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Michael Mayszak

By KEVIN CHROUST - editorial@kcchronicle.com

 Comments (No comments posted.)

Michael Mayszak took his first snaps as Geneva's starting quarterback at the first day of two-a-days Wednesday after playing wide receiver as a junior on the 2006 Vikings team that put together one of the best seasons in school history. He thinks area football has a chance to stay on its high horse, wants another shot at Batavia and isn't afraid to admit there was a time in his life that he could carry a tune.

1. After area football hit arguably an all-time high last year, are we in for a letdown this season or can fans expect more of the same?

I don't think there's going to be a letdown because all the teams around here have been good. Batavia's been good the last few years. We've been decent the last few years. Rochelle, who's in our conference, has been good. Kaneland will be good again. So I don't think it's going to letdown at all.

2. What, if anything, do you remember about Geneva High School football growing up?

I just remember going to the games under the lights and just wanting to be out there.

3. Why should Geneva fans believe this year against Batavia will be different than last year?

We're hungry. We want it.

4. Now that you're a starting quarterback, are your standards for a homecoming date rising?

[Laughs]. No. I hadn't thought of that.

5. What's the biggest difference between Geneva football 2006 and Geneva football 2007?

We're just a younger team this year. We have a little inexperience, but I don't think it will be a big factor.

6. What's the biggest difference between you and (6-foot-6) Shaun Ratay at quarterback?

Height.

7. What NFL or NCAA rivalry does the Geneva-Batavia game resemble?

I'd have to say Michigan-Notre Dame. Actually, I'd say Michigan-Ohio State, because they hate each other and want that win so badly.

8. As a quarterback, who on your defense makes you cringe when they make a hard tackle?

Brennan Quinn, our middle linebacker.

9. Over or under five interceptions before Geneva fans start chanting, "Griese, Griese?"

Hopefully I don't get there.

10. If you were to get banged up in the first game of the season, which of your offensive linemen are you blaming?

[Laughs]. I'm not blaming any of them. I have to take the responsibility for it. I wouldn't blame my linemen because they've got a tough job.

11a. Give me a quarterback, past or present, that you model your game after.

I'd say Tim Tebow from Florida.

11b. Why?

Because he can run and he can throw. That's what I want to try and do.

12. If you could play quarterback and wideout at the same time, would anyone else on your team ever see the ball?

[Laughs]. Well, we have a good running back [Michael Ratay], so I wouldn't be able to take it away from him.

13a. If time's running out in the fourth quarter and you toss up a Hail Mary, how confident are you that one of your receivers is coming down with it?

One hundred percent confident.

13b. Because they're tall?

Yeah, we've got tall wideouts this year.

14. How old were you when you stopped creating yourself as a star player in Madden?

I still do.

15a. If I had a videotape of Mill Creek Elementary School's 2001 production of the musical "Oliver," would it mean anything to you?

That's tough. Yeah, because I had a nice lead role in that one.

15b. You can sing?

Not anymore. Just back then before puberty.

16. How prepared are you to lead the offense this year?

I'm pretty prepared. I've been working hard all off-season with my quarterback coach, so my throwing has gotten a lot better. With experience, hopefully I'll be able to lead them to victories.

17. When you have a day off school with no football practice, what's the first thing you want to do?

Get some sleep. Play some video games. Hang out with friends.

18. Was the change from wide receiver to quarterback your idea, or did your coaches approach you with the plan?

Coaches came to me with it. I think [head coach Rob Wicinski] was planning on it all along since I came up sophomore year and played receiver. He was planning on moving me to quarterback.

19. What is the best football movie ever made?

I like "Remember the Titans."

20. Quarterback is probably the most glorified position on the football field. What's one thing people that don't play the position don't know about?

It's a lot harder than it looks. You have to know everything. You have to be one of the smartest guys out on the field. You have to know everyone's position. It's just a lot harder than everyone thinks.

COMMENTS

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