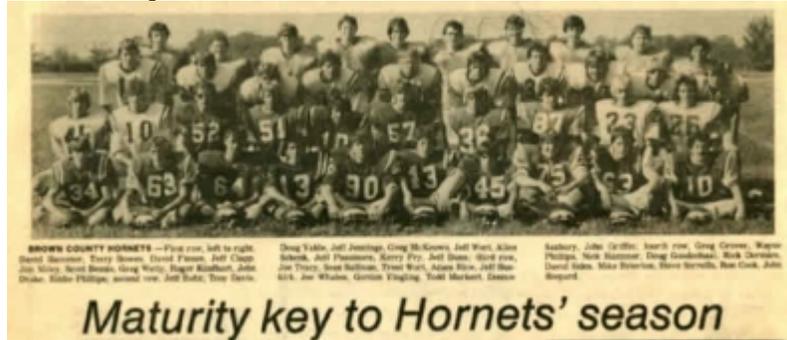


## 1981 Brown County Hornets



*The Quincy Herald-Whig*

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### **Maturity key to Hornets' season**

MOUNT STERLING, Ill.—“It may depend on how fast we mature as a team,” suggests new head coach Jim Henry in looking ahead to Brown County High’s football season.

The Hornets open at home Friday against Meredosia—Chambersburg, and to the advantage of the Green and White is the fact the first three games will be on the home turf.

Rushville will be here Sept. 18 and the Sept. 26 West Central Conference game with Unity will be a Saturday matinee (2 p.m.)

The matter of maturing seems pertinent, for the rookie head coach has 14 juniors, 17 sophomores and 12 seniors on his roster. But only five of the seniors were regulars in 1980 as Brown County fashioned a 5-4 record.

Coaches here are also encouraged by the turnout of 23 freshman.

This fall, the Hornets aren’t getting heavy support as title contenders in the WCC, but last year’s team was 4-1 against the league, losing only to Carthage, the eventual champion.

“I look for Hamilton to be the toughest team in the conference with Carthage also being strong with most of its conference champion defense back,” predicts Henry, the Illinois State graduate who was assistant here three years.

He has succeeded Art Newton, who moved south to Vandalia as head football coach and assistant in basketball.

“Central could be a dark horse; and we hope to be a factor, also; but will have to count on an inexperienced squad whose sophomores last year were 6-1 in winning the conference sophomore crown.”

Among the returnees, the big man is offensive tackle Doug Goudschaal, a 6-3, 195 pound senior who will be at linebacker or nose guard on defense.

Other veteran defenders are Gordan Yingling, a linebacker who is also a running back, and Joe Tracy, a defensive safety and offensive end. Both are juniors.

Seniors Mike Brierton and David Sides, too, are being counted on for big contributions. Brierton, 5-10 and 180, is a lineman going both ways while sides is a 6-175 pound offensive lineman and defensive linebacker.

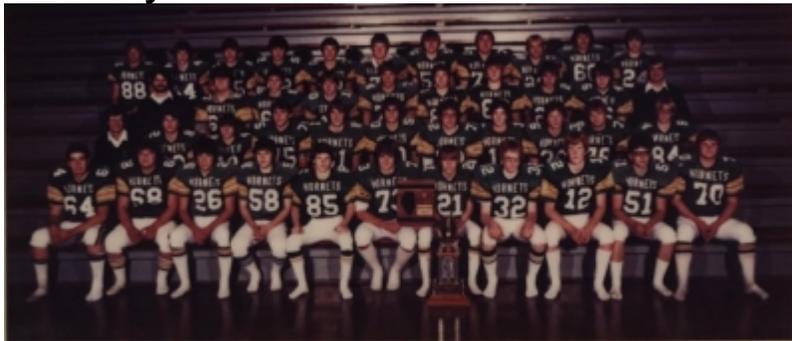
Quarterbacking the Hornets will be 6-1 junior Joe Whalen with Tracy playing the backup role. Tracy directed the varsity in one game last year as a sophomore, but was a defensive starter the rest of the season.

