6-5, 235	Marcellus	. Buffalo
Jonathan Fisher (P-K)	. 6-1, 210	. Oakfield-Alabama	. Syracuse
Ivan Foy (OL-DL)	. 6-5, 295	. Fort Hamilton	Syracuse
Jordan Frysinger (RB-DB)	. 6-0, 175	Corning	Illinois
Quentin Gause (LB)	6-0, 205	Bishop Kearney	Rutgers
Tyrell Goodman (QB-DB)	. 6-2, 206	Archbishop Stepinac	Akron
Glenn Gronkowski (WR)	. 6-3, 195	Williamsville North	. Kansas State
Terrell Hunt (QB)	6-3, 185	Christ the King	. Syracuse
Josh Keyes (S)	. 5-2, 190	Chatham	. Boston College
John Kling (OL, DL)	. 6-7, 287	Depew	.Buffalo
Jeremiah Kobena (RB)	. 6-0, 180	Cardinal Hayes	. Syracuse
Wilbert Lee (S)	6-2, 205	Boys & Girls	.UConn
Joe Licata (QB)	6-3, 205	Williamsville South	.Buffalo
Andrew Oberg (OL-DL)	6-7, 230	Islip	. UNLV
Al Page (DT)	. 6-3, 290	.Columbus	Rutgers
Brandon Reddish (WR)	5-11, 175	. Fort Hamilton	. Syracuse
Vinnie Rizzo (C)	6-3, 275	. Manhasset	. Akron
Nick Robinson (OL-DL)	. 6-6, 285	.Baker	Syracuse
Donnie Simmons (TE-DE)	. 6-3, 230	. Archbishop Stepinac	Syracuse
Ryan Sloan (OL)	. 6-3, 315	.Bellport	Syracuse
Tyree Smallwood (RB,DB)	5-11, 170	. Cornwall Central	. Syracuse
Dale Stewart (QB-DB)	6-0, 185	. Niagara Falls	Buffalo
Greg Thomson (TE)	6-3, 230	.Syr. Christian Brothers	Tulane
Dominique Wharton (OL/DL).	. 6-3, 315	.Beach Channel	. Bowling Green
Ishaq Williams (DE/TE)	. 6-6, 230	. Lincoln	. Notre Dame

Tyrell Goodman, Akron



Glenn Gronkowski, Kansas St.



Dale Stewart, Buffalo



### Football is Flourishing in NY



This is my first opportunity to address the fine coaches of NY State. I am extremely honored and privileged to serve you all.

In order for me and the executive committee to represent you properly we need coaches on all levels to join and be part of the NYSHSFCA. Our goal is to make this organization the largest coaches association in the country.

I'd be remiss if I didn't, on behalf of the NYSHSFCA, thank Outgoing President Tom Heinzelman for his leadership and service for the last three years.

I had the opportunity to attend some of the NYS Championship games, the NYC Championship game and the LI Championships. I would like to report that football is flourishing in NY State.

It has been a busy off-season:

The NYSHSFCA Coaches Clinic was a huge success. Almost 600 of your fellow coaches attended the clinic during the weekend of Feb 3-5 at the Turning Stone Resort in Verona. Clinic Director Mike Foster and his committee are to be commended for putting on this top-flight clinic.

The Empower Upstate/Downstate Football Classic team is in the process of being selected. Coaches Lou Dirienzo (Downstate) and Jack Burgos (Upstate) and their staffs are painstakingly reviewing video to put the best product on the field. George Mangicaro, Empower Federal Credit Union, and their committee are working behind the scenes to again make this a First Class event that showcases New York State football. The game is scheduled for June 5 at the Carrier Dome. Please make every effort to attend. If you have any players please contact your state representative.

I had the chance to see the Broadway show "Lombardi". (What other show would a coach go to?) It was an excellent depiction of the legendary coach. His message was simple. "Love your players."

Remember the executive committee and officers are there for you and you can also utilize the website at NYSHSFCA.org.



