

PREPS EXTRA ALL-STATE FOOTBALL

DREAM-TEAM OFFENSE

E DeAnthony Arnett
Saginaw, 6-1, 177, Sr.
Highlights: In nine games, he caught 42 passes for 782 yards and eight TDs, and had six TDs rushing and on special teams. Coach Gary Lee: "This young man has speed, but he really understands how to run routes, creating separation, and that's what's different for a high school kid."

OL Anthony Zettel
Ogemaw Heights, 6-4, 250, Sr.
Highlights: Led the line for an offense that churned out 2,390 rushing yards and 1,059 passing in 10 games. Led team with 85 tackles and seven sacks. Coach Andrew Pratley: "He never stops on the field, a tenacious player. He doesn't want to just make a block, but pancake the defender."

OL Tyler Lemke
Mt. Pleasant, 6-4, 230, Sr.
Highlights: Allowed no sacks while the offense gained 4,875 yards. Coach Jason McIntyre: "I joke that if I needed an offensive line coach next year, I'd go to him. He knows as much about it as we do."

OL Mike Keith
Warren De La Salle, 6-0, 232, Sr.
Highlights: Was a reliable two-way player for the Pilots as tackle and middle linebacker. Coach Paul Verska: "He's a tremendous trapper, and we ran 85% of our offense behind him, rushing for more than 200 yards a game. He's a tenacious blocker with tremendous strength."

OL Kenny Rogers
Holt, 6-6, 260, Sr.
Highlights: Led offense that switched from spread to power this year, gaining more than 2,500 yards in 11 games. Coach Al Slammer: "Kenny's ability to block in both those schemes shows his versatility. A great athlete and one who has a tremendous upside with even better years ahead of him."

OL Parker Ehinger
Rockford, 6-8, 290, Sr.
Highlights: Two-year starter at left tackle, first-team OK Red Conference both years. Coach Ralph Munger: "Very durable player. Dominant run blocker and excellent pass-protection technique; great feet, very agile, excellent pulling capabilities and great speed for his size."

E Aaron Burbridge
Farmington Hills Harrison, 6-1, 180, Jr.
Highlights: Had 1,544 total yards, including 613 return yards, 211 rushing yards, scored 13 touchdowns, including nine receiving. Coach John Herrington: "One of the fastest players we've ever had. Best athlete on our team."

QB Alex Niznak (capt.)
Ithaca, 6-3, 226, Sr.
Highlights: Completed 68% of his passes with 31 TDs and just seven interceptions. Also ran for 1,161 yards and 21 TDs. Coach Terry Hessbrook: "The sky is the limit for Alex due to his work ethic. He never got rattled, and in the biggest game on the biggest stage, he took over."

RB Thomas Rawls
Flint Northern, 5-10, 212, Sr.
Highlights: Rushed 150 times for 1,585 yards and 19 TDs in just six games (injury). Coach Fred Jackson: "He's a relentless type of player. I don't think there's anything he cannot do. He stepped up to every challenge all year. He's a motor."

RB Terrell Porter
Berkley, 6-4, 210, Sr.
Highlights: Porter racked up 32 TDs (30 rushing) on 1,585 yards. Coach Jim MacDougall: "He has deceptive speed, and to my memory he's never been caught from behind. But he's not afraid to run inside — he rather enjoys that."

RB Marques Stevenson
Lake Orion, 5-9, 180, Sr.
Highlights: Rushed 253 times for 1,966 yards and 25 TDs. Had three games with 200-plus yards rushing. Coach Chris Bell: "He is always a consistent, hard-nosed runner between the tackles. It's phenomenal he had at least 15 or more runs in terms of 60 yards or more during this season."

P/K Kyle Brindza
Plymouth, 6-2, 220, Sr.
Highlights: Hit a longest of 53 yards this season. Went 6-for-9 from 50 yards or more; made 19 field goals total (two in state final), with 41 PATs for 98 points. Coach Mike Sawchuk: "I've seen him hit a 70-yarder in practice. Not only is he a phenomenal kicker, he's the best high school kicker I've seen."

