

1999 Post Season Chat

Comments/Questions: [Responses are in Blue](#)

WHY IS PERRY ALLOWED TO PLAY ON THEIR HOME FIELD ?
THOUGHT THE PLAYOFFS WERE TO BE ON A NEUTRAL FIELD

[Perry is a part of District 8 \(Pittsburgh City League\), which only has one field \(South Stadium\). Since District 8 hosts this year's game against the D-10 AAA representative, South Stadium is technically the only place where they are able to host this game.](#)

Why when you are winning by 35 points do some players get 1 play and some still do not play at all?? I only ask because that was the case last weekend everyone should of played alot more then they did

[We have extra kids on the team now that the sophomore JV's have been given the option to move up to varsity at the end of their season. We try to get them all in, however sometimes it just doesn't work out that we can fit everyone in every game.](#)

What does it mean when they say were in a "cooperative agreement" to play in AAA class?
Do any other High Schools in the state have cooperative agreements besides Greenville?

[We have a co-op agreement with Commodore Perry school district, which does not have football as a sport available to their students. As a result, students from Commodore Perry have the option to come and play for Greenville, however CP's male enrollment in grades 10-12 must be added in to Greenville's to make it fair, and as a result, the combined Greenville/CP team is at the AAA level. Reynolds and Jamestown used to have such an agreement a few years back, however this was dropped. Others around the state also have such agreements.](#)

What District is Perry in?

[Perry is the AAA representative for District 8, also known as the Pittsburgh City League.](#)

I am aware of the coaches typing skills. So don't expect too many questions answered. Cliffie
[NicE to SEE that yuo have alot of confidence in your fromer COaches. Nice to hear from you!](#)

Do you think that you will put the ball in the air more this week than in weeks past? It seems that as you go further into the playoffs a more well-rounded offensive is what it takes to be successful do you agree or disagree? I am not saying that Greenville does not have a well rounded offense, however the deeper you get into the playoffs the better the opposing defense is and changes should be made don't you agree?

[Probably. Obviously, we will do what we feel is necessary in each situation to be successful, whether it be to run or throw. There is absolutely no question that we will have to throw more than we have in some games now that we advance into the state playoffs.](#)

Do you think this years team has the potential to advance in the state playoffs?

[Yes, we certainly do have the potential to advance into the state playoffs, however there is more involved than just potential. Such as: the strength of the opponent, the health of our players, and believe it or not, when you get to this point, just plain old luck becomes a factor.](#)

What are your predictions for Saturday?

[Partly sunny 58 degrees. Other than that, predictions for Saturday will be very difficult. Obviously, Perry has a very good team. We can only hope that we play well and come out on top.](#)

Congratulations for another great year. As much as I respect Greenville's winning tradition, I also am proud of the way all the coaches and players conduct themselves both on and off the field. I think we can be state champs if we can do the following 3 things: low turnovers, balanced passing & running attack and great pass defense --- from long time fan Ted

Jones

Thanks for the compliments, Ted. We'll certainly give it our best shot.

How many bottles of Maalox has Coach Stone ingested this week?

Good question. We actually buy it by the barrell, and there isn't much left at this point.

It must be nice to have two great receivers for once this year. From what i have heard some of your games have been won through the air. Do you think you will have the same success throwing the ball against Perry? From a few of their games that I have seen down here in the Burgh, they have shown a little bit of speed. Also will you be able to go deep on them? If you get a chance try to get Scoop in the game (he's a valuable asset).

Perry's secondary is very quick, and I have complete confidence in Coach Herrick's ability to decide on whether to stay with the short passing game, or to go deep. As for Scoop, he will undoubtedly be the best of the Mason's.

Coach Stone: is it true that you painted your house on Plum Street wearing a house dress and wedgies?

No, for working outdoors, I prefer koolots (sp?) and sneakers.

Who is the better athlete, you or you brother?
No contest...me!

Coach Stone, have you learned how to use a computer yet or are you still using that cute method with the index cards?

No, we're computerized now...the index cards are gone!

How do you get to South Stadium from Greenville?

I believe that there will be complete directions in the Record-Argus later in the week. The staduim is located on the South side just a few blocks up from Mario's.

If you win the state championship, would you take all of your grandchildren to Disney World?

I guess if we get to the state championship, I'll have to take my grandchildren to Hershey.

Stoney, great game and good luck from the Sharpsville Blue Devils
How is the injury situation?

Thanks, I think we're ok. Any injuries were very minor.

who do we play on sat

We play Perry out of the Pittsburgh City League (District 8) at 1 p.m. at South Stadium in Pittsburgh on Saturday.

do you think we are going to have a good team next year

I haven't really thought that much about next year yet, to be truthful with you. We're still trying to bring this year to a successful conclusion.

I would like to know if we will continue to play Wilmington next year or any mcac teams?

It is not definite at this point, however I will say that there is a good chance that we will be playing Wilmington again next year. At this point, it looks like we will not be playing Reynolds again in the near future, however.

my brother steve thomas # 75 on jv wants to know if he will get the same jersey next year

Unless there is an upperclassman who already has that number, Steve will probably be able to get that same number again next year.

Why is it that when you are crushing a team, you never put second string in. You keep the starters in. Don't you think that is wrong?

I don't think that we have really "crushed" anyone this year. I think we make a great effort to get as many kids playing time as possible.

What is the Perry record this year? And what is the ratio of the offensive plays -- runs to passes?

Perry has lost 3 games thus far this season. I believe they throw slightly more than they run.

Why move the sophmores up, when you don't get everyone in the game anyways? To make them feel bad? And alos, why say congrats on a great game to all the boys except one? Are you just naturally mean?

My appologies if I accidentally omitted someone, it was certainly not intentional. I hope I'm not naturally mean!!

Up here we see some passing based offenses like Sharon and the Erie teams. Thats the same kind of offense a Pittsburg team would run. What I'm asking is do you think we can pound the ball at Perry because not a lot of city teams are accustom to this?

We always go into a game trying to run the football. If we can run it at them, we will but if not, then we will have to use other tactics, which includes going to the air.

No matter how much longer it goes on, It's been a great season.
Thanks

Thanks for your positive outlook. Always nice to hear from people like you.

Who are the probable starters in next year's offensive line, as next year's team looks even better?

We really don't know yet, however we can say that they will have alot of work to do if they want to be as good as this year's offensive line.

Since you'll be still practicing for a playoff game, can I come down and shoot that big buck in your back yard?

At least wait until it gets out of the yard. I don't know if you could hit the buck, but I'm sure you could hit my house!!

I WAS JUST WONDERING WHO THE PLAYER OF THE GAME WAS LAST TIME YOU FACED PERRY -66

No question...Rod Rutherford.

Take your grandkids to Disney! Coach Rankin invites the Greenville Football team to play Winter Park High in Orlando, Florida next year!
Come visit Rank on his new farm!!!!

Rank, you must be looking for a patsy. We'd love to come down and play you, but it's highly unlikely we can pull something like that off. Besides, you probably wouldn't be inviting us if you didn't think you could pound us. Good to here from you, hope everything is going ok.

Coach Stone
what was is your opinion on the way Justin Napotnik broke Joe K's touchdown record?

Records are made to be broken, and Justin is a great running back, who deserves whatever honors he may get.

Are you going to coach until you drop, like Joe Paterno. (Go Lions!)

I don't think that I'll coach as long as Paterno, but I have no timetable at this point in time.

Does anybody ever ask anything interesting on this thing?

Not this question!! (jokingly)

Coach Stone Who is your opponent after Perry. Cliffie

If we are fortunate enough to beat Perry on Saturday, we would play the winner of the Clearfield/Bellafonte game this weekend, who will be the champions of Districts 6 and 9. Nice to hear from you, Cliffie. Glad you could take time away from your "studies" to talk with us.

Saturday night at Erie, near the end of the first half, three minutes to go, Gen. McLane committed an infraction and you had a choice of 3rd and 18 or 2nd and 28. You took the penalty and thereby gave GM three plays to run down the clock rather than trying to get the ball back sooner. Why?

We could have gone either way on that one, and as it turned out, we probably took the wrong way. That's 20/20 hindsight for you.

Would you permit a female student to play on the team if she were as good as the male players competing for the same position?

Certainly, I am not a chauvinist.

Is 2000 the year when schools are re-classified? Do you have any predictions? Will Sharon move up to 3-A? Will Greenville drop its cooperative with Commodore Perry and drop to 2-A? Any predictions at all?

I don't really feel that there will be a whole lot of changes in the classifications around here. We will most likely continue our co-op with Commodore Perry into the near future.

Hey Mr. Stone!!!

It's Natalie and Heather. We just wanted to say that we really miss you this year!!!

Good luck on Saturday, cause we won't be able to make it!!! See ya soon!!

Nice to hear from you girls. Thanks for taking time out from partying to chat with us. Hope everything is going well. If you're home over vacation, don't hesitate to stop in and see us.

Does your QB have the authority to change the play at the line of scrimmage? GM alternatively moved their safeties in and outward to help cover wide receivers. This gave you the opportunity to pass when coverage was one on one and to run when the safeties were spread wider. How do you deal with such opportunities?

Our QB does have the authority to change plays at the line of scrimmage, however it is more difficult than most would imagine. For example we can only run some plays from certain formations, and if we're not in that formation we can't check to that play that might look better.

How do you feel about having to play on the home field of the opposing team?

I'd certainly rather play somewhere else, however there is nothing we can do about the site, so we'll just prepare as best we can to play the game wherever it is.

Do you still give out the "Tough as Nails" award to varsity players?

We don't normally give the "Tough as Nails" award to varsity players, usually only JV players are considered.

Coach, can you share with us your view of the top five teams in the past 30 years of Greenville football.

A fan.

You have asked me to do a near-impossible chore in ranking the top five teams of the past 30 years. Certainly, the '93 and '96 teams would probably be among the top five, and this year's team could possibly end up among the top five as well. '83, '84, and '91 were also very strong teams that come to mind. We've had a lot of very good teams over the past 30 years, so I'll let you pick the others. (At my age, my memory is not what it used to be)

Coach Stone Good Luck in the playoffs and great season

Thanks, and good to hear from you.

Who are the best trainers you have ever had?

We always have great trainers!

Is it hard for you to get over bad referee calls such as the last time we played Blackhawk & the Sharon (Archie) game?

Yes, however one really shouldn't let poor officiating bother them, although it is certainly difficult not to. I try to keep reminding myself that if we don't make any more mistakes than the officials do, we won't have any problems. If you get too carried away with officials' calls, it interferes with your focus on the game and what you should be doing.

Coach, any plans for retirement in the near future and any personal choice for your successor?

I haven't really thought a whole lot about it at this point. I'm sure there will be lots of highly qualified candidates when the time comes. I will certainly have my own personal favorite for the job.

Coach Stone, How well do the trojans matchup with Perry? Is this a well rounded trojan team and how much senior leadership do you have?

We truthfully won't know just how we will matchup with Perry until Saturday. I would like to think we're well-rounded. Our offense, defense, and kicking team are all respectable. Our senior leadership has been outstanding this year.

Coach, we all remember the Rod Rutherford led team from a few years back. How does this Perry team compare to that team?

