



Hyacks Football Headlines

Monday, August 27, 2007

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Varsity News & Notes

2007 Training Camp off to a great start

The Varsity Hyacks had an outstanding first week of fall camp capped off by a 57-21 win in a controlled scrimmage vs Hunting Hills HS of Red Deer Alberta. The scrimmage was a late addition to the camp when Hunting Hills had a late cancellation from a US school after they had already got on a plane bound for Seattle. NWSS agreed to accommodate them so they were able to get a game out of their trip. Seven different Hyacks scored including **Blaine Cawkell** (right) who rushed for 2 TDs. The grade 11 FB/LB is one of the teams most improved players during camp, along with OT **Rama MacMillan**. Sr QB **Matt MacGrotty** looks poised for a breakout season while juggling training camp with his Minto Cup commitments as a member of the New West Jr Salmonbellies. MacGrotty along with Sr RB's **John Drury** and **Darnell Sikorski** also scored in the scrimmage and have made a seamless transition to the Hyacks new Wing-T offense. Up front, MacMillan, **Chenghao Cui**, **Casey Chin**, **Dimitri Golimbonis** and **Radu Luca** are starting to form a solid, consistent offensive line. Defensively LB **Glenn Boyce** and DT **Alex Saavedra** have also stood out. Saavedra and Chin are two of 8 grade 10's who will play for both the Varsity and JVs, all 8 will make significant contributions to both teams.



Season Opener: Nooksack Valley

The Hyacks first test of the season will be Nooksack Valley, WA. The Pioneers dominated the Hyacks last season and then made the playoffs in the tough Northwest League in Washington State. But visitors expect a much different outcome this time around for a number of reasons: Both New West and Nooksack run the Wing-T, meaning the Hyacks will be able to prepare for it much better during the week. Secondly, the Hyacks will boast a much more effective passing game than they did a year ago, as WR **Daniel English** and TE **Tyler Digby** will create match up problems for Nooksack and all other opponents during the season. If teams commit too heavily to stopping the run, these two will have plenty of success. We would invite all fans to attend this game as Nooksack is only 10 minutes across the Aldergrove/Sumas border crossing.

Five Years Already?

It seems like only yesterday that the Hyack Football program was launched. But in 2007 the program enters its 5th season of play with close to 170 kids on four teams. The latest addition is a Pee Wee team giving 10-11 year olds the opportunity to be a part of a special program. Whether you are a student, parent, alumni or a resident looking to support your community, Friday Night football games at Mercer Stadium will again be the place to be this fall. The coaching staff believes this will be by far the most successful season in the programs history as all four teams have what it takes to be successful. Special thanks go to all of the volunteers who put in tireless hours to make this program a reality. We couldn't do it without you. And to the sponsors, we thank you for seeing the value of supporting youth in our community. Buckle up New West, it is going to be a great year!

Junior Varsity News & Notes

High Hopes for JVs

After finishing 8-3 a year ago, the JV Hyacks will be in the hunt for a provincial title this fall. Head Coach Chad Oatway will lead another large roster (50+) that includes 26 players returning from last years team, plus another ten with previous football experience. As expected, the first week of fall camp yielded positive results.

Offensively, the Hyacks will be led by an offensive line that features 4 of 5 returning starters from last season, including **Alex Saavedra, Casey Chin, Mojit Johal** and **Milan Scekcic**. **Matt Mussenden** takes over at center. Former Jr Bantams **Jamie Wandell** and **Nick Adomat** are among 16 linemen that should provide solid depth up front.

Both quarterbacks, **Torsten Jaccard** and **Jeremy Davis**, have done an exceptional job at picking up the new offense. NWSS has the rare luxury of this type of depth at such an important position.

Vivie Bojilov, Nigel Eberding and **Brent Fletcher** will start in the backfield, providing a dynamic combination of strength, quickness and smarts. **Andrew Lee** and **Steve Ferdinandi** will also provide some depth. The receiving corps will include **Daniel English, Brandon Sidhu, Steven Chahal, Sean Ewart** and newcomer **Trevor Kubot**. **Mike Campbell** and **Ian Henderson** will share the load at tight end.

The JVs surprised everyone last season but won't be taken lightly by any team this fall. A week two match up against defending provincial champion, Terry Fox, should provide an indicator of just how far the program has come. They have come far, but they are just getting started.

Junior Bantam News & Notes

This is the fourth season of junior bantam football in New Westminster, and this year is promising to be the best yet. Over the past two weekends, the Hyacks have participated in two scrimmages (at Westside and Cloverdale) and hosted Burnaby and Langley for mini-games on August 26. Against these opponents the team has competed well and has grown tremendously due to the pre-season competition.

The 2007 edition of the junior bantams looks to be led by returning players **Brody Mackenzie, Tyler Barrett, Connor Brady**, and **Caleb Bogle** along the offensive

line. The competition at the quarterback spot is hot right now, with four boys competing for playing time at that position. Defensively, the Hyacks have been led so far by **Lucas London, Harshdeep Bains, Serafino Gentile, Daizon Earl** and **Robert Crousett**.

With almost 40 boys on this team, there is plenty of competition at all spots, and the coaching staff is excited about the progress that has been made this summer and the prospects of the season that kicks off on Friday, August 31 at home against the Westside Warriors.

Peewee News & Notes

This is the inaugural season of peewee football in New Westminster, and almost thirty boys have joined the team this summer. This inexperienced group has been working hard in practices to learn the fundamentals and strategies of football, and the boys have demonstrated a great enthusiasm and appetite for having fun on the gridiron.

The team has participated in two pre-season events: a scrimmage at Westside on August 18, and mini-games against Burnaby and Langley on August 26. On both

weekends, the players have learnt a lot and demonstrated their growing abilities while competing hard, impressing the coaches with their progress.

With this new team, a new tradition is also beginning: at each home varsity football game, two peewee players will participate as honorary captains. For the September 7 Homecoming game against Pinetree, **Dezmond Earl** (RB/LB) and **Jamaree Jacobs** (OL/DL) will be recognized for their leadership of this young team to-date.

Upcoming Events

Varsity Season Opener

Friday, August 31 7:00 PM Nooksack Valley HS (Everson, WA)

The Hyacks travel across the border to open their season for the second year in a row against the Nooksack Valley Pioneers.

Youth Season Openers

Friday, August 31 6:00/8:00 PM Mercer Stadium

The peewee and junior bantam teams kickoff their 2007 regular seasons hosting the Westside Warriors for Friday Night Football at Mercer Stadium. Peewees start at 6:00 PM, with the junior bantam game following at 8:00 PM.

Homecoming Game vs Pinetree Timberwolves

Friday, September 7 7:00 PM Mercer Stadium

The Hyacks look to make it 3-0 in Homecoming games. It's always the biggest crowd of the year so don't miss it!

Football 101 For Ladies

Saturday, September 8 3:00 PM NWSS Room 188 (Pearson Wing)

The Hyacks host our 2nd annual Football 101 for Ladies. By the time this fun-filled afternoon is over, the gals will be able to out-throw their sons and husbands. For more information please contact Linda Lincoln at linda_lincoln@telus.net

Tailgate Auction/Night of Entertainment

Saturday, September 22 6:30 PM Justice Institute of BC

The Hyacks host our 5th annual Tailgate Auction, this time with a twist – Along with great food and auction items, the night will be highlighted by plenty of music and comedy from some top local acts. This is the Hyacks biggest fundraiser of the year and a great time is guaranteed. For tickets please contact: mddavis.family@gmail.com

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