Coach of the year

Lake Orion's Bell made most of second chance with title

By MICK McCABE
FREE PRESS SPORTS WRITER

Three weeks before the 1991 football season, Linden school officials called 23-year-old Chris Bell and asked if he wanted to be a head coach.

So Bell and Albion College teammate Dave Tooley headed to Linden, and two years later had a 1-17 record.

"I spent two years up there getting the pants beat off us," said Bell, 42. "It was one of those things that was a blessing in disguise because we learned so much. We didn't know what we didn't know. We had to learn how to coach high school kids."

Bell learned well. This fall, Bell coached Lake Orion to the Division 1 state championship and is the Free Press all-state coach of the year.

After two seasons in Linden as a substitute teacher, Bell found himself a coach without a team when a full-time teacher claimed the job. Somehow, former Center Line St. Clement athletic director Vic Michael hired Bell.

"Fortunately I knew somebody in the Catholic League who made a phone call for me," Bell said. "I owe Vic Michaels everything. Here's a guy who was 1-17 and replacing a coach who had taken St. Clement to the state semifinals, and he gave me a shot."

The guy Bell knew in the Catholic League is his father-in-law, Mike Boyd, the coach at Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes and the third-winningest coach in state history.

Bell posted a 21-3 record with two state semifinal appearances at St. Clement,



ROB WIDDIS/Special to the Free Press

Lake Orion coach Chris Bell started his career with a 1-17 record at Linden. He has a 133-38 record since, including a state title this year.

but left to return to his alma mater Lake Orion as an assistant, and three years later became head coach.

In 13 seasons, Bell is 112-35 with 12 playoff appearances and a runner-up finish in 2008.

Bell's first coaching experience came at Albion, where he was a backup quarterback for the late Pete Schmidt.

"Pete was amazing," Bell said. "As I got older, Pete knew I wanted to coach, and he and I had a good relationship. He said it could be a valuable thing for me; it was like being a GA at the Division III level. It's the best thing I ever did. I got to talk to him on a daily basis."

This was a magical season at Lake Orion, which won the state title despite season-ending injuries to its quarterback, free safety and right guard.

"I'm just happy for everybody involved," Bell said. "The community, the school, our central office, our students — everybody is so supportive. From our youth league through our middle schools through our younger levels, everybody feels a part of it — and they are. The greatest thing is seeing everybody celebrate and enjoy the moment that everybody's worked so hard for."

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DREAM-TEAM DEFENSE

DL Mario Ojemudia
Farmington Hills Harrison, Jr., 6-3, 220
Highlights: Led the team with 86 solo tackles and 41 assists. Had 12 sacks and caused three fumbles. Coach John Herrington: "He is relentless on defense. He doesn't stay blocked, and he gets to the football. He has great potential. He will be a great college player someday."

DL Feerooz Yacoobi
Dearborn, Sr., 6-2, 225
Highlights: Had 26 tackles for loss, 11 sacks, a fumble recovery, two caused fumbles, a blocked punt and a field goal and a safety. Coach Dave Mifsud: "Feerooz is a gifted athlete. He has an incredible burst and explosion. He plays hard every play. He is a model citizen and a very humble person."

DL Brennen Beyer (capt.)
Plymouth, Sr., 6-4, 230
Highlights: Had 47½ tackles, 11½ sacks, forced two fumbles, broke up seven passes and blocked two kicks for the Division 1 state finalist. Also caught 31 passes for 611 yards and 10 touchdowns. Coach Mike Sawchuk: "Brennen has had an unbelievable impact on our program. Brennen is a great football player with a great motor."

DL Jake Fisher
Traverse City West, Sr., 6-7, 270
Highlights: Made 68 tackles (eight for loss). He forced a fumble, intercepted two passes, returning one for a TD. He caught 13 passes for 164 yards and a TD. Coach Tim Wooer: "Jake has been a pleasure to coach. He has been a very good high school football player, but he has the frame and athleticism to make an incredible college athlete."