This year's Perry team is a very fine one, however they do not have Rod Rutherford. This team spreads the ball around more.

Will the Freshman Young see more playing time this week?

That will depend entirely upon game situations.

What is the update on the injuries?

The injury situation seems to be ok at this time.

Are we sending scouts to see most of the potential teams we might be playing?

Yes, we have to ask some of our coaches to miss certain games, however the scouting does need to be done.

With all the juniors that are starting this year, and by the looks of having another great year, are you not planning on retiring after this year?

Nope, no plans to retire at this time, of course that could change at any minute!

Do you think that there will be any key players for you guys in this weeks game?

I certainly hope so, because in the playoffs, you have to make plays in order to be successful. We need for everybody to step their production up a notch.

What do you think about Greenville Fans? Is there one fan that stands out?

Greenville fans have always been very very supportive of us, and believe me, we appreciate it.

Coach Stone,

When did you learn how to use a computer? I thought you were from back in the day and had no clue how to use these things. I think you should use your secret weapon more often, SCOOP. Also what do you think of Perry's team this year? From what i have seen down here they are not as good as they have been in the past couple of years.

I still don't now how to use a computer, I have somebody else typing this for me. Thanks for you assesment of this year's Perry team. We're still working on "SCOOP", our secret weapon!

How do you feel about Andy Young's performance in the game last saturday

We were very pleased with Andy's performance overall, especially considering he's a freshman.

Coach who do you feel you will be playing after Perry.

The winner of our game Saturday will play the winner of the Clearfield/Bellefonte game the following week in the state quarterfinals. The winner of that game will then play the WPIAL champions in the western finals, and the winner of that game goes to states in Hershey.

do you think the midget and pee-wee programs are beneficial to the success of the football teams

Greenville kids are fortunate in that they may choose between the midget program and the school intermural program. I think that both programs have proven very beneficial to our JV and varsity programs over the years.

I'm glad that Coach Stone has finally answered one of my questions. I've been sitting here hammering out these questions while alternately preparing my interior design lecture for tomorrow. Coach Stone's loving sister, Mary

Nice to hear from the frozen North. Throw another log on the fire, I hear it's going to be a cold night!

I can't believe that you coach have finally entered the tech age. The Bass Master

I try to keep up with things here, as well as with my fishing.

Some folks feel Greenville plays a "light" regular season schedule. Also that Greenville should be in the MCAC. The conclusion being that, therefore, Greenville doesn't advance very far during the playoffs. What are your thoughts on this?

Scheduling games is far more difficult than most people imagine, which is the main reason teams belong to conferences. They guarantee teams at least so many games per year. A conference may (and often is) very strong one year, and weak the next. That's pretty much just the way it goes. Besides, you can never truly please everybody with your schedule year in and year out.

How can Greenville continue to have such a successful football program with such an old time coach? Coach Rankin from Orlando, FL.

You're no spring chicken anymore, either!

What is the easiest part of coaching and the most difficult?

The easiest part is on the field coaching in practice and games. The most difficult part is dealing with off the field problems. I've been fortunate in not having that many off the field problems over the years.

Is there room in your offense for a wingback delay, or a similar pattern?
I believe he is under-rated....

There is always room in Coach Herrick's offense for another play!

Trojan 2000 Post Season Chat

Comments/Questions are in Black / Responses are in Blue

Sponsored by Greenville Savings Bank & the Greenville Area Web Site

Would like to say good job again with your season. Sorry to hear that you guys got beat in the play offs. Yes I'am not working hard again! Thank You!
Steve Shimshock

Good to hear from you, Steve. We would prefer to have had a different ending to the season, however sometimes things don't always go as you'd like. Back to the drawing board.

Do you think belonging to the Northwest Conference has hurt your team in post-season over the years?

Conferences vary in strength from year to year. Being in the Northwest Conference didn't seem to hurt us when we won 4 previous District 10 titles or in '93 and '96, when we went to the western finals.

Mr. Stone, This is Jason Stearns. I wanted to inform you that student teaching at Cochranon is going well. I have a comment to make I went to the last two football games and I must say your program should be commended. I did not see one kid hang their heads when they were down they stuck it out and I believe that is a testament to you and your staff. I really enjoyed watching the Trojans play and look forward to the future.

Great to hear from you, Jason. I got your emails, but I just got into my computer today to read them. You'll hear from me later on this week. Hope everything is going ok for you.

Hello Mr. Stone how's the weather back in Greenville? I sure do miss the change of seasons that I don't get to see over here in Hawaii. I think you know who this is.

It's about 25 degrees here now, needless to say, I would love to be in Hawaii right now for more reason than just the weather!

Are any colleges looking at any of your kids? If so who?

At this point, Gio, Sam, and a couple of the other seniors have received mail, etc. from several colleges, some large, some small. However, it may still be a little early for any serious talking.

How do you think Wilmington will do against Perry?

Wilmington appears to be at the top of their game now, Perry is extremely talented with great speed. The fact that they're playing on natural grass (probably mud) should benefit Wilmington, but you never know.

It has been mentioned that the Trojans were "overrated". I thought we were a good team. Were the regular season teams so bad and HarborCreek and Wilmington so much better? Your comments?

I am not really sure, however in looking back, we did not seem to improve the last 3 or 4 weeks of the season, I don't know why this happened. We're looking into it.

I was wondering if you've thought of either having tougher scrimages or throwing in a couple tougher teams in your schedule would prepare these guys better for the championships/playoffs. It's obvious that your a good coach and I know that Greenville has allways had some strong outstanding athletes. Just a thought because they seem to beat everyone during regular season by atleast 30 to 50 points.

I think we have 2 very good scrimmages as it is, and the addition of McDowell to our schedule also beefed that up. We tried very hard to fill the open date, however could not. I am not convinced that our schedule is the reason for our nosedive in the playoffs. We have played pretty much the same schedule for years, and it didn't seem to have that effect in the past.

Are you the only coach in the conference who does this (chats)?

There may be others in the conference who do, but I really can't say for sure.

What is your opinion of the midget football program and are you aware the midgets just finished the season as Shenango Valley champs

The local midget coaches run a good program, and I have spoken with some of their kids in school and congratulated them on having a great season.

Did Wilmington do anything that the coaching staff didn't expect and how many times did we scout them.

We saw Wilmington both in person and on film several times. They did not do anything unexpected, they just executed much better than we did. Of course, if we had it to do over again, we would probably do a few things differently, however it is too late now and we will try to learn from our mistakes and look ahead to next season.

I have overheard some people comment that maybe it's time to do away with the co-op with Commodore Perry and drop to AA what is your opinion I believe this would not be a wise thing to do .

There are times when this co-op is very productive, and other times when it is not. Overall, I am not unhappy with this situation, and there are some reasons (which I cannot go into here) why we will continue it. This year, we had several promising CP freshmen. Hopefully, the situation is on the upswing.

10-1 is a great season, no matter what. Congratulations!

The record was actually 9-1, however thanks for the congrats.

Bob Congratulations on another great season! Greetings from Florida! Have been enjoying the games via video tape. Sure wish you'd go back to a 10 game schedule. Vic L.

Thanks, and great to hear from you, Mr. L. I hope everything is going well for you in the sunshine state. I'm surprised that you're into the computer scene. As for the 10 game schedule, with the playoff format, there's no sense in scheduling any more than 9 games each year. The playoff start on the 10th date, and if you can't qualify for the playoffs, the 10th game is pretty meaningless. Most 10th games around here obviously only involve teams who don't make the playoffs, and they tend to just go through the motions in that final game. I'm not sure I like it, however the entire football scene is now driven by the playoffs. Once again, great to hear from you, Vic.

Is there any chance we will play any Mercer County team next year? It is a shame to see us traveling all the time and the County rivalry not there. I wish we could get back in the Mercer County league. Is there ever any chance of it? Did we fill the open date next year?

It's not likely that we'll play any Mercer County teams next year during the regular season, since scheduling is done on a 2-year basis. There is a possibility that we may be able to fill our open date, however it will not be with an MCAC team, since no MCAC teams have a compatible open date. Since we never have been in the MCAC, we can't get "back" into it, however if in the future, situations would change, it is possible that Greenville could either play MCAC teams, or even join the MCAC.

Coach Stone - great season - sorry it came to an end so soon. You continue to do a great job of getting the most out of the kids.

Glad to be able to follow the Trojans on the web site.
Does Reynolds come back on the schedule next year?

Dave Clelland

Great to hear from you, Dave. Hope everything is going well for you in VA. Sorry to say, Reynolds will not be on the schedule again next year. Maybe down the road in a few years, something can be worked out. Glad you're able to keep up with the local stuff on the website.

Trojan Pre-Season Chat 2001

Sponsored by the Greenville Pizza Hut

Bob, Art, Whendy and the cast of thousands:

Sorry I'm not able to be there tonight. Always enjoyed getting together with you guys. Good luck to the Trojans this season.

Don Shaffer

Thanks, Don. We know that you really just enjoyed the pizza. ;)

Mr. Stone, This is Jason Stearns. How is everything? I just wanted to wish you and the Trojans good luck in 2001. I am still in Meadville job hunting but I hope to have something soon. I had two interviews in Maryland with no success. Any new student teachers?

Thanks and I will see you soon,

Jason Stearns

Nice to hear from you, Jason. No student teachers this year. I hope your job hunting is successful, and I hope to see you at a game this season. Best wishes.

With Erie Central entering the NWC who will you look to play non-conference. Will Erie McDowell continue to be on your schedule

Our future schedule is still pretty much up in the air. What teams we fill our open dates with depend upon some things which as of yet have not been determined. McDowell is a possibility, but not a certainty. The same goes for Karns City as a future opponent, and perhaps even Reynolds.

Unfortunately, I can't make the Farrell scrimmage this Friday. What, if anything, will I miss? How do you feel the two teams match up?

I'm not sure exactly how the two teams will match up, and I am also not sure how important it is. Keep in mind this is a pre-season scrimmage. Farrell is always a good scrimmage for us. They are sound, have good speed, and talented athletes, and it presents a very good opportunity for us to work on those phases of the game that we feel we need to work on.

Coach Stone,

Is it true that Coach Zilla has hired the Amish to help him coach the offensive line?

There are rumors to that effect. The only reason that I might doubt the rumors is that Zilla probably wouldn't want to part with the money.

Hi Coach Stone -

Greetings from Richmond, VA

I know you just love to make predictions about the season and how well you will expect the team to do. Over the years it seems that Greenville never rebuilds they just reload. With the loss of so many seniors at skill positions who will you be counting on to man the skill positions this year and what are their levels of experience. I won't even ask you to predict how you think they will do?

Good luck this season. Although it is football season everywhere else it is volleyball season at the Clelland house.

Best wishes for a successful season.

Dave Clelland

Great to hear from you, Dave. You are correct in that we lost a great many skilled seniors, and as of right now, we are not sure who will fill those shoes. We are still in the process of evaluation. The only spots that are fairly definite are QB - Phil Mason, FB - Mike Maluk, and TB's - Mike Stephens and Brad Barker. We're still working hard to fill the rest of the spots.