Brown County should have a good team speed and with all the youngsters Henry hopes to see improvement from week to week.

Another factor in his favor, perhaps, is the fact that five of the Hornets' opponents have new coaches. Among the schools are conference rivals Mendon Unity, Carthage and Warsaw.

Newcomers Roger Albright and Dan Holmes are Henry's assistants. Albright coaches have the varsity line and is in charge of the sophomore squad. Holmes, an Iowan, is freshman coach.

## 1982 Brown County Hornets



### New attitude makes Hornets winners

MOUNT STERLING, Ill.—As last year's 6-3 record says, they're taking football at Brown County a lot more seriously these days.

Opponents will be taking the Hornets more seriously this time around, too—Brown County has a nucleus of 14 letterman to try and improve that mark.

Head coach Jim Henry took a large step last fall towards restoring pride in the football program, a pride that took a beating from 1976 through 1978 when the Hornets won just two games out of 27.

"It was important for us to work on the attitude, and I think it's much better now," Henry said. "It should get better as the years go along, too as long as we can keep winning.

"I feel people will take us a little more seriously now. Hamilton is the team to beat, although in this conference there's never an overwhelming favorite. There's excellent balance in this (West Central) conference—but this year I've got the seniors."

That's noteworthy because the current senior class went unbeaten in the conference as sophomores. And last year's sophomores were 5-2 with losses only to conference rivals Hamilton and Carthage.

Beating Hamilton and Carthage on the varsity level, however, is another matter. The two schools have had a monopoly on WCC titles even back when the Hornets were contenders in the early 1970's, and Brown County took a step towards breaking up that domination last year by defeating the Blueboys in overtime. The two teams ended up in a three-way tie for second in the conference, with Camp Point Central.

Brown County's experience is split almost evenly between offense and defense, no surprise because the Hornets will again rely on two-way players. Henry's breakdown of personnel lists 14 seniors, 14 juniors and 14 sophomores, and that's the way you maintain a strong program.

On offense, quarterback Joe Whalen returns after pitching eight touchdown passes and throwing for 659 yards on 56 of 118 passing as a junior. "We'll probably throw a little more this year," promised Henry. "Joe's a lot stronger this year. He's 6-3 and 165 pounds, but he bench-presses about 245."

Senior Gordan Yingling and junior John Drake are back to share the ball-carrying chores. Yingling only carried for 338 yards partly due to Henry's preferred system of rotating four backs equally, but had an impressive 4.7 yards per carry mark. Another excellent backfield prospect is junior Scott Bemis, but he cracked a thumb in pre-season workouts and will be sidelined for at least a month.

Senior tight end Jeff Buskirk and Joe Tracy give Whalen two top-flight receivers if, indeed, Henry does plan to throw more. Tracy was honorable mention all-conference after catching 19 balls last year and Buskirk compiled an impressive ratio of six TD's among his 14 receptions.

Other offensive regulars back for a final season are center Sean Sullivan, tackle Trent Wort and guard Adam Rice. Senior tackle Todd Market, 6-4 and 228, also played some last year as did guard Charles Hedricks.

Most of the same names will be found on defense. Tracy is a two-year starter in the backfield, where all-conference teammates Jeff Dunn is an interception specialist. Wort is another two-way starter who makes things miserable for opposing runners.

Ringleader of the group is Yingling, who used his speed to become the Hornets' third leading tackler a year ago. Help will also come from Kerry Fry, who saw limited action in 1981.

## **Brown County faces challenge in Assumption, By John Potts**

MOUNT STERLING, Ill.—Brown County coach Jim Henry knows very little about his team's second-round opponent in the Illinois Class 2A state football playoffs, East St. Louis Assumption, but he expects to learn fast.

Literally.

The defending Quad County Conference champion Pioneers will visit Brown County at 1 p.m. Saturday for a state quarterfinal game. The host Hornets (10-0) advanced to the second round by edging Auburn, 21-7, Wednesday, while Assumption (9-1) roared past Gillespie, 21-7

Henry's immediate concern is trying to shutdown the Pioneers' quickness. Assumption has just two-players who run the 40-yard dash in less than 5.0 seconds according to coach Jim Monken.