LB Trent Voss
East Grand Rapids, Sr., 6-3, 215
Highlights: Had 90 solo tackles, 48 assists, four interceptions (two returned for touchdowns). He had two fumble recoveries, 18 tackles for loss and seven sacks. Coach Peter Stuursma: "His ability to run and cover ground makes him special, and he is just so tough between the tackles. Not only is he able to take you head on, but he can chase you down."

LB Lawrence Thomas
Detroit Renaissance, Sr., 6-4½, 242
Highlights: Had 84 tackles, 28 for loss, nine sacks and four forced fumbles. Thomas is strong and a big-time hitter. Coach Antonio Watts: "Lawrence is a big-time hitter, a ferocious hitter. He was our leader on defense."

LB Taiwan Jones
New Balt. Anchor Bay, Sr., 6-3, 205
Highlights: Registered 46 tackles, 26 solos, three interceptions and two tackles for loss. Rushed for 856 yards and 12 TDs. Coach Phil Latona: "Taiwan was definitely the driving force behind the success of the 2010 Tars. On defense, he started as an outside linebacker and forced teams to play half the field."

LB James Ross
Orchard Lake St. Mary's, Jr., 6-1, 215
Highlights: Had 61 solo tackles, 35 assists, four sacks and two fumble recoveries. Coach George Porritt: "He's so instinctive; he reads plays fast, and when he comes, he comes full throttle."

DB Valdez Showers
Madison Heights Madison, Sr., 6-1, 185
Highlights: Had 32 tackles and four interceptions. Rushed 220 times for 2,024 yards and 29 TDs, plus three more receiving TDs. Coach Drake Wilkins: "The thing that makes him such a great player is the same thing that makes him a great person. He's a humble kid, and he just acts like he's one of the guys."

DB Davion Stackhouse
Canton, Sr., 5-11, 190
Highlights: Had 35 tackles and an interception. Ran 93 times for 1,003 yards and 20 TDs. Coach Tim Baechler: "His ability to come up and tackle in the open field was the big thing. We played a lot of man coverage. He was a strong-safety type who could do that."

DB Delonte Hollowell
Detroit Cass Tech, Sr., 5-10, 175
Highlights: Three-year starter recorded 18 interceptions and two sacks over the past two years. Coach Thomas Wilcher: "He had never played cornerback when he came to us as a sophomore, but he just did everything right and he listened. He's a great athlete, and he did everything we asked him."

Coach Chris Bell
Lake Orion
Highlights: Despite losing his starting quarterback after the 12th game, he led the Dragons to the Division 1 state title with a victory over Plymouth. Bell: "It's a credit to the resiliency of my players. Down the stretch run, we lost three starters. All year long there was no panic. They worked hard, the next guy stepped in, and they believed in each other and got it done."

Division teams

DIVISION 1

OFFENSE
E: Kishon Wilcher, Detroit Cass Tech
OL: Blake McGhee, Lake Orion
OL: Rami Jawad, Dearborn Fordson
OL: Adam Bennett, Romeo
OL: Alex Smith, Grand Haven
OL: Brandon Tammara, Novi Det. CC
E: Jake Duzey, Troy Athens
E: Neil VanderLaan, Rockford
QB: Keith Moore, Detroit Cass Tech
RB: Kevin Buford, Canton
RB: Ryan Burkhard, Romeo
P/K: Evan Fischer, Holt

DEFENSE
DL: Ryan Hankins, Davison
DL: Bernard Taylor, Dakota
DL: Darryl Goldsmith, Cass Tech
DL: Daron Brown, Detroit Mumford
LB: Dalton Stenberg, Grand Haven
LB: Justin D'Agostino, Novi Det. CC
LB: Brett Egnatuck, Rockford
LB: Garrett Bryten, Canton
DB: Brandon Bartneck, Eisenhower
DB: Levi Perry, Northville
DB: Shane VanFleteren, Utica