Coach,

Is Coach Zane's membership in Hell's Angels going to interfere with his coaching?

Contrary to what you may have heard, Coach Zane was denied admission to the Hell's Angels group. He is currently seeking membership in the BREED gang. I personally don't believe that they will accept him either. Thus far, it hasn't interfered with his coaching duties.

Hi Mr. Stone, this is your favorite student, "BLASCHAK"...good luck this season(kick some butt!)

Thank you, Ally. By the way, rumor has it that today is your birthday. If so, happy birthday.

Coach, in light of the Korey Stringer incident, have you altered your training regimen?

No, we have not changed anything. We have always been very careful about heat problems in pre-season camp. We make sure that the athletes get plenty of water during our practice sessions, and our coaches keep a very sharp eye for any possible problems associated with heat or any other health problems. The Korey Stringer incident has made the general public more aware of something that we have been well aware of for some time.

Hi Mr. Stone, this is your favorite student ever, "BLASCHAK"...good luck this season! How did the team do against Wilmington?

Well "BLASCHAK" the Wilmington scrimmage was a very typical first scrimmage. We use first scrimmages to experiment with players and positions and with different plays. As usually happens in the first scrimmage, we did some things well and other things not so well, and now we know what we need to work on.

Coach, I see in one of the pictures here on the web that your offensive coordinator Herrick has a florida hat on..does he still think he is Steve Spurrier? is he still trying to convince you to throw the ball more?

Thanks,

Todd in Las Vegas

Yes, Coach Herrick definitely suffers from "Spurrier delusions". We humor him and allow him to throw the ball on occasion. Actually, he does a great job with the offense, and now if we can just get him to work a little harder with the cornerbacks, he'll be fine.

What's harder, the surface of your practice field or the parking lot?
Our practice field is harder, but the parking lot has more grass.

Coach, What do you think of Meadville this season?

It's pretty early to get an accurate read on other teams, but I expect Meadville to be much improved. As I recall, they should have some key athletes returning.

Good Luck Coach Stone from Stephen and Jillian Herrick

Thank you, Stephen and Jillian. It's nice to hear from a Herrick that isn't "yanking my chain"!

Coach Stone

Since I don't get to see you play very often. Do we still run right 38 and left 38 or has the play book changed dramatically in almost 30 years.

Slow night at the Clelland house waiting for volleyball practice to be over

Dave

The play book has changed in that we throw the ball not only more, but more effectively thanks to the efforts of Brian Herrick. We have actually simplified the playbook, though. What used to be "38" is now just plain "8".

Coach, who is your favorite Record Argus Sports's Editor?

I have always been in love with Whendy Alphabet. She is definitely my favorite! Hi, Patrick and Ben - get ready for bed.

I am a football parent and I have noticed a foul stench emanating from the field house. What is going on in there?

All lockerrooms have a unique odor. Ours may be worse than most. I think much of the nasty aroma probably comes from the coaches' room. Now, you figure it out. What with Zane, Hayes, Karpinski, Zilla, Smith, et al. what else would you expect? It would probably also help if we could get the fieldhouse cleaned on an even semi-regular basis.

Coach, Two-fold question: Any young kids "turning heads" this preseason, and how do you feel about both lines at this point?

I have been very pleased with the progress made by our "young kids". It is true that we have probably more than usual underclassmen in this squad, and we are counting on them to fill a lot of holes. At the risk of forgetting someone, I would mention Ryan Lindsey, Brent Richards, Dan Alexander, Steve Bayer, Dan Sherred, Jeff Rice, and Dennis Reynolds. However, this does not mean that the other underclassmen are not progressing, and I am sure that we will be counting on them also.

The offensive line has been the subject of a lot of tinkering. I hope we are getting things to where we want them to be. The defensive line had a slight edge, because we have two starters returning from last year. However, we still have room to improve on both sides of the ball.

Stoney,

Hi from Florida! Have a great season. Sorry I didn't get to see you this summer to discuss your football program.

Looking forward to the videos of the games. Vic

Great to hear from you, Mr. L. I hope all is well in Florida, and our game videos will be worth watching this year.

Who is your favorite offspring? I know one is typing for you, but one has a warm blueberry cake fresh from the oven which will be ready to cut at about 9:00.....

I'll take cooks over typists any day. However, I may end up finish this typmself...

Coach Stone, who are the outstanding football players this year in the conference?
Mike Koziara Franklin QB '91

Nice to hear from you, Mike. I must admit that I am not sure who the outstanding football players in the conference are at this point. This may be one of those things that takes time to sort out. I'm sure there will be many outstanding players in the conference, but at this particular time, I couldn't accurately tell who they will be.

Hi Coach!

Good luck from a couple of your young and upcoming Trojans. CD and I are really excited about "helping out". GJ and CD will be rooting for the Trojans. BEAT MCDOWELL!

If the ball boys are on top of everything, our chances for beating McDowell will improve greatly!

The "Killer B's" are always available for fresh blueberry desert (helped pick those berries!) We'll wait for the phone to ring!

Don't wait for the phone to ring. Make the call yourself.

Coach,

On the way for blueberry desert, you may want to stop and pick up your grandson's glasses.....

I'll do that, thank you (although I am now having to type this myself).

**The pre-season chat with Coach Stone has now ended.
Thanks to all those who participated in tonight's chat!**

Trojan 2002 Pre-Season Chat

Comments/Questions are in Black / Responses are in Blue

The Pre-Season Chat with Coach Bob Stone is now over.

The chat was held Tuesday August 22nd (7:30 - 9:30 pm EDT)

Hi Mr. Stone this is Steve Shimshock at work in the navy working over here in Hawaii. Hope you all have a good season. It's been awhile since I've been back to Greenville but I follow the sports still and keep up the good job with all the programs especially Football and Wrestling. Good luck GREENVILLE!

Nice to hear from you, Steve. We're glad you're hard at "work" in the Navy. Thanks for keeping tabs on us and checking in.

Coach Stone,
Are you going to let Herrick throw the ball this year?

Yes, we'll throw the ball *alot*...on Thursday nights, that is.

Coach Stone,
Coach Herrick has sometimes been compared to Steve Spurrier. Do you think this comparison is due to his personality or innate knowledge of the game?

Some people refer to Coach Spurrier as "Steve Superior", because of his arrogance. Brian Herrick has alot of his characteristics...

Coach- Who are some players that have surprised you and are having a good pre-season?

Every season, there are both pleasant surprises and disappointments, this season is no different. It's still a little early to assume that these "surprises and disappointments" will remain exactly as they are. We would hope that some of the disappointments will turn things around and some of the surprises will continue their progress.

Hi Coach!

I notice that we have an open date on our schedule. Why couldn't we obtain a worthy opponent on this date? Also, will this have an adverse affect on the team as you prepare for the dreaded Oil City Oinkers? Good Luck this season. Donnie Thompson '73

Nice to hear from you, Don. Believe me, we have tried to fill that open date, but scheduling football games is not as easy as people tend to think. To the best of our knowledge, there are 4 teams in PA open on that date, 3 being in the Philadelphia area. With distance and travel costs, none of these teams would be acceptable opponents. As for an open date before the Oil City game, if we play well against Oil City, everybody will say it's because of the open date. On the other hand, if we play poorly against Oil City, people will say it's because of the open date.

Coach Stone,
Do you anticipate having a exceptional year this year?

I don't anticipate, I hope that we progress and develop into a competitive football team. Our goals are always 1. to be competitive, 2. to win the conference, 3. an undefeated regular season, and 4. District 10 championship and going as far as we can in the playoffs. How far we get in achieving our goals depends upon talent, work habits, and luck.

McDowell has a great tradition. When did the Trojans last begin a season with so formidable opponent? Do you think scrimmages against quality programs like Farrel and Wilmington will be especially helpful? Also, how

much do you know about your team before they begin playing in games that count? In a way, I'm asking if you have often been surprised, one way or the other, about your team's performance once the season begins.

A Fan

There's no question that having 2 good pre-season scrimmages is a big help in evaluating personnel, checking blocking schemes, etc. You're never 100% sure how your team will perform in the 1st game, but good pre-season scrimmages help to eliminate a lot of the questions.

Coach Stone,

I hope you have a great season this year. I am sure I know some others who will be following it closely.
PS

Thank you, I hope we do too! Nice to hear from you.

Coach,

Good Luck this year, I hear you're loaded with talent and this could be the year. Just one question. Who is the best quarterback you have ever coached?

We have had a lot of good quarterbacks over the years. Each of these quarterbacks has had certain strengths and weaknesses. Some have been better passers, some better runners. It is practically impossible to single out just one.

Hi Coach Stone how's things back in Greenville?

Things are fine. As you'd expect, not very much has changed.

How can a Podunk place like Greenville consistently produce good football teams? You certainly don't have a huge pool of talented players to draw on so what's your secret?

Thanks...I think! "Podunk" Greenville has produced a lot of very good, dedicated athletes over the years. We also have had a good tradition to build upon, and get excellent support from the parents, community, and school.

What are your thoughts on Andy Young, a sophomore, for this season?

The thing that impresses me most about Andy Young is his work ethic. He is an extremely hard worker, and deserves the good things that should happen to him. We are very pleased to have him as a part of the team.

Coach, have you brought up any JV's other than Andy Young....planning on it?

Not at this point in time, however if need be, we could "borrow" another JV or 2 as the season progresses.

Have you or any of the other coaches ever been approached by a college or university to coach at that level?

I have never been approached, nor have I ever been interested in coaching on the college level. I don't know that any of our other coaches have, however I cannot be sure of this.

Hi Coach Stone how do you think your season and record will be this year? Steve Shimshock

Never noted for my "optimism", all I can say about this is we hope to be competitive and work from that point to see how far we can go.

Coach Stone,
I have a 3 year old son who will play football for the Trojans, will you still be around to coach him. Your favorite assistant.

I fully intend to stay where I am, until I die...just to make life miserable for my assistants!

Hope you enjoyed the PIZZA!! :)

It wasn't for me...it was for the grandchildren. I'm on a diet ;)

Coach Stone,
Who do you think was 5 of the best LINEBACKERS and RUNNING BACKS from the 70's that played for the TROJANS?

At my age, I have trouble remembering the '90's...let alone the '70's! Actually, I hate to mention specific players, because I would certainly neglect to mention some who deserve it. Just off the top of my head, Andy Houpt, Jim Wasiluk, Norm Alexander, Greg Zane, Bob Fryman, and I'm sure many others who I can't think of at this point in time.

P.S. You will be able to vote for your favorite all-time Trojans by position once the "Dream Team" section is finished. Check back soon for details.

I've watched football games for over a half a century and I still can't follow a play. I always end up watching the wrong players. Do you have any advice for the "football challenged?" Any "Football for Dummies" books? Any advice? I really do like football but I feel like such a doofus.

You paid to get in, so you can watch who or whatever you want. As long as you're enjoying the game, we're happy. I suppose that most fans watch whoever has the football, but if you're boyfriend/son/grandson is a player, you may enjoy watching just him. I'll bet you're wife probably won't know the score, but knows everybody who wore a new coat to the game (like mine), but she's happy nonetheless.

Coach Stone,

Over the past few years we have had some outstanding student/athletes. When are we going to get some of these boy to play for JoePa??
See ya around this season!

Our Greenville kids are often fine athletes and very dedicated football players, however as skilled and dedicated as they may be, they are often a step too slow or 40 lbs. too light for the big time. Major colleges are extremely "picky" in recruiting.

Say something about "Heart", coach!

I really enjoy many of their songs, including "Magic Man", and "What About Love?". No, but seriously it's sad to see someone with alot of heart and no talent, but is tragic to see somebody with a lot of talent, and no heart. - Rock On!

seemed at the scrimmage that we had alot of team speed. how do we stack up strength and size wise?

I would characterize it more as being "team quick", than team speed. We're happy with our overall team strength and size. We could always use more speed.

Thanks for the response about the 5 players from the 70's. I agree on most of what you mentioned. I have allways told everybody that our class of 79 had the best ball players even though I didn't go out that year.

Steve Shimshock

I agree, the class of '79 was one of our better ones. You must not have a lot to do over in Hawaii right now, do you Steve? ;)

That picture of you on the web page looks like a mug shot. Were you arrested recently? And what kind of diet are you on?

No, that is actually an old "mugshot". I haven't been arrested in several years, as my sister is still the "black sheep" of the family. As for the diet, obesity is a family trait and it's not nice to make fun of overweight people.

Coach Stone,

I realize we are in the NWC but is there any reason why we don't play any of the AAA teams in the county for our Non-conference games?
Good Luck this Season!!!

A few of the other county schools dropped us from their schedules, and we have been unable to match open dates with other MCAC schools. We certainly hope to play more local teams during the regular season in the near future.

Mr. Stone the duo of managers you had back in the late 80's were great managers. Who would you consider to be your best managers.

We have had a lot of great managers over the years, one of these even went on to become the "Intramural Athlete of the Year" at Robert Morris College.

Sam young and Gio Vendemia didn't really have a good scrimmage, was that a fluke or aren't these guys as good as everyone thinks

I'm not sure how good everyone thinks they are, but I was not unhappy with either of their performances this past weekend. Remember, this was a scrimmage...not a game.

Hi Mr. Stone--who do you feel was your best QB in the 1982 season? Was he the best QB in Greenville history? I heard he could really run the option. Why don't we bring back the option?

The best QB in the '82 season was Jeff Saul. We don't bring back the option, because we don't currently have anybody available to coach it!

I've been to every game over the past few years. I noticed that you seemed to pass a lot more last year than any other year. Is this just because you have young and vendemia or are you changing things around.

We probably throw more than we used to for two reasons: 1. other teams are ganging up on the run and forcing us to throw, and 2. as much as I hate to admit it, Brian Herrick (Spurrier) has done an outstanding job of fitting the pass into our offense.

Coach - Just wanted to wish you, your staff, and the players a successful and healthy season. As a parent and supporter I appreciate all the hard work you and your staff put in. The great amount of good you do for all involved, above the obvious wins/losses, is also greatly appreciated. Also hoping #67 is one of the surprises and continues to improve. Best of Luck. DSB

Thanks, and we appreciate your thoughts. If #67 continues to work as hard as he has been, he will no doubt continue to improve.

Coach Stone,
Seems like you are taking a lot of abuse on here tonight. Will the culprits be held accountable for their comments if found out???

Short, fat people always take abuse...I'm used to it!

how you doing coach stone?
this is luke. sammy told me that you were on, so i thought that i would wish you guys luck in the up and coming season!

Thanks. Stop in and see us when you're back home.

I feel that some of the best coaches are guidance counselors, because they always want to know "how does that make you feel", so I would like to know how you feel about that statement?

Guidance counsellors are all simply wonderful people, and are very good at anything they choose to do. I'm ok - you're ok!

i heard wilmington banged your guys up preatty bad. Did young hurt his knee again, and i heard that adams hurt his shoulder again

You must've gotten the wrong word. *knock on wood*, we came out of the scrimmage in good health.

las vegas, nevada and todd herrick, the guidance counselor prodigy of fred kiser wish the trojans good luck.....

Thanks Todd, nice to hear from you.

Thanks to all those who participated tonight, and wished us well on the season. Hope to see all of you on Friday nights this fall. - Bob Stone

Trojan 2003 Pre-Season Chat

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what do u think of the jv team this year?

I was very pleased with their performance in the scrimmage the other day. Hopefully, they'll continue to improve and develop into a good group.

Hello Coach. I'm sure Art is treating you to a nice pizza and cold drink right now. So sorry I can't be there this year, but I am busy working on your words of wisdom for publication this Thursday.

Don't let Bobby do too much of the typing.

Sincerely,

Your favorite media person (even though you won't admit to it)

PS. Hi Art and Brian

Thanks for chatting, Whendy, too bad you're not here...I just gave Art a big "scoop" on this year's team!

Also, enjoyed seeing the wall of pictures in the field house and talking to Brian this summer when I was in town, sorry I didn't see you. It was nice for my daughter to see where her dad actually played - just a couple of years ago.

Good luck this season

Dave Clelland - still in richmond va

Nice to hear from you again, Dave and thanks for sending your picture for the fieldhouse. I hope to be able to see you the next time you're in town.

Coach Stone what's the scouting report on NC? Do they have many returning players?

I think New Castle has been pretty impressive in both pre-season scrimmages. It appears that they have a good QB (a returner), and a very good running back. They have good size, and mobility. It will be a HUGE test for us.

Coach, what's the status on Wilmington's new turf? Will it be ready for the Greenville game, and if not will the game be played at Greenville?

I'm not completely certain of how Wilmington's new field is coming along. My understanding is that it is not completed as of yet, and they will play their first game at Union High School's field in New Castle, or at least that is what I've been told. Since we don't play them until the 5th game (end of Sept.), I'll be very surprised if their field is not yet finished by then.

Do you feel more pressure to succeed in the MCAC than you had in the NWC?

I feel pressured to succeed in any conference that we would play in. Both are very good conferences, so no matter which conference we were in, we would have a difficult time in it. The pressure is always there.

How does the overall team speed look this year?

I would like to think that we're in much better shape in the "team speed department" than we have been in the past couple of seasons. However, only time will tell for sure.

Hello Coach, how did y'all do agst. Farrel this past weekend? Deaner

I thought we showed improvement from the previous scrimmage, particularly on the defensive side. Offensively, we were somewhat limited by their "10 men in the box and fire 'em all" defense. Overall, I was somewhat encouraged by the results. By the way, there are two "L's" in "Farrell", but then you Southerners have all kinds of problems with grammar.

I've noticed during the two scrimmages Justin King playing alot of LB, do you see him there this season or possibly back at nose? Also haven't seen him run the ball much.

Justin King had a great scrimmage against Farrell this past week. I think you can expect to see him start on offense and get some carries. He may see time on defense both at nose and at middle linebacker. He is a good, tough, kid and he will see plenty of playing time.

Who's the 'old guy' in the picture of some coach on your webpage? By the way, i finally beat Ed, by one only. thought you'd like to see how my game's improved!!

The "old guy" on the webpage is your age, and I'm glad to see you finally won something. I would hate to think that you cheated Ed; I hope it was on the up and up.

Hey Coach...what's this field house picture stuff? You didn't ask me for one? SC buddy

We have decorated the entranceway to our fieldhouse with pictures of our former players who have gone on to play football at the college level for 4 years. The reason we didn't ask for one of you was that one of the requirements is that you must have played in the era of facemasks.

FARRELL...typing error..sorry about that but at least some of us do our own typing!!!

How do I know if you are doing your own typing?

last year there was some talk of running the option,didn't see much of it. Are there any plans this year?

As of yet, we haven't done much with the option, and to be quite honest, we don't have any immediate plans to become an option team.

After watching both scrimmages it seemed like some of the bigger guys on the line were getting pushed around buy the opponents. It appeared they were slow off the snap and were getting beat to the punch so to speak,especially on defense.I thought the offense moved the ball fairly well at times.Do you have any drills to remedy the problem?

I don't think they were being "pushed around" by the opponents, but we certainly need to get off the ball better and stick on our blocks longer. We are constantly working on these skills, and certainly hope to see some improvement.

Who's got the kicking duties this year? Punt, kickoffs extra pts.

The kicking scene is pretty much as follows:punter: Tom McCormick, kick-off: Matt Leonard or Mark Benson, extra points: Tom McCormick or Evan Hanna

What are you doing wednesday? I'll be over to have lunch with some of my classmates. You know, the 'before facemasks' bunch. Want to have lunch with us? I'll pick you up and i'll buy. SC buddy

I would really like to. Give me a call when you get here. I'm not sure what my agenda is yet for that day. One problem: we don't take Confederate money up here!

It has been awful quiet for a while . is noone askin any questions or are you just filling up on the pizza ?

The pizza is great! Art is a great cook, and the pizza is low-cal.

Are you in favor of the current co-op agreement with Commodore Perry. Without them wouldn't Greenville be a small single A school and even with them isn't Greenville still only a double A school but continues to play triple A football

Actually, Greenville is an average-sized AA school by itself. In fact, Greenville plays at the AA level in every other sport except football. Combined with the enrollment of Commodore Perry, we are a small AAA-sized school in football. As for the co-op agreement, I am in favor of it. It gives the CP kids a chance to participate, and quite frankly, I sometimes don't see a whole lot of difference between AA and AAA competition, at least locally. Also, the MCAC requires all AA and AAA teams to play each other, so it wouldn't make a difference as to who we would play in the conference from year to year if we played at either the AA or AAA level.

Hi Coach, Is it true that your brother is a better fisherman than you are?

Well, to hear him tell it, he's better at anything than I am...and that may be true. Although he's now getting up in years, I might be able to keep up with him in some things.

Coach Stone,

I know the only weakness in your program over the years has been the quality of your game films. I know the quality of the films improved last year with the help of Mrs. Hayes.

Will she be getting any help this year or will she still have to rely on the same helper as in the past? Even though you have to give Mr. Lewis credit for taking the time from his busy work schedule to be there every Friday evening.

Good luck on another successful season.

PH

Mrs. Hayes is doing a great job of filming. Of course, she learned everything she knows about it from Mr. Lewis. (Actually, he taught her everything he knows in under 5 minutes!). Mr. Lewis has received a promotion, and has been placed completely in charge of winning football games.

as a fan of greenville football for years, i would like to wish you, your coaching staff and especially the team the best of luck this season.

Thank you, we greatly appreciate it.

Who is your favorite offspring?

Since the one who is typing this can pretty much say whatever he wants, then I say the one who is typing this reply is the favorite offspring. ;-)

The new jerseys look great on the website. Any other changes?

Not that I can think of off-hand. Remember, it's not the package...it's the product!

Do you think the Trojans will ever play on Thiel's football field?

We have no plans to do so at this time, but who knows what the future could bring.

Are there any former Trojans that we should be watching for playing college ball

this year?

We have Mike Titzel at Grove City College, Gio Vendemia at Penn State, Aaron Zane at Thiel, Mike Maluk and Eric Spurlock at Mount Union, and Andy Young at Edinboro.

Is your son being paid to do your typing or is he still holding out for a management position?

There is no "management" position involved. Simply a roof over his head and an occasional meal.

Over your very lengthy career (some would say too lengthy, but we won't go there) what has been your finest moment and what was your worst?

Without going into great detail, I can generalize and say that some of the best moments have been playoff wins or "big rivalry" wins. Our four District 10 championships and two trips to the western finals rank up there with the best of them. As far as the worst moments, they were undoubtedly when we lost games that I felt we should have won. Since I am extremely competitive, losing is always difficult for me to take. Thank you for not "going there".

Coach Stone this is Jason Stearns. Good Luck to you and the Trojans this year. We miss you in the NWC. You will have to see our new facility it is going to be great. Thanks again Jason

Great to hear from you, Jason! I understand that the new Meadville facility is going to be very nice. I'm going to assume that you must've been in charge of the project! I am looking forward to seeing you again and the new Meadville facility.

Are there still plans to do the radio show with Chuck Garrett each week?

Yes, as far as I know, we will be doing the radio show each Sunday this year at 7:00 PM during the season.

I hear that the "Wiley Mentor" title has gone to your head. Is it true that you have it embroidered on your pillowcase?

At my age, I had to embroider it on my pillow case because I wouldn't be able to remember it otherwise!

Why did you quit wearing the navy blue sweater and blue button down shirt as a game uniform? Was it something to do with luck and/or losing/winning?

I outgrew all my navy blue sweaters and blue button down shirts, and can't afford new ones. If I thought that would help winning, the whole team would be wearing blue sweaters and button down shirts under their pads.

what would your preference be, playing on turf or grass?

I prefer to play on *good* natural grass fields, but once you get past mid-season, natural grass fields are sometimes pretty well worn and the weather would play a bigger role. I do not like the older style turf fields (like Altoona's, for example). We have had some of our players get turf burns in the past from playing on the old rug-style surfaces. The newer-style artificial surface fields (such as Thiel's, Warren's, Karns City's, Wilmington's, Meadville's, etc.) are much better to play on than the older surfaces, as they are more like playing on natural grass.

If you and your coaching staff were in high school today, how do you think they would do as a team against the current GHS team. Of course, you may fill in the lineup with past coaches if necessary. Thanks for all your hard work :)

I am very fortunate to have excellent assistants, who were very good athletes in high school and/or college. However, they are getting up in age and probably would miss several days and/or weeks of work following such a game.

We really had a wet summer. What kind of shape is Stewart Field in? Are the mosquitoes bad up there?

I think that Stewart Field is in great shape...as good as I have ever seen. The maintenance crew, with the help of a wet summer, did a great job getting the field ready for this fall. Yes, we have mosquitoes. Be sure to bring your insect repellent to the games!

You were spotted at Doggie's, inhaling wings and fries, Are they the secret to your success? I'm an aspiring coach and I need all the help I can get. Thanks, Big Guy.

I understand that Mel Gibson was eating wings at Doggies a couple weeks back, and perhaps you mistook him for me.

good luck for a successful, fun and safe season!!!

Thank you, and we appreciate it!

What is the difference between a referee and an umpire in football? I've always wondered about this.

The referee is the main man - the guy in the white hat. He is in charge of the officiating crew and the game. The umpire is simply one of the officials under the charge of the referee. (Note: neither one has ever cut us a break!)

You can throw around generalities and avoid specifics in your answers with great expertise. Do you have plans on going into politics (I understand that your daughter has already entered the arena and has her eye on running for governor of California). With your ability to dodge straight answers, you would probably do pretty good.

I am far too honest to be involved in politics! (By the way...it's "pretty well", not "pretty good").

Do you know "wiley" has no "e"? It is actually "wily".

I think the term "wiley" with an "E" was borrowed from "Wile E. Coyote" of Looney Tunes. Since some people think that I am looney tunes, I guess they must have applied that to me.

Maybe if you charged your son rent, you could afford the shirt/sweaters...Ever think of that?

He can only pay rent if he gets a job first. He can only find a job if he looks. He can only look if he gets out of bed. In short, the rent money that I would get from him might buy me a pair of socks to go with the sweater, or a dozen wings at Doggie's!

Thanks to all who participated in tonight's chat! - Coach Bob Stone

Trojan 2004 Pre-Season Chat

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Mr. Stone hope to see you win on Friday. I believe that will make you the number one coach in Mercer County for career victories. I will try and get to the game but will have along day ahead of me with the golfing and beer drinking with my old buddies from the class of 79. Good luck and hopefully I'll get a chance to see you when I come back.

Steve Shimshock here hard at work in Hawaii...

Good to hear from you Steve, once again. I'm very glad you are coming back for the class reunion. I will certainly try to see you guys at some point on the weekend - maybe after the game. Thanks for keeping in touch.

1st .. good luck with the upcoming campaign.. u seem to have a talented group of young men..but how do the other teams in Mercer County compare does Slippery Rock have many returners from last years excellant team and how about Grove City and New Wilmington ?

The double "AA" region here in the south is loaded. Slippery Rock lost some good kids, but they have a lot of good kids back and will be very, very good again. Of course, Wilmington and Grove City are also loaded. I believe that Reynolds will be much improved. Sharon always has good athletes. Hickory has good athletes. I think the Mercer program is on the ups. This has to be one of the toughest regions around in double-A.

Are you pleased with the progress so far this preseason ? I suppose Friday night will give us a better indication

I am very pleased with our progress thus far. But, we still have a ways to go. Particularly, in light of the fact it is a very very tough region this year. We have to continue to improve.

How much time is spent on special teams during the week ?

We work on special teams every day. That's an important part of the game and we have to be as good as we can with the special teams.

watching last years team and this years scrimmages i see a little more passing attempts which i think is good but i do not understand the when only 1 reciever is sent out on certain pass plays could you comment on this

The only time when you'd see one receiver involved would be a play action pass of some kind. Play action passes sometimes only involve one receiver, but they only comprise a small part of our passing offense.

Coach: Your program barely survived the departure of Coach Yauger and top consultant, chief scout, McElhinny. And now you must deal with the departure of Coach Hull. How will the program survive.

If the program could survive McElhinny's departure, we can survive anything. Also, the program is bigger than any one person, even McElhinny.

Who will be older when he retires, you or JoPa? By the way, I think you're a better coach.

When I'm JoePa's age, I'll probably be slobbering in my oatmeal in some old folk's home. By the way, thanks for the compliment!

Who was the better quarterback: David Fisher, Joe Casio, or Brian Tokar? I'll go with Fisher.

All three were excellent quarterbacks, each having their own strong points. It's impossible to pick the best of the three, and I am not dumb enough to try.

Where is my pizza?

Where is your money?

GOOD LUCK ON YET ANOTHER FOOTBALL SEASON. HOW IS THE OFFENSIVE LINE LOOKING?

At this point, I'm very pleased with the progress of our offensive line. I'd have to say that we have just "decent" size, but I'm very happy with the way they've been able to do things. It *could be* one of the better offensive lines we've had in recent years.

Do you have any insight as to what we can expect from Seneca? Have you seen any film on them?

We've seen films on both of Seneca's scrimmages. They have good size up front, a good running back, a good QB, and they have pretty good overall speed. They'll be a handfull.

Have there been no questions/comments or are you late again?

See above.

I see that there is a new picture of you on this page. The new one looks less like a mug shot, more like just an old man.

Maybe you'd better check your bifocals. I'm still one of the better looking members of my family.

Why did the JV games switch to Saturdays this year?

I personally prefer to play on Monday nights like we always used to, but everybody else we have played for the past few seasons have preferred Saturday games. Rather than losing the possibility of having the JV game, we'll go along and play on Saturday.

coach, how's the team look this year?

It's still a little early, but I'm pleased from what I've seen thus far.

Your offense, featuring the quarterback leading the blocking into the line, isn't used much outside of the confines of Stewart Field. Do you consider yourself a guru, an innovator, or a dinosaur? PTO

We obviously don't like to baby our quarterbacks. I prefer to think of myself as an innovative dinosaur guru.

Who is better at his craft? You as head coach or PJ as Director? PTO

It depends upon who you'd talk to, but I wouldn't argue with P.J.

I don't have any money I live in Hawaii and what I do have it gets spent by the wife.

At least you live in a nice climate. It's definitely better than I have going for me.

You said that you feel good about the offensive line's progress, can you name any specifics.

Phil Matuz, is he going to be the anchor of the line or do you have anybody else up to his quality.

The line seems to be mobile and work very well as a unit, and in an offensive scheme such as ours, both of these are very important elements. Phil Matuz has stepped up his game considerably this year, and is potentially a very good lineman for us.

Bob, Good luck this season. Bill

Thanks...I hope the football season turns out better than the fishing season; it was lousy!

Yes, it's me again and I'm not really hard at work. So how do you think this year's team will do? I'm impressed with how big the kids have gotten over the years in High School football. Would like you to say hello to Mr. Cooper for me and tell him also that I wish his JV team good luck this year.
Steve Shimshock

I'd be happy to pass the word on to Coop. We're hoping that we'll show some improvement this year, and I think we will. I am also absolutely amazed at the size of kids today. For example, I had to order a bunch of new size 13 shoes this year. In the old days, not that many people had that big of feet. I don't know what the real reason is, but the kids today are far bigger on average than kids were 15-20 years ago.

Will we see any improvements in the kicking game this year?

I certainly hope so! We have found a kicker that I think will improve that situation greatly. Aaron Bray is potentially an excellent kicker, and I am looking forward to seeing him in action.

How much time is spent on special teams during the week? And who are the prospective punter and kicker-offer? (haha)

We work on the kicking game at least 3 days a week on average. The "punter" will again be Tom McCormick, and maybe later in the year Cody Emmett or Matt Leonard. Aaron Bray will be the "kicker-offer" and "fieldgoal" and "extra-point".

How do you feel about the players from each grade that you have?

Are there any prospects in 9-10th grade that you like?

Is this senior class the most talented class (athletically) that Greenville has ever seen?

We're obviously happy with our turnout. We have a pretty good turnout of kids from each class, but once we get started, we're looking for the best athletes regardless of class. We are now fortunate to have some good athletes in each class.

Without mentioning any specific names, there are a lot of prospects in 9th and 10th grade that will be a definite asset to the program.

I know I'm old, but I haven't seen **all** the classes that have gone through Greenville High School since 1901, so I'm really not qualified to say which was *the* most talented class. Though, I am extremely pleased with this group of seniors.

Reading about JoePa makes me wonder how Gio Vendemia is faring at Penn State. Do you know if he'll see any playing time this year?

My understanding is that Gio will definitely see a lot of playing time as a wide receiver this year. Gio appears to be happy, doing very well academically, and things look to be good for him football-wise as well.

I hear you have some tough candidates going for starting positions this year. The following positions: QB between Cody and Tommy, Guards between Tom and Grant, Centers between Dave and Matt, Backfield between, Charly, Casey, Jared, Tim, and Andy. Any ideas on which will be starting.

They will all see playing time this year. It is nice to have depth. Tommy will start at QB, but Cody will also see some playing time. Grant and Tommy will alternate at one guard position. Centers Dave and Matt will alternate at center, until one emerges as a clear starter. Those backs will all see playing time this year. In fact, it's hard to pick a starting back from that group at this time.

Well, you have addressed what we will see on the field this year. How about what will go on behind the scenes...Who will be in charge of cleaning the Field House this year...Or will it be no one again?

Brian "Mr. Clean" Herrick is now in charge of shoveling the fieldhouse out once every week, whether it needs it or not. We're not yet sure what we're going to do about the smell.

Have you made any adjustments to account for the broken play when the back reverses the field?

I assume you are referring to the incident in the Sharpsville scrimmage that resulted in a long run by their running back. That was because of a breakdown or blown assignment by one of our defenders, and we will certainly be working all week to try and eliminate that type of mistake.

Can you teach your tightends to high/low the defensive tackle?

If my understanding of your term of "high/low" is correct, it is an illegal block, and we certainly don't teach nor permit that type of block.

how come i came to watch my son play this past week and there we 2 12th graders who did not get to play but yet to brought a kid up from the jv team will they get to play at all this year

I hope your son will get to play, but playing time is based on ability to do the job, rather than grade level.

Are you having "technical difficulties"?

I don't know enough about "technical" (i.e. computers) to know if we're actually having technical difficulties or not.

Hey, I have noticed that many localities have gotten new or updates facilities. Is it me or does our field now seem a bit darker than others? Is there anything that can be done to improve the lighting?

We are in the process of trying to add a few lights to the existing system. I am not sure when that will happen, nor how much it will improve the situation.

What made you decide to move Mike Castiglione (not sure if that is spelled right)?

Mike was a fullback last year. We have several backfield candidates this year, but were light at tight end, so a decision was made to move Mike there. I believe it was a very good decision, as Mike is doing a very good job.

what will be the hardest game this year?

The next game is always the hardest.

Did you know that your former student teacher Earl Corp is a Record Argus correspondent?

No, I did not know that...but I am sure he is a very good correspondent.

If you want to get rid of the smell, try some Gas-Ex.

Good idea. Anybody in particular you were referring to?

It appeared that during the Sharpsville scrimmage you were high/low-ing their enormous tackle.

Our tight end blocked the tackle one-on-one. We did not "high/low" him.

With the drop down to class AA, will our schedule change from what it has been the previous two years since we joined the MCAC?

As it turns out, our schedule changes very little. The only change is that we filled our open dates with Seneca and Northwestern and Marietta, OH.

The 2004 Greenvillefootball.com pre-season chat has now officially ended. Thanks to all who participated in this evening's GHS Football chat. Hope to see you all this Friday! - Coach Bob Stone

Trojan 2005 Pre-Season Chat

Tuesday August 30, 2005 7:00 - 8:30 PM EDT

Pizza provided by Greenville Pizza Hut

How do you think our passing game looks, compared to prior years?

It's kind of hard to tell at this point. Some parts of our passing game have been very good, whereas other facets of it need more work. We hope to get everything headed in the right direction soon.

I think you were asked this before. If you had to pick between speed or size in a team, which one would you pick and why?

I would prefer to have fast, big kids. Of course, we know that doesn't happen as often as we'd like. Obviously, most coaches would like to have somewhat of a mix between the two. However, if I had to make a definite choice between the two options, I'd take speed. Another important factor that wasn't mentioned is *toughness*.

What starters are returning from last season?

Returning offensive starters: Martin "Chunk" Harakal at guard, Mike Micsky at tackle, Jared Zuschlag at tailback, and Brent Rose at receiver

Returning defensive starters: Zach McGranahan at middle guard, Martin "Chunk" Harakal at tackle, and Brent Rose at defensive back

Returning specialty players: Aaron Bray at kicker

We also do have some players back who may not have started last year, but did get some playing time.

Who is the team(s) to beat in Region 3 this year?

It would appear that this is a very balanced year for Region 3. Reynolds and Hickory have a lot of returning starters from last year. Grove City is riding the crest of the wave, and I expect them to be very good. Mercer has a new head coach, which tends to light a spark in teams. You don't seem to ever see "bad" Slippery Rock or Wilmington teams, so I expect them to be in the hunt. And of course, Sharon is always formidable.

Which will be the stronger unit...defense or offense?

At this point, it's hard to tell. We do some things well on both sides of the ball, and some things not so well. So only time will tell which will come around to being the strong point.

I see you have quite a few sophomores on the team this year. Will they get much playing time?

It is expected that some of our sophomores will see quite a bit of playing time. We will probably be starting two on offense, and a couple more on defense with some of the other sophomores getting playing time.

I hear a few of last year's seniors are playing in college this season. Could you fill us in on those you know about.

I can tell you which of last year's seniors are playing college football this year, but I have no knowledge of their progress thus far. Those who are currently playing are: JJ Strausser and Tom McCormick at Thiel, Phil Matusz at Villanova, and Mike Castiglione at Pitt.

Are there any active coaches in Mercer County that are close to your win record?

I know that Lou Falconi of Farrell has over 200 wins, and Wilmington's Terry Verrelli is also high up on the list of wins.

Word is that CP is going to have their own football team next year. If they do, how will that affect your program?

I have no idea what CP intends to do about the co-op at this point in time. The major effect that I could be sure of is that we probably wouldn't have as many kids on the squad as we have currently.

How do Seneca & Northwestern look compared to last year?

I know that both teams have a lot of starters returning from last year. That should indicate they will be very solid football teams this year.

How's the backfield looking? Will you platoon the backs this year?

The backfield is coming along pretty well. Whether we platoon or not depends pretty much on how many good backs develop during the course of the season.

How do you like it in AA?

I think that this region of AA teams is an extremely competitive league. It is a huge challenge every year. It is also nice to play local teams and renew old rivalries. I believe the fans also appreciate not having such long drives to see football games, as was the case in the past.

Good luck to you, your coaches and team in your 2005 football season! Is this your 46th season coaching football? - "An Avid Fan!"

I believe it is my 46th season. But then again, anybody who has been coaching that long is probably too senile to remember exactly how long it has been.

Your nephew Peter is getting married at 2:00 on Oct. 22. You have a game with Reynolds the night before. Are you going to get to the wedding? Your loving sister.

I haven't exactly been "invited". If you'd move the wedding to Greenville, I would love to attend.

Just wishing you another GREAT season! Sure wish we were there to cheer you all on. We'll be checking the S. Herald website for scores and write-ups of all the games. Good Luck! - Vic from FL
Thank you Vic, great to hear from you. I hope everyone down there in Florida is doing well. After thinking about it for a few seconds, I'm very surprised that you are into the computer and internet scene. Good for you!!

Your team hasn't had much luck so far this season. If injuries continue will you be in trouble? How is the depth? How are the injured players doing? Thanks.

Injuries are always a factor, especially in the smaller schools. We do not at this point have great depth, but hopefully as some of the younger kids develop, the depth situation will improve. Unfortunately, one of our injured players will probably miss the rest of the season. I expect the other injured players to return shortly.

Coach Stone,

With teams in AA returning a lot of talent such as Reynolds, Hickory, and Sharon, how do you plan to stay competitive after losing a lot of key starters from last season?

- awaiting the season in Transfer

The only way to stay competitive year-to-year is to work hard and prepare well. Of course, things are always a little easier if you are blessed with a lot of talent, but you certainly can't always count on that in high school football.

How did things go during your two-a-days?

I think this year we had a good two week session. We got most of the things that we needed to accomplish taken care of.

Coach Stone

Best wishes from Richmond, VA. Since I don't see any games it is great to be able to follow the team on the website. What do you see as your biggest challenge this year to being successful?

Good luck to you and the team.

Dave C. - Class of 72.

Nice to hear from you, Dave. I'm happy you still keep track of us in podunk Greenville. I hope you and your family are doing well.

We have several challenges this year. Probably one of the greatest is to get the young kids ready to play as soon as possible. We lost a lot of starters from last year, so we have to get someone ready to fill their shoes.

I hear that due to the decrease of skilled athletes in the past years, you have invited Steve Lewis back into the junior high program. Is there any correlation between his return and that of Coach Wannstedt?

We begged Steve Lewis to come back and help us, but he turned us down to coach a jr. high girls' soccer team in Tidioute. I guess that means we're not going to be very successful this year.

So sorry to miss the annual meeting at the famous ACW headquarters. I am at home feeling under the weather. I need to get my strength back to make the trip to Seneca. Take a break from all that typing ... You need to be 100 percent come Friday. :-)

"Under the weather"? Do I take this to mean that you are hung over, or just didn't want to go to work today? I brought my typist with me, so I didn't have to exert myself and I can be 100% ready for Seneca come Friday.

Coach Stone,

You had a great group of young men last year. They had such team unity that doesn't come along very often. You could feel their spirit when you watched them play. I will truly miss watching them play together as a team on and off the field.

They were a great group of kids to deal with, but then I think that this year's group is equally easy to work with. That's the way high school football works; groups come and groups go. I tend to miss them all after the season is over.

I knew I shouldn't have shared my Cancun trip with you!!! Trust me, even if my 102 temp isn't gone, and my head cold still hurts... I wouldn't miss your game coach. Someone has to be there to edit what you say after the game!

I knew I could count on you, Whendy. I knew I could count on you to keep us out of trouble in the paper. P.S. Maybe you're just too old to run with the "big dogs"!

How has the high school game evolved during your tenure?

The game itself has evolved along the same lines as college and pro football have over the years. The forward pass is a much bigger part of the game than it used to be. Many more and different types of formations are used to take advantage of today's more skilled athletes. I think other major changes are a result of new rules to make the game faster, safer, and higher-scoring. Better equipment, better training methods, including weight training, and better skill development make today's game considerably different from what it was 40 years ago.

Who do we call at the high school to get a fire lit under the maintenance crew so the field house will get cleaned on a regular basis? It is unsanitary! A Concerned Parent

This problem has actually been addressed very recently, and I expect to see considerable improvement soon.

THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN TONIGHT'S CHAT!!

Trojan 2006 Pre-Season Chat

Sponsored by & the [Greenville Area Web Site](#)

The Pre-Season Chat with Coach Bob Stone is now over. Comments/Questions/Responses are posted below.

The chat was held Tuesday August 22nd (7:30 - 9:30 pm EDT)

Hi Mr. Stone this is Steve Shimshock at work in the navy working over here in Hawaii. Hope you all have a good season. It's been awhile since I've been back to Greenville but I follow the sports still and keep up the good job with all the programs especially Football and Wrestling. Good luck GREENVILLE!

Nice to hear from you, Steve. We're glad you're hard at "*work*" in the Navy. Thanks for keeping tabs on us and checking in.

Coach Stone,

Are you going to let Herrick throw the ball this year?

Yes, we'll throw the ball *alot*...on Thursday nights, that is.

Coach Stone,

Coach Herrick has sometimes been compared to Steve Spurrier. Do you think this comparison is due to his personality or innate knowledge of the game?

Some people refer to Coach Spurrier as "Steve Superior", because of his arrogance. Brian Herrick has alot of his characteristics...

Coach- Who are some players that have surprised you and are having a good pre-season?

Every season, there are both pleasant surprises and disappointments, this season is no different. It's still a little early to assume that these "surprises and disappointments" will remain exactly as they are. We would hope that some of the disappointments will turn things around and some of the surprises will continue their progress.

Hi Coach!

I notice that we have an open date on our schedule. Why couldn't we obtain a worthy opponent on this date? Also, will this have an adverse affect on the team as you prepare for the dreaded Oil City Oinkers? Good Luck this season. Donnie Thompson '73

Nice to hear from you, Don. Believe me, we have tried to fill that open date, but scheduling football games is not as easy as people tend to think. To the best of our knowledge, there are 4 teams in PA open on that date, 3 being in the Philadelphia area. With distance and travel costs, none of these teams would be acceptable opponents. As for an open date before the Oil City game, if we play well against Oil City, everybody will say it's because of the open date. On the other hand, if we play poorly against Oil City, people will say it's because of the open date.

Coach Stone,

Do you anticipate having an exceptional year this year?

I don't anticipate, I hope that we progress and develop into a competitive football team. Our goals are always 1. to be competitive, 2. to win the conference, 3. an undefeated regular season, and 4. District 10 championship and going as far as we can in the playoffs. How far we get in achieving our goals depends upon talent, work habits, and luck.

McDowell has a great tradition. When did the Trojans last begin a season with so formidable opponent? Do you think scrimmages against quality programs like Farrel and Wilmington will be especially helpful? Also, how much do you know about your team before they begin playing in games that count? In a way, I'm asking if you have often been surprised, one way or the other, about your team's performance once the season begins.

A Fan

There's no question that having 2 good pre-season scrimmages is a big help in evaluating personnel, checking blocking schemes, etc. You're never 100% sure how your team will perform in the 1st game, but good pre-season scrimmages help to eliminate alot of the questions.

Coach Stone,

I hope you have a great season this year. I am sure I know some others who will be following it closely.

PS

Thank you, I hope we do too! Nice to hear from you.

Coach,

Good Luck this year, I hear you're loaded with talent and this could be the year. Just one question. Who is the best quarterback you have ever coached?

We have had a lot of good quarterbacks over the years. Each of these quarterbacks has had certain strengths and weaknesses. Some have been better passers, some better runners. It is practically impossible to single out just one.

Hi Coach Stone how's things back in Greenville?

Things are fine. As you'd expect, not very much has changed.

How can a Podunk place like Greenville consistently produce good football teams? You certainly don't have a huge pool of talented players to draw on so what's your secret?

Thanks...I think! "Podunk" Greenville has produced a lot of very good, dedicated athletes over the years. We also have had a good tradition to build upon, and get excellent support from the parents, community, and school.

What are your thoughts on Andy Young, a sophomore, for this season?

The thing that impresses me most about Andy Young is his work ethic. He is an extremely hard worker, and deserves the good things that should happen to him. We are very pleased to have him as a part of the team.

Coach, have you brought up any JV's other than Andy Young....planning on it?

Not at this point in time, however if need be, we could "borrow" another JV or 2 as the season progresses.

Have you or any of the other coaches ever been approached by a college or university to coach at that level?

I have never been approached, nor have I ever been interested in coaching on the college level. I don't know that any of our other coaches have, however I cannot be sure of this.

Hi Coach Stone how do you think your season and record will be this year? Steve Shimshock

Never noted for my "optimism", all I can say about this is we hope to be competitive and work from that point to see how far we can go.

Coach Stone,

I have a 3 year old son who will play football for the Trojans, will you still be around to coach him. Your favorite assistant. I fully intend to stay where I am, until I die...just to make life miserable for my assistants!

Hope you enjoyed the PIZZA!! :)

It wasn't for me...it was for the grandchildren. I'm on a diet ;)

Coach Stone,

Who do you think was 5 of the best LINEBACKERS and RUNNING BACKS from the 70's that played for the TROJANS? At my age, I have trouble remembering the '90's...let alone the '70's! Actually, I hate to mention specific players, because I would certainly neglect to mention some who deserve it. Just off the top of my head, Andy Houpt, Jim Wasiluk, Norm Alexander, Greg Zane, Bob Fryman, and I'm sure many others who I can't think of at this point in time.

P.S. You will be able to vote for your favorite all-time Trojans by position once the "Dream Team" section is finished. Check back soon for details.

I've watched football games for over a half a century and I still can't follow a play. I always end up watching the wrong players. Do you have any advice for the "football challenged?" Any "Football for Dummies" books? Any advice? I really do like football but I feel like such a doofus.

You paid to get in, so you can watch who or whatever you want. As long as you're enjoying the game, we're happy. I suppose that most fans watch whoever has the football, but if you're boyfriend/son/grandson is a player, you may enjoy watching just him. I'll bet you're wife probably won't know the score, but knows everybody who wore a new coat to the game (like mine), but she's happy nonetheless.

Coach Stone,

Over the past few years we have had some outstanding student/athletes. When are we going to get some of these boy to play for JoePa??

See ya around this season!

Our Greenville kids are often fine athletes and very dedicated football players, however as skilled and dedicated as they may be, they are often a step too slow or 40 lbs. too light for the big time. Major colleges are extremely "picky" in recruiting.

Say something about "Heart", coach!

I really enjoy many of their songs, including "Magic Man", and "What About Love?". No, but seriously it's sad to see someone with a lot of heart and no talent, but it's tragic to see somebody with a lot of talent, and no heart. - Rock On!

seemed at the scrimmage that we had a lot of team speed. How do we stack up strength and size wise? I would characterize it more as being "team quick", than team speed. We're happy with our overall team strength and size. We could always use more speed.

Thanks for the response about the 5 players from the 70's. I agree on most of what you mentioned. I have always told everybody that our class of '79 had the best ball players even though I didn't go out that year. Steve Shimshock I agree, the class of '79 was one of our better ones. You must not have a lot to do over in Hawaii right now, do you Steve? ;)

That picture of you on the web page looks like a mug shot. Were you arrested recently? And what kind of diet are you on? No, that is actually an old "mugshot". I haven't been arrested in several years, as my sister is still the "black sheep" of the family. As for the diet, obesity is a family trait and it's not nice to make fun of overweight people.

Coach Stone,

I realize we are in the NWC but is there any reason why we don't play any of the AAA teams in the county for our Non-conference games?

Good Luck this Season!!!

A few of the other county schools dropped us from their schedules, and we have been unable to match open dates with other MCAC schools. We certainly hope to play more local teams during the regular season in the near future.

Mr. Stone the duo of managers you had back in the late 80's were great managers. Who would you consider to be your best managers.

We have had a lot of great managers over the years, one of these even went on to become the "Intramural Athlete of the Year" at Robert Morris College.

Sam Young and Gio Vendemia didn't really have a good scrimmage, was that a fluke or aren't these guys as good as everyone thinks

I'm not sure how good everyone thinks they are, but I was not unhappy with either of their performances this past weekend. Remember, this was a scrimmage...not a game.

Hi Mr. Stone--who do you feel was your best QB in the 1982 season? Was he the best QB in Greenville history? I heard he could really run the option. Why don't we bring back the option?

The best QB in the '82 season was Jeff Saul. We don't bring back the option, because we don't currently have anybody available to coach it!

I've been to every game over the past few years. I noticed that you seemed to pass a lot more last year than any other year. Is this just because you have Young and Vendemia or are you changing things around.

We probably throw more than we used to for two reasons: 1. other teams are ganging up on the run and forcing us to throw, and 2. as much as I hate to admit it, Brian Herrick (Spurrier) has done an outstanding job of fitting the pass into our offense.

Coach - Just wanted to wish you, your staff, and the players a successful and healthy season. As a parent and supporter I appreciate all the hard work you and your staff put in. The great amount of good you do for all involved, above the obvious wins/losses, is also greatly appreciated. Also hoping #67 is one of the surprises and continues to improve. Best of Luck.

DSB

Thanks, and we appreciate your thoughts. If #67 continues to work as hard as he has been, he will no doubt continue to improve.

Coach Stone,

Seems like you are taking a lot of abuse on here tonight. Will the culprits be held accountable for their comments if found out???

Short, fat people always take abuse...I'm used to it!

How you doing Coach Stone?

This is Luke. Sammy told me that you were on, so I thought that I would wish you guys luck in the upcoming season! Thanks. Stop in and see us when you're back home.

I feel that some of the best coaches are guidance counselors, because they always want to know "how does that make you feel", so I would like to know how you feel about that statement?
Guidance counsellors are all simply wonderful people, and are very good at anything they choose to do. I'm ok - you're ok!

i heard wilmington banged your guys up preatty bad. Did young hurt his knee again, and i heard that adams hurt his shoulder again

You must've gotten the wrong word. *knock on wood*, we came out of the scrimmage in good health.

las vegas, nevada and todd herrick, the guidance counselor prodigy of fred kiser wish the trojans good luck.....

Thanks Todd, nice to hear from you.

Thanks to all those who participated tonight, and wished us well on the season. Hope to see all of you on Friday nights this fall. - Bob Stone

Trojan 2007 Pre-Season Chat
Sponsored by the Greenville Area Web Site
Pizza provided by Greenville Pizza Hut

I love the resurgence of the Reynolds - Greenville rivalry. Definitely looking forward to that one!!
We are also looking forward to renewal of the rivalry, and I hope we can make it interesting.

hey coach, is that john carr kid all world or what?
I guess that remains to be seen! He is working hard and his status is still up in the air.

Hi Coach Stone,
Sorry I missed seeing you when I stopped by the weight room this summer - no I wasn't lifting.
How do you feel about being back in the MCAC? Do you think this will be more motivation for GHS or for the old county rivals?
I am glad Reynolds comes back on the schedule. Hopefully that game will never be missed again.
Good luck this season.
Dave Clelland - Richmond, VA

Glad to hear from you again, Dave. I hope everything is going well in Virginia. We're happy to be back in the MCAC also, although the Northwest Conference was a pretty solid conference also. The MCAC is easier on the travel budget, and we're happy to be back playing some of our old county rivals. I certainly hope that we'll be able to be properly motivated for our MCAC opponents. Thanks for chatting.

Hope you and your team have a "legendary" year! Your elder sister Barbara
If you're my elder sister, Barbara, you must be *really* old! Thanks, and good to hear from you.

A new student (7th grade) at Commodore Perry wants to know if there is a program for Jr. Hi. to play football.
Yes, there is a program at GHS for junior high students. Someone from GHS will visit Commodore Perry during the first week of school to see who is interested in participating. I hope a lot of CP kids are interested!

Your players and coaches always look so nice on the field. Does Greenville have a fashion coordinator that helps you with those important decisions?
I am glad someone asked. We certainly do have a fashion coordinator! Ms. Susan Reames would be that person, and if you are interested in consulting her concerning any fashions, she may be reached at (724) 588-4363. She is very good and cheap!

Do you know if our games will be covered by any of the local radio stations this season?
All of our games will be covered on the Greenville station, WEXC - 107.1 FM. Our games against Wilmington and Sharon will also be covered by WWIZ - 103.9 FM down in the valley.