# Making His Points

### Freeport Offense Explodes under Russ Cellan

### **By Chris Vaccaro**

Freeport used an offensive explosion to come back from an early deficit and beat William Floyd 62-35 to win the Long Island Class I championship.

Freeport quarterback Isaiah Barnes, accounted for a Long Island record seven TDs in the win.

The Red Devils have played in three straight Class I title games and won their fourth Long Island crown under head coach Russ Cellan.

"When the kids work real hard, good things happen," Cellan said. "It's really something to see. That's what it's all about."

In the last 24 years, Cellan has built his program into one of the most threatening offensive juggernauts Long Island football will ever see.

Cellan has also churned out high-quality players, including NFL players Morlon Greenwood, Clifton Smith and D'Brickashaw Ferguson.

Photo by Chris Vaccaro

Freeport coach Russ Cellan led the Red Devils to the Long Island Class I championship. Cellan has a record of 178-80-2 and has won four Long Island titles.

He also coached Aaron Valentine, a former receiver at Purdue and Jerry Mackey, the nephew of NFL legend and Long Island native John Mackey, who was on the practice squads of Tampa Bay and the New York Jets.

"We were very fortunate," Cellan said. "We were lucky enough to have them in our district," Cellan said. "I think it was a coincidence that we took advantage of.

A kid can work hard and do all the lifting, but if he doesn't have the genetics, it's not going to happen."

Ferguson, who has played for the Jets for the past five seasons, spoke about Cellan in a recent article in New York Newsday.

"Russ is just a great coach," Ferguson said after the 2008 Class I Long Island title game. "Look around and see what he's done. Look at these guys and see how everyone is having a great time."

Cellan grew up in Lindenhurst and later played defensive line at C.W. Post.

Cellan started his coaching career as a wrestling coach at Island Trees High School under the legendary Ted Peterson, who ranks in the top 25 in state history with 325 career wins. Peterson would later become Cellan's father-in-law.

"I learned as much about coaching from him as anyone," Cellan

said. "He taught me how to work with kids and how to win."

Cellan left Island Trees to take a job at Levittown-Division, where he coached JV football under Joe Patrovich.

"I was exposed to a different style and another successful coach," he said.

See Cellan on page 9

### Cellan continued from page 8 \_

Cellan landed his first head coaching position at St. Dominic's High School in Oyster Bay, where he stayed for three seasons.

In 1986 he was hired as the head coach at Freeport and hasn't let up.

The offenses that Cellan has used at Freeport have evolved during his tenure at the school.

Cellan and his staff originally used the Wing T at Freeport but the Red Devils couldn't handle the powerhouse teams on Long Island. He admits his first 10

vears at Freeport were grueling.

"We had our rough times," he said. "We took our lumps."

Cellan reassessed the Red Devils offensive approach and installed the Runand-Shoot offense before the 1993 season.

"We knew we could block people by alignment," he said. "We wanted to do something that was unique. When teams practiced for us, they'd only be able practice for us and they couldn't simulate what we did."



Photo by Chris Vaccaro

Freeport QB Isaiah set a Long Island record when he accounted for 7 TDs in the title game.

Cellan switched

to the Spread in 2001 after he saw Northwestern University use the offense on television.

"It was amazing what kind of run game they had," he said. "I couldn't believe it. These guys were in shotgun and running the hell out of the ball. I said, 'we have to find out more about this."

Since employing the Spread, Freeport has rewritten the record books. The 62-35 win in the title game was only the latest bomb dropped on opponents.

Cellan is now the all-time wins leader in Freeport history with a record of 178-80-2. He's made 17 playoff appearances, graduated 28 all-state players and won five Rutgers Cups as the top team in Nassau County.

As for the championships, Cellan said it never gets old.

"We want to get to that big game at the end," he said. "The feeling at the end makes it all worthwhile."

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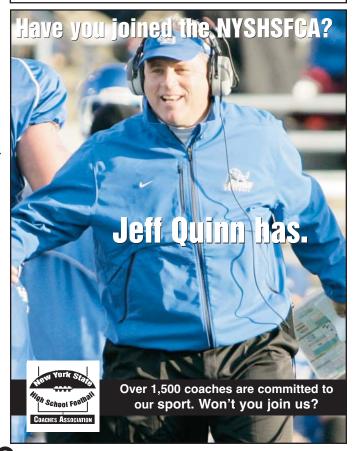
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# Year of the QB

### By Mark Adair

There is no doubt that 2010 will go down as the Year of the Quarterback in New York State.

Never have so many quarterbacks produced so much in the same season. Even solid seasons were overlooked because of the REALLY great years.

At the NYSHSFCA Awards Banquet three quarterbacks were named Players of the Year for their classes.

Rush-Henrietta quarterback Aston Broyld was named the Player of the Year in Class AA.

Williamsville South QB Joe Licata was named the Player of the Year in Class A.

Alden QB Tyler Stoldt was named the Player of the Year in Class B.

Both Syracuse and Buffalo, the state's two Division I-A college programs, landed in-state QBs on National Signing Day in February.

"You have two college coaching staffs that want to keep New York kids in New York," Williamsville South coach Kraig Kurzanski said. "I've talked to Coach Marrone and Coach Quinn and both of those guys want to make New York kids a

Williamsville South QB Joe Licata capped a solid career by being named the New York State Class A Player of the Year. Licata will play at the University at Buffalo in 2011.

priority. You see that in their recruiting classes." Syracuse grabbed the top QB prospect in the state when they signed Broyld, who led Rush-Henrietta to a perfect 13-0 season and the NYS Class AA championship.

"Ashton Broyld was the best athlete and the fastest player in all 13 games this season," R-H coach Joe Montesano said. "Not only could he win a game for you with his arm but he could win a game with his legs, too."

Broyld is a 4-year varsity starter and leaves high school as the All-time passing leader in Section 5 with almost 7,000 passing yards. Broyld also tossed 69 TD passes,

2nd in Section 5 history behind the 72 TD passes thrown by Canandaigua guarterback Bill Scharr, who also went on

to play at Syracuse.

"No question, Ashton is the best player I have ever coached." Montesano said. "He is the best pure athlete I have ever seen come out of this area."

Broyld also rushed for 1,600 yards and 24 TDs and averaged 9.8 vards per carry.

Montesano says that Broyld will have no trouble making the transition to Big East football.

"He'll have his work cut out for him but his athletic ability is as good as anyone there now," he said. "He's a great leader and a great competitor and he thrives on challenges. He won't be intimidated going into the next level."

Broyld is 6-foot-4 and 230 pounds. He runs the 40-yard dash in 4.5 seconds.

"He's also a good pocket quarterback," Montesano said, "and he has the shake of a tailback. I don't remember any high school kid doing what he can do on the field. He has size, strength and speed."

Licata also capped off a great career with a great senior season. He passed for 2,573 yards and 34 TDs in 2010 as he led the Billies to a 9-1 record and a spot in the Section 6 Class A title game.

In his three seasons leading the Williamsville South offense, Licata simply re-wrote the WNY record book. He owns almost every passing record and will graduate this spring as Western New York's most accomplished QB

Licata set single-game, season and career records for See Quarterbacks on page 11



attempts, completions, yards and TDs. The only record he does not own is TD passes in a game (the record is 8, Licata's personal best is seven.)

Licata's career records for TDs (87), completions (408) and yardage (6,671) may stand for a while.

Kurzanski, his coach who convinced him to come out for football as a freshman, says that Licata could have

posted even bigger numbers.

"We took Joe out when we were winning big," Kurzanski said. "If Joe would have played four quarters of every game. his numbers would have been off the charts."

While Kurzanski is sorry to see Licata leave his Williamsville South program, he is confidant that Licata will be just as good when he plays for the University at Buffalo next season.

"Joe's been great," Kurzanski said. "He is as humble as he is good. He has a unique ability and I think he'll be even better with better athletes around him. I think he'll do great things for UB. That's why I'm so excited for him."