DIVISION 2

OFFENSE
E: Matt Houston, Lowell
OL: Spencer Cairo, Rochester Adams
OL: Bryan Bell, Walled Lake Central
OL: Nick Cadwell, Grand Ledger
OL: Dylan Arbanas, Portage Central
OL: John Costello, Bay City Western
E: Shane Barron, Carman-Ainsworth
QB: Tommy Vento, FH Harrison
QB: Gabe Dean, Lowell
RB: Dennis Norfleet, Detroit King
RB: Jimmy Pickens, Brother Rice
P/K: Kyle Braun, Berkley

DEFENSE
DL: Damon Knox, Muskegon
DL: Kyle Forman, Berkley
DL: Conor Hart, Brother Rice
DL: Troy Hinds, SCS Lakeview
LB: Will Reeves, GP South
LB: Jake Georgakopoulos, Fenton
LB: Buddy Nofes, Wyandotte
LB: Tim Hamilton, Brother Rice
DB: Eric Schwenk, Midland Dow
DB: Chris Laneaux, Portage Northern
DB: Jake Wilson, Farmington

DIVISION 3

OFFENSE
E: Jordan Johnson, DeWitt
OL: Cody Boucher, Petoskey
OL: Connor Gould, BC Harper Creek
OL: Joe Monticello, East GR
OL: Tyler Tucker, East Lansing
OL: Darius Brownlee, Warren Fitz.
E: Ray Tillman, Avondale
QB: Ryan Elble, East Grand Rapids
RB: Alex Horton, Mt. Pleasant
RB: Dakota Ogles, Hazel Park
RB: Jodeci Mays, Carleton Airport
P/K: Bobby Aardema, East GR

DEFENSE
DL: Cortez Riley, OL St. Mary's
DL: Brad Bosman, Riverview
DL: Kyle Fisher, Linden
DL: Zak Green, Marquette
LB: Derek Sievers, Byron Center
LB: Kelsey Heinrich, Petoskey
LB: Keegan Denyul, Zeeland East
LB: Joe Dunn, Milan
DB: Caleb Higbie, DeWitt
DB: Brad Horling, Zeeland East
DB: Allen Robinson, OL St. Mary's

Free Press all-state football banquet

The Free Press all-state dream team will be honored at a banquet, co-sponsored by the National Football Foundation and College Football Hall of Fame, Dec. 15 at the Dearborn Inn.

Michigan State coach Mark Dantonio will be the featured speaker. Tickets are still available. To order, call 248-528-2860, extension 222.

Honorable mention: Go to www.freepress.com/highschoolsports for our honorable mention team.

DIVISION 4

OFFENSE
E: Matt Macksood, Lansing Catholic
OL: Ethan Wirth, Williamston
OL: Jalen Schlachter, Corunna
OL: Steve McGovern, Grand Rap. CC
OL: Kyle Osier, New Boston Huron
OL: DeMarco Bisbee, Lansing Sexton
E: Courtney Williams, Melvindale
QB: Andrew Buskirk, Paw Paw
RB: Anthony Scarcellii, Marine City
RB: Brandon Hall, Orchard View
RB: Wade Wood, Goodrich
P/K: Mike Stepanek, Hudson. Unity

DEFENSE
DL: Kyle Fisher, Linden
DL: Eric Crume, Detroit Central
DL: Jim Joski, Kingsford
DL: David Brown, Country Day
LB: Evan Weiss, Grand Rap. CC
LB: Jacob Detamore, Marine City
LB: Colin Wilson, St. Johns
LB: Josh Blanton, Zeeland West
DB: Raymon Taylor, Highland Park
DB: Ashton Gaines, Detroit Crockett
DB: Dylan Monette, Williamston

DIVISION 5

OFFENSE
E: Steven Enos, Grayling
OL: Patrick McCarthy, GR West Cath.
OL: Cory Loper, Millington
OL: Tyler James, Stant. Cent. Mont.
OL: Cody Gorman, Clawson
OL: Tyler VanderSyde, Hopkins
E: Cole Walderzak, Standish-Sterling
E: Kegan Smith, Gladwin
QB: Willie Snead IV, Musk. Heights
RB: James Hartley, Birch Run
RB: Michael Cremeans, Lum. Christi
P/K: Mitch Breedberg, GR W. Cath.

