11A All State Football Selections Announced

BY RICHARD ANDERSON

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It was a season of firsts for the Madison Bulldogs: capturing their first-ever Class A state football title and winning 12 games, the most in team history.

With that said, it's no surprise that the Bulldogs led the way in all-state selections with four on the first team offense, one on defense and two more honorable mention.

The Bulldog offense put up nearly 400 yards per game and 40 points and was paced by its skill position cornerstone – quarterback Mitch Hansen, running back Brodie Frederiksen and wide receiver Mason Leighton.

Offensive tackle Austin Lohsandt led the way on the offensive line.

Madison held off West Central 28-21 in the title game, capping a 12-0

Lennox also had five first-team selections, with state runner-up West Central adding four. Tea Area and St. Thomas More both had three first-

Here is a capsule look at the allstate team:

Offense

Quarterback Mitch Hansen, Madison.

Hansen, a 6-foot, 210-pound senior, was a dual-threat at quarterback for the Bulldogs, combining for 28 touchdowns on the season. He ran for 537 yards on 94 carries and completed 107 of 191 passes for 2,073 yards and

23 touchdowns. He finished with 4,880 vards of total offense in his career for 58 touchdowns. "Mitch is a fierce competitor, a

student of the game. He is a leader of our team," Madison head coach Max Hodgen said. "Offensively he is our catalyst; as Mitch goes, we go. He has the drive to be the best and he expects that from all of his teammates. He

refuses to lose." Fullback

Collin McEntee, Lennox.

The 5-10, 195 pound McEntee, a senior, finished with 371 yards rushing on 91 carries, scoring five times. He had no fumbles and averaged 4.0 yards per carry. As a blocker, he led the way for an offense that finished with 2,264 yards of rushing. He finished with 1,023 yards rushing and no fumbles in

Running back

Brodie Frederiksen, Madison. Frederiksen, a 5-8, 170-pound senior, led the Bulldogs with 1,459 yards on 219 carries, including a long run of 98 yards and a whopping 31 touchdowns. He also caught 14 pass receptions for 206 yards and one score. He is a two-time all-state performer, running for 2,913 career yards and 48 touchdowns.

"Brodie is such a hard worker. He s motivated to be a great football player," Hodgen said. "He has been the spark to this team all year."

Running back

Bryson Westland, Belle Fourche. Westland, a 6-1, 180-pound senior, led the state with 2,132 yards rushing and 28 touchdowns. He also had one kick return for a score. In his career for the Broncs, he finished with 4,135 yards rushing and 50 touchdowns.

"Bryce has been our workhorse on offense for the past three years," Belle Fourche head coach Scott Slotten. "As the game goes along, he wants the ball more and more."

Wide Receiver

Mason Leighton, Madison The 6-1, 178-pound junior missed two games this season but still caught 25 passes for 592 yards and seven touchdowns. He also carried the football nine times for 47 yards.

"When we need a big play we go to Mason," Hodgen said. "Every time he touches the ball he has a chance to score. His teammates and coaches trust him to be a playmaker when the game is on the line."

Wide receiver

Alek Keegan, St. Thomas More. Keegan, a 6-3, 185-pound senior, had 25 pass receptions for the Cavaliers for 542 yards and seven touchdowns. He had six catches for over 40 yards on the season. In his last two seasons, he finished with 52 catches for 994 yards.

"Alek is the type of athlete that comes along once in a great while, STM head coach Wayne Sullivan. "He will play at the next level.'

Tight end Jacob Hinker, Lennox.

Hinker, a 67-2, 225-pound senior, had seven catches for 85 yards and helped the offense rush for 2,264 yards on the season. He was also the team's defensive MVP and team captain.

Tackle

Brevin Wagner, Tea Area. Wagner, the biggest player on the all-state team at 6-10, 357 pounds, is a senior and paved the way for the Tea Area offense to run up 3,444 yards of total offense, 1,821 on the ground and 1,623 through the air. The offensive line gave up just three sacks this

"Bevin has made huge strides since last season," Tea Area head coach Craig Clayberg said. "He worked his butt off in the weight room last offseason, which helped him develop into our top offensive lineman. He helped our offense to improve tremendously from last season.'

Austin Lohsandt, Madison. Lohsandt, a 6-7, 235-pound junior, allowed no quarterback sacks this season and blocked for an offense that had a 1,500-yard rusher and 2,000-yard passer. The Bulldog offensive line gave up just three sacks all season.

'Austin has done a great job at left tackle for us in the last two years," Hodgen said. "He has shown improvement this year and he is a leader on the field. We count on Austin and trust him to get his blocks when we need him."