Kurzanski says that high school defenses were geared totally to stop Licata, something the QB will not face in college.

"Joe won't see the same coverages at UB that we saw at the high school level," Kurzanski said. "He'll see a lot more

one-on-one coverages and he'll be able to get the ball wherever he needs to. I think he'll do very well."

Stoldt, who led Alden to the Section 6 championship before losing to eventual state-champion Hornell, had a super season of his own.

Stoldt passed for 2,000 yards this past fall. He also threw 22 TD passes and just 3 INTs.

"I've been coaching for 36 years," Alden coach Dick Diminuco said, "and Tyler is one of the top kids I've ever had."

Stoldt led the Bulldogs to a 25-5 record over his three seasons as the starting QB.

"He's a great one," Diminuco said. "He's a great leader, a great competitor and a Scholar Athlete for Western New York. He's just a great kid."

Stoldt signed a Letter of Intent to play Division II football at Edinboro University in northwestern Pennsylvania.

"I think he's going to do a great job there," Diminuco said. "He has a great work ethic and a great football IQ. They will feel good about him."

Another quarterback, Chad Kelly from Buffalo St. Joe's,

became the first player in New York State history to rush for 2.000 vards and pass for 2,000 yards in the same season. Kelly led St. Joe's to the Msgr. Martin Association title.

Kelly was also overlooked for many postseason honors because so many other QBs had huge seasons.

Kurzanski says that the reason so many quarterbacks are rising to the top is that the overall level of football in New York State is improving.

"The game is evolving," Kurzanski said. "New York is catching up to other states. We are starting to throw the ball a little more which is showcasing some of our talent. A lot of schools are starting to use the Spread offense and are letting our athletes play now. It's exciting football and kids want to play it."

Montesano agrees with Kurzanski.

"We were behind so many other states for a long time," Montesano



Photo by Mark Adair

Rush-Henrietta QB Ashton Broyld capped a solid career by being named the New York State Class AA Player of the Year. Broyld will play at Syracuse University in 2011.

> said. "Football used to end in November. Now, with the year-round passing leagues and the year-round conditioning, our kids are getting better. We are using more wideopen offenses and, because of that, you see a lot of coaches putting their most-talented kids at guarterback."

Montesano also points to the fact that New York State had 32 players sign Division I-A scholarships this past February... the most in several years.

"Football in the state is starting to expand," he said, "and the get kids are getting noticed. Over the years, a lot of our kids have been missed. That's changing. If you look at both Syracuse and Buffalo, they grabbed a lot of good kids from New York State."

### **NYS Scholar Athletes of the Year**

AA	Eric Vasko Joe Campion	
A	Simon Bialostok	Lawrence (8)
В	Brian Goodell Jake Stone	
C	Matt Benedict	Nichols (6)
D	Andrew Shein	Dalton School (12)

William Papadimas Seaford HS (8) Carey HS (8) Drew Zahradka Oceanside HS (8) TRyler Heuer Oceanside HS (8) Chris Flynn Brian Ellis Oceanside HS (8) Gene Garay Oceanside HS (8) East Meadow HS (8) **Brandon Noblett** Mepham HS (8) Chris Shevins Hewlett HS (8) Niv Sultan Stephen Jahelka Garden City (8) Wantagh HS (8) John Reicherter

John Heicherter Wantagh HS (8)
Pete Swiggett Cold Spring Harbor HS (8)
Colin Flaherty Eastport South Manor HS (11)
Luke Combs Eastport South Manor HS (11)
Alan Henderson Eastport South Manor HS (11)
Ryan McCormick Eastport South Manor HS (11)
Harry Kuchsrczyk Manhasset HS (8)

David Lulgjuraj Mount St. Michael Academy (12) Gino Nadela Brooklyn Technical HS (12)

Eric Tyra Jamestown HS (6)
Jordan Frysinger Corning East HS (4)
Nikhon Schuler Niskayuna HS (2)
Kyle Willmott Saratoga Springs HS (2)
Josh Skowronski Monroe-Woodbury HS (9)

