

BNC

Coaches favor Traverse City West

FROM PAGE 6

CADILLAC is coming off an 0-9 season just two years after winning the Big North crown. Sixth-year head coach Jim Webb has six returning starters and a slew of youth that is chomping at the bit to prove last year was just a

bump in the road.

"We have had good leadership this summer, and good numbers," he said. "Everyone has been working hard. Everyone is a little hungrier."

Senior quarterback Kyle Seehase and senior outside linebacker Wayne Ethington were named captains, and will lead a team filled with younger players.

"It might take a little time to get some of these guys on board," Webb added. "It does take a while to get acclimated to varsity ball."

Three players return to an offensive line that should gel

rather quickly — Vince Vollmar, