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**(Neb.)-Hemingford poised for big season in 2013**



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Coming off one of the best seasons in school history, Hemingford's football team has a chance to be even better in 2013. The team returns a very talented group of juniors that features quarterback Matthew Wood, receiver Colt Foster and running backs Brady Turek and Ethan Skinner. But Head Coach Jordan Haas says it's the seniors who are key to the team's success.

"Most all of our kids have had a really good summer," Haas said. "But the junior group wouldn't be where they're at if it wasn't for the group of seniors we have now with Blake Hansen, Kyle Kaman and Trevor Benge. Those guys are great leaders and have really guided those kids and shown them the way."

Hemingford finished the 2012 regular season undefeated last year before losing to Loup City in the second round of the playoffs. While the Bobcats hope to match that feat, Haas isn't taking anything for granted.

"Everybody wants to have an undefeated regular season," Haas said. "But as cliché as it is, we're just going to take it game by game because we understand that with the season we had last year that we have a target on our backs and we're going to get the best shot from a lot of teams."

Hemingford's one apparent weakness is a lack of size, but Haas thinks his team can make up for it with speed.

"That's the same concern that we've had for a couple of years now," Haas said. "We're not as big as some of the other teams we may play, so we have to find different ways to use our strengths against their weaknesses."

Hemingford will begin the season on the road Sept. 6 in Crawford.