Chris Warren Suffern HS (1) Alec Brodsky Suffern HS (1) Eric Hammershlag Suffern HS (1) Kyle Eastwood Suffern HS (1) Eastchester HS (1) Thomas DiCarlo Chris Bostick Aguinas Institute (5) North Shore HS (8) Joe Manzione Dan Agovino North Shore HS (8) North Shore HS (8) Alec Volpe North Shore HS (8) Steven Ragusa Elmira Southside HS (4) Jordan Shay Tyler Augliano Watertown HS (3) **David Curtis** Attica HS (5) Robert Porco Southhampton HS (11) Babylon HS (11)

Stephen Loudon
Eli Ebanks
Newark HS (5)
Zachary Catz
Hampton Bays HS (11)
Dylan Flynn
Hampton Bays HS (11)
Jake Pickett
Owego Academy (4)
Chris McKay
Cohoes HS (2)
Scott Knaak
Albion HS (6)

Jason Forshee Springville Griffith Institute (6)

Grant Jones Canojoharie HS (2)
Peter DiMilla Tri-Valley CS (9)
Matt Cronmiller St. Mary's HS (6)
Jacob DuBois Chenango Forks HS (4)
Scott McMorris Wellsville HS (6)
Alejandro Cazzulino Dalton School (12)
Trevor Haut Caledonia-Mumford HS (5)

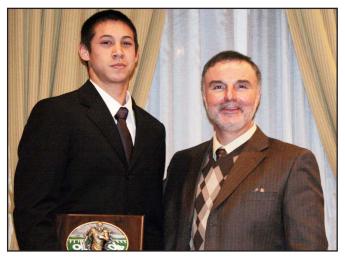
Clyde-Savannah CS (5)

Kyle Fenton

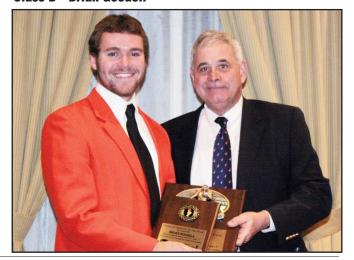
Class AA - Eric Vasko



Class A - Samson Bialostok

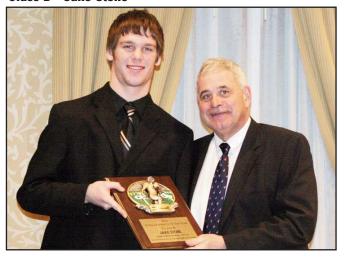


Class B - Brian Goodell

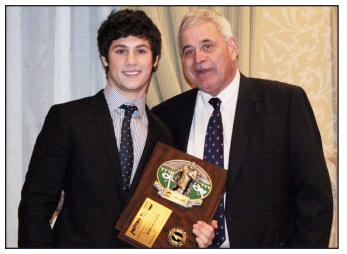


### **NYS Scholar Athletes**

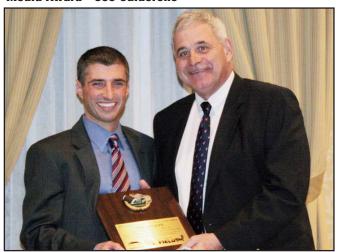
Class B - Jake Stone



Class D - Andrew Shein



**Media Award - Joe Calderone** 



# Hew York State

# NYSHSFCA Combines

Open to all football players in grades 9-11

### 5 Combines on May 1, 2011

### **Long Island**

at Half Hollow Hills West HS

Contact

www.bluechipprospects.com

(631) 676-2530

### **Albany**

at Stillwater HS

Contact

Nick Fitzgerald

fitzgeraldn@sgfallssd.org

(518) 792-9887 ext. 4

### **Binghamton**

at Union Endicott HS

Contact

Steve Virkler virklers@oacsd.org

Shane Hurd hurd@uegw.steir.org

(607) 687-6241

(607) 757-2191

### **Syracuse**

at Baldwinsville HS

Contact

Carl Sanfilippo

csanfilippo@bville.org

(315) 638-6014

### **Rochester-Buffalo**

at Fairport HS

Contact

Don Santini
dsantini@frontiernet.net

et l

Lyle Dixon Idixon@midlakes.org

(585) 223-1274

(315) 548-6450

### **Players of the Year**

### Class AA

Ashton Broyld - Rush-Henrietta (5) Ishaq Williams - Lincoln HS (12)