DEFENSE
DL: Cody James, Olivet
DL: C.J. Lingis, Menominee
DL: Jake Baumgartner, Perry
DL: Frank Clark, Hemlock
LB: Thomas Bolday, Capac
LB: Devonte Snyder, MH Madison
LB: Tyler Havens, Morley-Stanwood
DB: Dan Pittman, GR West Catholic
DB: Jamie Potts, Muskegon Oakridge
DB: Zak Bielecki, Lutheran North
DB: Jay Cousineau, Olivet

DIVISION 6

OFFENSE
E: Aaron Dabicc, Watervliet
OL: Tyler Croton, Kingsley
OL: Reggie Vanhook, Flint Beecher
OL: Kyle Burkhardt, Monroe SMCC
OL: Mark Ward, Michigan Central
OL: Cam Hobbs, Sanford-Meridian
E: Brandon Shank, Farwell
QB: Wes Leonard, Fennville
LB: Noah Reyhl, Suttons Bay
RB: Derek Sentieri, Elk Rapids
RB: Zane Brugger, Byron
P/K: Juan Perez, Hartford

DEFENSE
DL: Ryan Armstrong, Leslie
DL: Dylan Neff, Manchester
DL: Dan Bingle, Negaunee
DL: Luke Hartwig, Iron Mountain
LB: Nick Huckabay, Montrose
LB: Isaac Bjorn, Calumet
LB: Nyshaun Marks, Willow Run
LB: Paul Kuoppala, Iron Mountain
DL: Elliot Clark, Suttons Bay
DB: Mike Pannone, Monroe SMCC
DB: Luke Capen, Ithaca

DIVISION 7

OFFENSE
E: Kyle Mayan, Merrill
OL: Meiko McDaniel, Hudson
OL: Keegan DeZeeuw, McBain
OL: Shafer Johnson, Southfield Chr.
OL: Josh White, Ugly
OL: Mitch Bolley, Potterville
E: Austin Karbowski, Wat. Our Lady
QB: Dan Olson, Ishpeming
RB: Anthony Scarcelli, Hudson
RB: John Vuocolo, Grass Lake
RB: Chase Blake, Peters.-Summer.
P/K: Josh Bachleda, Bridgman

DEFENSE
DL: Matt Smith, Hudson
DL: Adam Williams, Lake City
DL: Brock Lavergne, Lincoln-Alcona
DL: Stanley Matuszak, Whitte.-Pres.
LB: Wyatt Jurasin, Ishpeming
LB: Gavin Smith, Pewamo-West.
LB: Cody Bingaman, Mendon
DB: Branch Kampe, Royal Oak Shrine
DB: Taylor Borst, Mancelona
DB: Amos Houston, Detroit Loyola
DB: John Zakrzewski, TC St. Francis

DIVISION 8

OFFENSE
E: Matt Mills, MP Sacred Heart
OL: Nick Pasch, Beal City
OL: Josh Hier, Ashley
OL: Dakota Price, Fulton-Middleton
OL: John Schrauben, Fowler
OL: Nick Wilson, Morenci
E: Kevin Rice, Kinde-North Huron
QB: Brett Wesner, Bellevue
RB: Ethan Colton, Saugatuck
RB: Justin Wilson, Ashley
RB: Nick Hire, MP Sacred Heart
P/K: Aaron Mick, Parkway Christian

DEFENSE
DL: Shaquille Sibley, New Lothrop
DL: Jonathan Robinson, Hillman
DL: Tanner Jacques, Stephenson
DL: Tyler Demeuse, Powers N. Cent.
LB: Jordan Hahka, Linden-Hubbell
LB: Jeremiah Longman, Chim.-Scotts
LB: Lance Kleino, Saugatuck
DB: Austin St. Louis, St. Ignace
DB: Mike King, Central Lake
DB: Cory Grossman, Onaway
DB: Jared Barton, Fulton-Middleton