

Great memories highlight JV year

Attitude change and hard-fought effort are what coach recalls

By Bruce Smith
Matchup

The Copper Hills junior varsity football team had a season much like its counterparts.

The team won a couple of games and considered it a successful year. The difference in the players' attitudes during the season was a huge attribute. Even though they were sometimes outmanned against Region 3 opponents, their efforts was what coach Scott Adamson recalled most.

"That – and our win against Hillcrest," Adamson said. "The kids came back, played hard and played well. It was a nice comeback win."

Copper Hills trailed early, but rallied by scoring touchdowns in its final three possessions.

"I was just calling 'dive left' and 'dive right' and we were just pushing them around," Adamson recalled. "At the end, we just marched down the field and scored. It was a good win, and good for the kids."

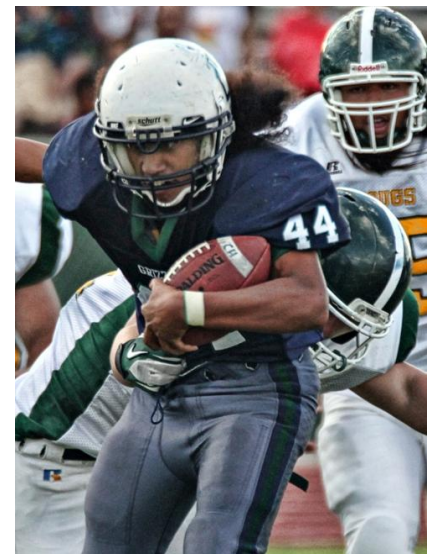
The JV team was led by quarterback Tyler Esprit. In addition, Jorge Alvarez, Tyler Smith, Marcus Conine and Shadrick Downward were among the players who had



Andrew Fernandez provides a block for running back Jorge Alvarez at Hillcrest. great seasons.

"We had a difficult season handling our kids," Adamson said. "We didn't have the numbers a lot of other players had. We ended up having to supply the varsity with players, and that limited how much they could play with us."

Adamson didn't consider wins and losses that important, but noted that the Grizzlies' victories came against



Marcus Conine runs with a fumble.

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COPPER HILLS FOOTBALL: JV recap



TOP LEFT: Tyler Smith

TOP RIGHT: Caleb Clements

LOWER LEFT: Tyler Esprit

LOWER MIDDLE:
Christian Cox

LOWER RIGHT:
Dustin Soter



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Hillcrest and West Jordan. The team also played tough against Jordan, but fell in the final minutes.

“It was still a great game, and one of our highlights,” Adamson said. “We played against their quarterback, who ended up coming into the (5A semifinal) game against Lone Peak and almost beat them.”

Adamson said the JV team will likely put a lot of guys on the varsity next year. He pointed to guys like Conine, Downward and Esprit.

* - Esprit guided the offense. The team

struggled at times, but Esprit was a capable runner and forced defenses to always keep that in mind.

“He (Esprit) may not play at quarterback next year, but he’ll play somewhere,” Adamson said. “He was one of the fastest guys on the team and we will need him on the field.”

* - Conine was a big help on the defensive end.

* - Downward played on both sides of the ball. “He came out dead tired after games,” Adamson said.