### Class A

Derelle Hunter - St. John Baptist (11) Joe Licata - Williamsville South HS (6) Mike Messina - Aquinas (5)

### Class B

Sam Stonerock - Hornell HS (5)

Tyler Stoldt - Alden (6)

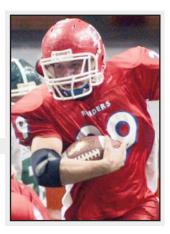
### Class C

Dillon Mitchell - Bronxville (1)

Josh Keyes - Chatham HS (2)

### Class D

Jarret Sommer - Tuckahoe (1)





Messina



Hunter

Stol

### **Coaches of the Year**

### Class AA

Joe Montesano - Rush-Henrietta (5)

### Class A

Chris Battaglia - Aquinas (5)

### Class B

Gene Mastin - Hornell HS

Dave Shanahan - Elwood John Glen (11)

### Class C

Jeff Napolitano - Bronxville (1)

### Class D

John D'Arco - Tuckahoe (1)











Montesano

Shanahan Napolitano

D'Arco

### 12th Man Award

Brian McPartland, Brewster (1) • Tyree Webster, Central Islip (11)

### Hunter Low Media Award Joe Calderone, Time Warner TV (2)

**Skip Paridon Service Award**Frank Luisi, President of NCHSFCA (8)

## Webster named 12th Man

### Senior overcomes blindness, stars for Central Islip

### **By Mark Adair**

Tyree Webster was one of two players named a recipient of the NYS 12th Man Award by the NYSHSF-CA in February.

Webster played four years of football for Central Islip (Section 11) on Long Island, despite the fact he is blind

in his right eye.

Webster overcame blindness in his eye that was brought on by glaucoma when he was an infant.

"When he was a couple of months old, his parents noticed some swelling in his eye," Taormina said. "They went to specialists all over the country. There was nothing they could do."

Webster underwent several operations by the time he was 5 years old.

"They were just trying to take care of his other eye," Taormina said. With just one good eye, you really need to take care of that one."

Webster did hang around the football varsity team as much as possible.

"He was our water boy in the 8th grade,"

Central Islip coach Joe Taormini said. "His older brother played football but Tyree was playing tennis."

Tyree's older brother, Aaron Whyte, was a captain on the varsity.

"Aaron was a good ball player for us," Taormini said. "He was a team leader, too."

Taormini, who has been the head coach at Central Islip for 6 seasons, tried to convince Tyree to come out for football, too.

"He was kind of a goofy, fun-loving kid but he had size," Taormini said. "He finally came out for football in

the 9th grade."

Webster was named a team captain for his senior season.

"He set a great example for the other kids," Taormini said. "Tyree was always in the weight room lifting dur-

ing the off-season. He's just a real role model for the other players. A great kid to have on the team."

Webster started at offensive and defensive tackle for the past two seasons. His senior season ended in disappointment as the Musketeers finished 3-5 and out of the Long Island playoffs

"Tyree hurt his knee and missed a game," Taormini said. "He hurt his knee and ankle and missed the seventh game of the season. We missed him. He came back for Game 8 but we had already been eliminated."

Webster was a total team player, according to Taormini.

"He had this handicap but never talked about it," Taormini said.



Photo by Mark Adair

Senior Tyree Webster was named the NYSHSFCA 12th Man at the recent awards banquet. Webster overcame blindness in his right eye caused by glaucoma.