Guard

Hunter Hanley, West Central. Hanley, a 6-4, 293-pound senior, is a two-time all-state selection. He was part of an offense that averaged 6.0 yards (3,573) a carry and 357 yards per game. He was credited with right pancake blocks in one game and he had 28 on the season.

"Hunter is one of the most dominant linemen on either side of the ball that we may have ever had in West Central's historic history of great linemen," head coach Kent Mueller said. "He is a kid that brings a competitive, nasty edge to the game. He plays with a motor that does not quit."

Jaydn Broughton, Canton. Broughton, a 6-1, 220-pound senior, helped the C-Hawk offense gain 2,920 yards this season. He finished with 14 pancake blocks. In his career, Canton had 10,441 yards of total offense in his three years as a starter. He's also played fullback where he rushed 364 yards on 67 carries.

"Jaydn has been a two-way starter for us from day one (also outside linebacker)," Canton head coach Rich Lundstrom said. "He's been the team's emotional and spiritual leader."

Josh Tornow, Sioux Falls Christian. Tornow, a 6-3, 265-pound senior, was the leader on the Charger offensive line that averaged 316 yards rushing per game.

"Josh is a great kid," Sioux Falls Christian head coach Jake Pettengill said. "He works his tail off and helped anchor the offensive line.'

Defense Defensive end

Dallas Gjertson, Tea Area Gjertson, a 6-0, 190 pound senior, finished with 71 tackles this season for the Titans, 23 solo tackles and 48 assisted stops. He finished with five tackles for loss and had 1.5 quarterback sacks. In his career, he finished with 130 tackles and eight tackles for a loss.

"Dallas has played many positions for us," Clayberg said. "This year he moved to the defensive end and was our best defensive lineman. He has a motor that won't guit and made a lot of big plays for us this year just because of his effort.'

Tackle

Marcus VandenBosch, Madison. VandenBosch, a 6-1, 188-pound junior, led the Bulldogs in tackles with 109. He finished with 13 tackles for losses (52 yards) and had six quarterback sacks. So far in his career, he has 211 tackles (95 solos, 116 assisted). He had 18.5 career sacks.

"He is a team leader, selected as a captain by his teammates as a junior,' Hodgen said. "He is a hard-working, coachable athlete.

Bryce Edberg, West Central Edberg, a 6-4, 280-pound senior and two-time all-stater, was part of a defense that gave up just 2.6 yards per carry and an average of 192 yards of total offense per game. Often doubledteamed, he finished with 38 tackles and four quarterback sacks.

"Bryce's presence in the middle has been felt by opponents since his 10th grade season," Mueller said."Bryce has steadily improved and I believe has only begun to scratch the surface of his potential.'

Masen Oltmanns, Lennox. Oltmanns, a 6-5, 345-pound senior, finished with 31 tackles, 24 solo and seven assisted. He had one tackle for loss, one quarterback sack and batted balls. A three-year starter on the defensive line, he finished with 92 career tackles, five sacks and nine tackles for a loss.

Linebacker

Grady Grimshaw, St. Thomas More Grimshaw, a 6-2, 225-pound senior. was in on 68 tackles for the Cavaliers. He finished with one interception for a touchdown, two fumble recoveries and led the team with two sacks and six tackles for a loss. He finished with 214 tackles in three years, 10 sacks and 16 tackles for a loss.

Grady was a three-year starter and the heart of our defense," Sullivan said. "He will play at the next level."

Linebacker Carter Van Gorp, Sioux Falls

Van Gorp, a 6-1, 210-pound senior, had 50 tackles for the Chargers, playing both strong side and inside linebacker positions.

"Carter was a coach on the field for us," Pettengill said. Linebacker

Jacob Desersa, Hot Springs. Desersa, a 5-10, 170-pound senior, finished with 93 tackles for the Bison, 29 solo and 64 assisted. He also caused one fumble. For his career, he

finished with 217 tackles, 62 solo and 155 assisted. He also caused three fumbles, had one fumble recovery and returned one interception for a touchdown.

"Jacob has been the face of our defense for the last three years," Hot Springs head coach Ben Kramer said. "He has been our leading tackler the last two years. He is fundamentally sound, a tough kid who has a knack for making big plays at big times."

Linebacker

Jeremiah Maka, Tea Area. Maka, a 6-1, 195-pound junior had 123 tackles, 52 solos and 71 assisted, leading the team for the second straight year. He also had 11 tackles for a loss, three sacks, one fumble recovery and two forced fumbles. In his three-year career, he finished with 236 tackles, 95 solo and 141 assisted.