"They're big, too," Henry said, "but not as heavy as some teams we've played. From what I hear, their quickness presents more of a problem than the size."

Assumption, which dropped its only game to Class 3A power Alton Marquette (20-6), relies on the running back tandem of senior fullback Derrick Barry and sophomore running back Larry Strickland.

Barry, a bruising 6-foot-4, 195-pounder who is sought after by Oklahoma and Nebraska to name a few, rushed for 96 yards against Gillespie, while Strickland tallied a pair of touchdowns. Terrence Anthony, a 6-foot, 165-pound senior, is the quarterback.

"We do a little running and passing, but I'd say we're more run-oriented," said Monken, who is in his 14th year at Assumption.

Henry figures the Hornets will need a yeoman's defensive job to counteract the Assumption quickness.

"We'll need a Hamilton-type game (a 6-0 victory)," Henry said. "We need a lot of gang tackles and pursuit. When a lot of kids get several good licks in a row they're not quite a tough runner."

Defensively, Assumption boasts size at the tackles in 6-foot-4, 200-pound Jimmy Hill and 6-foot-3, 180-pound Antone Liddell. They're backed up by linebackers Sebastian Bonner, a 6-foot-4, 210-pounder, and Chris Jones, a 6-foot-3, 185-pounder.

"Yeah, we're pretty solid and like to hit," Monken admitted, "And we have excellent team speed. I timed out 18 juniors and seniors in the 40-yard dash and only two were over five-flat."

The Hornets' backfield of Jon Drake and Gordan Yingling will be put to the test against the Pioneer defense, Yingling rushed for 91 yards and Drake added 29 against Auburn.

Quarterback Joe Whalen passed for 86 yards and rushed for 43 more.

Brown County's overtime victory came courtesy of a seven-yard touchdown pass from Joe Whalen to Drake to tie the score 20-20, then place-kicker Scott Bemis kept the Hornets alive by kicking the decisive extra point.

Bemis came through, which should be a big boost to his confidence. The junior had only taken up kicking this year and had some problems early with poor snaps and he missed a few kicks.

"We were always running for two points," Henry explained of Bemis' limited appearances on extra point tries. "But he's pretty consistent and we were gonna give him the chance in that situation."

"We needed him to come through and I'm not surprised that he did. We spend two or three nights a week working on extra points and spend even more time in practice on field goals."

The Hornets, though, didn't have very much time to enjoy the victory and were back at practice Thursday.

"I went to bed at 3a.m. and got up at 5a.m.," Henry said Thursday morning, "and I have half the uniforms washed. There's no time to savor a victory. That's for after the season."

In other Class 2A action Saturday, Casey (9-1) plays at Tuscola (9-1); Peoria Heights (7-4) travels to Bloomington Central Catholic (9-1); and Oregon (10-0) hosts Richmond Burton (10-0).

# 1983 Brown County Hornets



**BROWN COUNTY HORNETS**—First row, left to right, Mark Roberts, Rob Decker, Kirk Stappman, Warren Campbell, Mark Eragg, Russon Redford, Bill Karlsson. Second row, Dale Calkins, Scott Ferguson, Ed Brennan, Chris Rothapel, Ted Johnson, Kevin Stone, Tony Vincent, Dave Campbell, Roger Towell, Rick Roberts, Matt Ebert. Third row, Ron Knave, Eric Wood, Russell Wade, Chris Kesting, Chad Markert, Gary Whelan, Danny Morrison, Brent Knudsen, Tom Moore, Kevin Kaylor, Alan Drake, Steve Ledbrook. Fourth row, Coach Jim Beatty, John Drake, Doug Tisdell, Jeff Jennings, Rick Mathews, Greg Williams, Roger Knudsen, Gary Volney, Jim Miles, Ed Phillips, Jeff Kirt, Dan Blomquist, Coach Randy Johnson, Coach Dan Malone.