"He never used it as an excuse to not perform at a high-level. He never complained once about how hard we worked him or how hard we pushed him."

Webster was named an all-Division player for Central Islip. He also maintains an academic average in the high 80s.

"He is a Happy-Go-Lucky kid and the perfect team mate," Taormini said. "He has great character. He threw the shot for the track team. He really bought into what we were teaching and he would run through a wall for us."

### **NYSHSFCA**

### Upstate vs. Downstate Senior Classic Player Nomination Form 2011

Player's name:		Home Phone #:
Player's email:	Play	er's cell #:
School:		Section
Home Address:		
Positions: Offense	Defense	Specials
Best position:	Height: _	Weight:
Coach's name:	oach's name: Coach's phone #:	
Coach's email: Co		Coach's cell #:
Player information:		
Has he been offered a scho If yes, list schools:		_ No
If no, list schools that have	expressed an interest	:
		election committee should be aware of rds and special circumstances:

### Guidelines:

Nomination form for Graduating Class of 2011 Senior football players to be <u>returned</u> to <u>Sectional Football Coaches Association representative</u> or mailed or faxed to the following address no later than February 8, 2011:

NYSHSFCA PO Box 383 Warwick, NY 10990 Fax: 845-987-3628 Email: gsirico@wvcsd.org

# Improving The Classic



Despite the winter weather, springtime is here. That means one thing... Spring football.

Now, New York State is not allowed to play Spring football like they do in Texas. But we do have plenty of football related activities to help our players get ready for the coming season.

Most teams have been at work in the weight room for two months now. There are also non-contact passing leagues, and "Uppers" team camps all over the state.

The NYSHSFCA Combines will be held May 1st at five locations across the state.

The NYSHSFCA is also getting ready to host the 2nd Upstate-Downstate All-Star Classic. (The form to nominate your seniors for the game is on the previous page of this issue.)

It is my hope that every one of the 32 kids that signed Division I-A scholarship offers will opt to play in the game. We have some prime-time players in New York State and I hope they can be showcased for one last high school game.

Last year, for the Classic, everything surrounding the game was exciting. The combines, the sponsor, everything was new.

Unfortunately, the game was a bit of a blowout. Downstate bolted out to a 19-0 lead and eventually pulled away for a 36-7 win.

One reason that led to the blowout was the mistake that the game's organizers made in determining the teams. It was a mistake that no one saw at the time.

With 12 sections in New York State, organizers split

the Upstate and Downstate squads six sections each.
And that was the mistake.

Section 9 and Section 1 were added to the Downstate team... because of geography. They are the two sections that are closest to New York City and it gave each coaching staff six sections to choose players from.

In looking at the population of the state, New York City and Long Island have about 11 million people living in those areas. "Upstate" New York (meaning everyone north of the Tappan Zee Bridge) has a population of

about 8 million people.

Putting Section 9 and Section 1 onto the Downstate team was supposed to make things "even"... with six sections per side.

It actually had the opposite effect. It turned a small population advantage into a huge population advantage for the Downstate team. Instead of making things "even", it made the game even more lopsided.

Several of the best Downstate players in the blowout were from Rye High and Monroe-Woodbury, two traditional powers from Upstate New York. In fact, Monroe-Woodbury quarterback Dan Scalo was named the Player of the Game.

Mon-Wood and Rye play in the NYSPHSAA playoffs which Downstaters don't participate in. Both programs have made numerous trips to the Carrier Dome for the NYS Championships in recent years.



Photo by Mark Adair

Monroe-Woodbury QB Dan Scalo was named the Player of the Game as he led the Downstate team to a 36-7 win in the Classic in 2010.

Westchester County is one of the most populated areas in Upstate New York.

I'll admit, I never even thought of this myself... until the teams stepped onto the field.

At that moment it was readily apparent that the Downstate team was bigger, faster and stronger... and had a lot more of them!

The game was as one-sided as you might expect. In order to facilitate a more even contest, All-Star Classic organizers should put Sections 9 and 1 back where they belong... on the Upstate team.