I heard Kennedy bought a team for this year. Any comments?
Since we don't play Kennedy, I am not really very concerned about their "athletic budget".

Hi Coach Stone...I was wondering which of your games this year do you think will be win #200? This is your friend from SC.
I wasn't aware that I had any friends in SC. If I was concerned about win #200, I would have scheduled Chagrin Falls, OH (tongue in cheek).

Any estimate on how long the trip will take to get to Marietta?
From what I understand, Marietta is about 3 1/2 hours by car. The Trojan Parent's Club is also chartering a bus to the game. If you're interested, you may contact Mrs. Matusz

Stoney, Congratulations on your Hall of Fame induction! Did you retire from teaching? Good luck this season! Still waiting to see you playing 11 games instead of 9! Mr. L from FL
Thanks, Vic. Yes, I have retired from teaching, however I would like to continue coaching for a while. I'm glad you aren't on the school board. You would probably have us playing 20 games to make a few extra bucks. Hope all is going well, and good to hear from you!

Hey Coach...how did the team do in your last weeks' scrimmage?
It was a typical first scrimmage. We did a few things fairly well, but a lot of things still need plenty of work. Our passing game needs work, and the overall defense needs picked up a notch. As always, we use the first scrimmage to evaluate players, and we were able to do that. Some passed the test, some need to study a little more.

Hey Coach Stone...Who do you scrimmage this week?

We will scrimmage Farrell (who is supposedly *loaded*) at Farrell this Friday night at 7:00.

Hey Coach Stone...that's not a very nice way to treat your elder sister. Deaner

Coach Stone: What is the matter, Deaner; no square dances, bingo games, or meetings of the neo-Confederacy tonight?

Coach Herrick: I'd like to know if this is also what Coach Stone will be doing after he retires from coaching; wasting his time yanking people's chains on chat sites.

Mr Stone...are you aware that Sandy called me this afternoon to insure that you received some wonderful questions for your program tonight?

She always has looked after me.

Coach Stone...could i talk to your typist? I believe he is doing an outstanding job for you. Deaner

No...my typist couldn't understand your stupid southern accent. Besides, I am tipyng thes miselv.

Coach Stone... i loved the "fashion" question. You have such a well dressed coaching staff. Ha!

Yes, and wait until you see this year's outfits! Speedos and Harley Davidson muscle shirts!

Coach Stone ... it seems that you do not answer every question that is posed to you!! WHY NOT!!!

Coach Herrick screens all questions and is responsible for making sure that Coach Stone doesn't make a complete fool of himself. Also, some questions do not deserve an answer! Next question...

Coach Stone... you did have a friend in So. Carolina!! He is going back in about 10 days but will try to visit you before.

I would appreciate a visit from anyone. You'd better get here before the first game, or I won't be fit to visit with!

I'm interested in knowing what the offense scheme will be like this year..in other words, how many times will you run 8?

Coach Herrick: Our goal is triple digits (per game)!

Hey Coach Stone... has there been a date set aside for the "Snyder" thing yet? Your once friend from SC.

If I may be serious for a moment, I believe the whole thing has been shot down. I don't know that anything official has been done as of yet, but I think the result will be a no-go.

Coach..any thoughts about not being able to go head to head with Jim Wildman one more time. You two had some memorable battles over the years. Bob Hermitage

Jim Wildman did a tremendous job at Sharon over the years, and got the best of us more often than not. It was great competing against him, and we will miss seeing him across the field.

Gee Coach Stone...i don't think your assistant has much of a sense of humor! He's probably an "offensive" coach!

He say's that he doesn't get paid to have a sense of humor. I think he's just basically a dull person.

Well Coach Stone, i have enjoyed chating with you on y'all's wonderful website. I'm sure you appreciate all the effort your typist and your "offensive" coach. But i would also thank them for a job well done! Later!!

See you soon!!

About the Marietta game...is there any good shopping there?

Check with my wife. She is fully aware of all the shopping sites east of the Mississippi, and most of the shopping sites west of the Mississippi.

Hey coach I was just wondering do you know anything about greenvilles split end JJ Strausser? is he going to be an offensive threat for the JV squad?

Coach Herrick: He is progressing nicely, and we are hoping for a big year for him out on the JV level.

Coach Stone: If he continues to work hard, he should be an offensive threat at some point in the future.

Heard that you are "remodeling" the fieldhouse (now that the mice are gone)..now the coaches/players will never want to go home!

We call it the "clubhouse", and if we had satellite hookup, we wouldn't even go home at all. Since you mentioned it...we are interested in having our former players who went on to play football in college send us a picture of them in their college uniform. They may be sent to: the high school c/o Coach Herrick. The address is 9 Donation Road, Greenville, PA 16125.

Hey coach stone what do you think of the JV's this year?

Coach Herrick: We must not be working the JV's hard enough, or they would've been in bed by now.
Coach Stone: I'll tell you what we think of them...after their first game.

Hey Coach Stone how do you think Some of the JV sophmores (like Strausser, Brown, McCormick, Ogunro, Castiglione) will do in their season and on the varsity squad next year? What do you think of them?

Coach Stone: I certainly hope they do well.

Coach Herrick: And I repeat...GO TO BED!!

Yeah, I hear Ogunro and McCormick have exceptional speed, how do you think this will help your Offense and Defense in the next couple years? Trojan player class of '00

Coach Herrick: We hope they continue to improve and are able to help us in the future. When you can beat Coach Bittel in a footrace, I'll consider your speed "exceptional".

What Jv players are going to make an impact on the future team???

That remains to be seen...

Did you purchase the additional covered golf cart exclusively to tote your geriatric fanny around the field

No, I did not "purchase" it. It was given to me.

When are you goin to start to pass the ball more??

-Tmac

Simply put, we'll pass the ball more when our QB's and receivers become skilled enough to be successful throwing the ball.

Mr. Stone, Nice to see that your back in with playing Reynolds. How due you think this season will go? Steve Shimshock

We don't know yet..it's a little too early to tell. Hope everything is going well with you, Steve. Good to hear from you.

The Pre-Season Chat is now over... Thanks for joining in!

Trojan 2008 Pre-Season Chat

Comments/Questions are in Black / Responses are in Blue

Will there be many 2 way players this year?

Yes, I am sure that there will be a few who will go both ways.

Any sophomores going to see playing time this year?

The sophomore class has some excellent football players. I am sure that some of them will see some varsity time.

How balanced are the Trojans this year... on both sides of the ball & specialty teams?

Our goal is always to be solid in all phases of the game. The kids are working hard, and we hope to be ready for North East.

Who will be taking over the quarterbacking duties?

We have three young men battling for the quarterback position. David Holiga, Nico Zahnhiser, and Tyler Gentile have all had a great summer. We will decide who gets the nod after the Sharpville scrimmage.

How bright is the playoff picture for this team?

Who are the top teams in the region?

The playoffs are always one of our goals. We hope to be competitive in our region. I believe that until someone knocks off defending conference/D-10 champs, Wilmington, they are the team to beat.

Running and receiving... how skilled & how deep are you at those positions?

Our skill people have worked hard all summer and are looking forward to having a good season. We are still trying to determine how much depth we have at each position.

how important of a part do you think the underclassmen will play this year?

To have a good team, you have to have contributions from everyone, so we will be counting on all of our young men to contribute.

what are the teams strengths... what areas need the most improvement?

I'm very pleased with the progress of our offensive line. Our biggest problem right now is a lack of experience in various spots.

What's the kicking game looking like?

The punter will be either Ryan Meadors, Nate Houpt, or Mike Simons. Mike Simons and David Holiga are both very capable kickers.

1. What changes have you made this year based on experiences you had last year, if any?

2. Every year it is the goal of a head coach to make the PIAA playoffs. How many wins will it take to make the playoffs this year?

3. Wilmington is always good, what other teams will represent a difficult challenge this year?

Best of luck to you and the entire staff.

MB

1. I have learned to say "No." to some non-football related requests.
2. I believe you need approximately 7 wins to be seeded in the District 10 playoffs. You will need probably 3 more wins in the District 10 playoffs, including the District 10 championship, to enter the PIAA state playoffs.
3. With the addition of Slippery Rock, Oil City, and Titusville, the league will be challenging every week.

Thank you. Best of luck to all.

Who will be the leaders on this team?

We count on all of our seniors to be leaders. They have done a super job during our winter, spring, and summer lifting programs. We will only go as far as they will take us.

How did the first scrimmage go?
Any big surprises?

Overall, we were pleased. We got to see everybody in action. We made very few mental mistakes, but our lack of experience was evident at times.

What's going to be the teams offensive strengths?

To be effective, we have to be able to run and throw. At this point, we are trying to implement our schemes and play to the strengths of our kids.

What's this year's lineup going to look like?

We are still trying to determine who our starters will be. Our second scrimmage will determine all starting positions.

Will there be any changes in the coaching staff?

Andy Young has joined the staff.

are there any changes in the region setup this year and who is in our region?

Oil City, Titusville, and Slippery Rock have joined Region 3 as AA teams. Grove City moved up to AAA and will no longer be in our league, however they are still on the schedule for week 5. Northwestern is no longer in the league and has moved back up north to Region 4. We will continue to play Reynolds, Sharon, Wilmington, and Hickory for Region 3 conference games.

Do you change things every year or do you stick to the same game plan and adjust things based on the talent that you are given each year?

We have a basic scheme that we believe in, but to be successful, we also have to play to the strengths of our athletes.

Now that your first year as head coach is over and the kids have adjusted to your leadership, do you see yourself changing things or do you stick to the basics?

I know it sounds old-school, but the best teams always block and tackle better than everybody else. We spend a lot of practice time going over the basic fundamentals.

will the ball-boys get payed this year Stephen and I want to know. -Lou

You will be over-worked and underpaid, just like last year. Have your agent give me a call, and we will negotiate salary.

Hi Coach.

First time chat, long time viewer of greenvillefootball.com....

I am sure you have an awesome stat crew helping you out again.

For the most important question, what is your favorite press box food dish. I hear they do an amazing job on Friday night.

Our technical support staff will be outstanding, as usual. We appreciate all that Whendy, George, Art, and Mandy do to keep our out-of-town fans informed. All of the press box delicacies were outstanding in 2007, and I'm looking forward to any new dishes this year.

You had three very good (and very entertaining!) ball boys last year. Will they be back and will they be getting paid this year?

We pay them to not only keep the balls clean, but to keep the audience entertained, especially if we are losing. They will be back, but they had better report to me in game shape.

How are we looking at the WR spot this year? it was a big loss of 2 big WR this year. Who will be catching the ball for the Trojans this year?

We have a number of players who have worked hard all summer. Rich Herron and Nate Houpt will probably be our starters, but a number of others will play.

coach,

how did chestnut ridge get on the schedule this year?

There were only 3 teams in the entire state that were open in week 4. Fairview refused to play us, so we called Chestnut Ridge and State College. Chestnut Ridge called us back first, and they are not AAAA. We thought they would give us a good challenge.

I would like to thank all of our supporters and hope to see everyone at the games this fall. A special thanks to Art and Bob Stone Jr. for all of their assistance with tonight's chat. Thank you and goodnight!