"Jeremiah is one of our leaders on and off the field," Clayberg said. "Defensively, he is the guy who makes all of the calls. He is a very hard worker both on the field and in the classroom.

Defensive back

Jonah Rechtenbaugh, West Central Rechtenbaugh, a 5-10, 165-pound senior, had 36 tackles and three interceptions and was part of a defense that gave up an average of just 192 yards of total offense per game. He also ran for 1,068 yards on offense and had a 22-yard average on 12 punt returns, two for touchdowns.

"Jonah is our shutdown corner; we put him on the teams' best receivers and he has done an outstanding job with his ability to cover," Mueller said. Defensive back

Cole Thurness, St. Thomas More A 6-1, 180-pound senior safety, Thurness had 65 tackles, caused six fumbles and had three pass interceptions. For his career, he had 14 pass breakups, 178 tackles and a 97-yard interception return for a touchdown.

"Cole is a true football player, he will play at the next level," Sullivan said. "He also played on back-to-back state championship baseball teams and will play in the All-American Bowl on Jan. 2 that will be televised."

Defensive back John Oldenkamp, Lennox. A 5-10, 185-pound senior, Oldenkamp had 62 total tackles this season, 40 solos and 22 assisted. He also had two interceptions, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery. He had 155 career tackles, four

interceptions, 12 tackles for losses and

four quarterback sacks. Defensive back Sam White, Dell Rapids. White, a 6-3, 175-pound senior, had 45 tackles, two interceptions and two defensive touchdowns for the Ouarriers. In his career, he finished

with 56 tackles. "Sam is a very talented athlete with great speed and jumping ability," Dell Rapids coach Steven Hansen said. "He is capable of making plays all over the

Kicker

Noah Vettrus, West Central. Vettrus, a 6-0, 165-pound senior, had 57 kickoffs for a 52-yard average, including 30 kicks into the end zone. As a punter, he also averaged 39 yards on 17 punts. He also played at running back and defensive back.

"An honorable mention performer last season, Noah's contributions on our team expanded from kicking and punting since the ninth grade to becoming a solid safety on defense and a big play producer offensively, Mueller said.

Jake Peterson, Canton. Peterson, a 6-1, 170-pound junior,

averaged 34.2 yards on 25 punts and had six kicks inside the 20-yard line. In his career, he averaged 31.9 yards on

50 punts. "Jake was the jack of all trades this year," Lundstrom said. "He played running back, quarterback, wide receiver, tight end, cornerback, safety, kick returner and punter. He did very well at every spot.

Special team player Jacob Lackas, Lennox.

Lackas, a 5-8, 165-pound senior, had 12 kick returns for 331 yards (27.6 average) and one touchdown and four punt returns for 35 yards. In his career, he had 52 kick returns for 1,268 yards and the one score. He also had 13 punt returns for 235 yards and one score. Long snapper

Chris Brown, Belle Fourche. Brown, a 5-10, 180-pound senior, also was a key cog on the Bronc defense at linebacker.

"Chris never missed a snap on every field goal and PAT kick," Slotten said. "Not only was he a great snapper but he also went down the field and made a lot of tackles.'

Honorable mention Preston Arity, St. Thomas More; Adam Heien, Tea Area; Nick Kayl, Lennox; Hunter Christopherson, Vermillion; Jaxon Janke, Madison; Jake O'Byrne, Belle Fourche; Brady Leverington, Belle Fourche; Caden Maciejewski, Hot Springs; Tucker Chytka, Belle Fourche; Ty Herman, Todd County; Brayden Gilbert, Madison; Sam Swier, West Central; Alex DeJong, Canton; Logan Peterson, Vermillion; Jackson Olson, Sioux Falls Christian; Kyle Montag, Milbank; Jake Aanderud, St. Thomas More.

South Dakota **Men Take Two**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Shy McClelland scored 18 points and South Dakota made its last seven shots to defeat Eastern Washington 77-71 on Sunday.

Dan Jech added 14 points and Eric Robertson 12 for the Coyotes (4-3), who took the lead for good on a 3-pointer by Casey Kasperbauer that made it 70-67 with 2:55 to play.

Venky Jois made two free throws to pull the Eagles (3-3) within 72-71 at the 1:38 mark, but McClelland answered with a layup and the Coyotes closed it by making 3 of 4 free throws while Eastern missed its last four shots.

South Dakota shot 71 percent in the second half (17 of 24) and finished at 58 percent for the game.

Bogdan Bliznyuk led Eastern Washington with 16 points

and Cody Benzel made 4 of 7 behind the arc for 12. The Eagles were 9 of 17 on 3s in the first half but finished just 12

South Dakota 96, Sacramento State 90

Dan Jech was 9 of 10 from the floor and made all four long range attempts to score 22 points as South Dakota held on for a 96-90 win over Sacramento State in the Sacramento State Invitational on Saturday night.

Tre Burnette had 16 points and 13 rebounds and Shy Mc-Clelland added 15 points with six assists and three steals for South Dakota (3-3).

The Coyotes were 12 of 19 (63.2 percent) from beyond the

Cody Demps scored 19 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead Sacramento State, which suffered its first loss of the season. Justin Strings added 17 points for the Hornets (4-1).

A Burnette jumper gave South Dakota a 70-69 lead midway of the second half. A Nick Hornsby layup gave Sacramento State an 81-80 lead at the 4:39 mark. The Coyotes answered with an 8-0 run for an 88-81 lead and held on for the win.

Bergner Named To Valley's All-Academic Team

South Dakota junior punter and place-kicker Miles Bergner (Longmont, Colo.) has been named to the Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Academic Team announced Wednesday by the conference office. Bergner is the only special teams player named to the 24-man team.

Bergner, who earned all-MVFC honors as a place-kicker Monday, made all 27 extra-point attempts and 14 of 22 field goals during the season. He had five makes of at least 45 yards including one from 50 and another from 53. He also had 18 touchbacks on 47 kickoffs.

Bergner averaged 41.4 yards per punt, which ranked fourth in the Valley and 23rd nationally. He pinned 17 punts inside the 20 and had 14 go for more than 50 yards. Bergner is on the CFPA Watch List as both a punter and place-kicker.

Fredrick, Van Ginkel On Valley Newcomer Team

South Dakota running back Michael Fredrick and defensive end Andrew Van Ginkel have been named to the Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Newcomer Team announced Tuesday by the conference office.

Fredrick, a true freshman from Miami, Fla., was the Valley's 11th-leading rusher during the regular season with 622 yards. He ran for 400 yards in five starts in place of injured starter Trevor Bouma. Fredrick caught 11 passes for 151 yards and returned two kickoffs for 25 yards. He scored two rushing touchdowns during the season.

Van Ginkel is a redshirt freshman from Rock Valley, Iowa, who was named MVFC Freshman of the Year last week. He was named first-team all-MVFC Monday. Van Ginkel finished second in the Valley in both sacks (9.0) and tackles-forloss (18.0). He was the Coyotes fifth-leading tackler with 56

Ensminger

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riding events to show how well the rider can teach the horse lead changes, backing up and pivots. In those events, riders are awarded ribbons.

'They just want to see how well you work in a team with your horse," Ensminger said. "You do patterns for equitation and then they have reigning and barrels and poles. Barrels and poles is more fun, you don't really have to look presentable, but it's basically all about speed.

The awards are handed out at the recognition event in November.

"Throughout the year we can sign up for awards like sweepstakes and that puts all of our ribbons together and we get a belt buckle for that and at the recognition event for grand champion you get a plaque that has your name on it," Ensminger

She has been participating in horse 4-H for the past two years and previously did dog 4-H. She began showing her horses when her aunt, the 4-H leader at the time, encouraged her to participate.

"I like showing people what I can do with my horses," Ensminger. "I like being involved in that stuff and feeling like I'm doing something instead of just trail riding. Nobody knows about it and you just do it on your own, but competing, it gives me something to do every day — go out and practice with my horse and actually make my horse think about something instead of just trail riding and it

physically helps both of us. My horse gets fit and also mentally fit."

Though the shows crown a champion, Ensminger sees 4-H more of a way to work together than to compete against others.

"People think it's like a competition against each other," she said. "But to me, you're all working together to compete against other people from other 4-Hs. Everybody is like, 'you have to practice to be perfect,' and I'm like 'well, we're not practicing against each other, we're practicing with each other.'

Ensminger said there isn't much 4-H activity during the winter, but will restart again in March with an open show.

"They have open shows in Sioux Falls where anybody in the state can come and just show," she said. "They have a whole bunch of events like jumping. They also have games, like egg and spoon, and we go to those. Our leader always tells us when there are going to be open shows and we usually all get together and we go up to those and show. It's not really competition for 4-H it's just something we do for

Congratulations Jennifer on being named Tanager of the Week.

If you know a high school student deserving of recognition in athletics or otherwise, suggestions for Tanager of the Week can be sent to Elyse Brightman at elyse.brightman@plaintalk.net or by calling 605-624-4429.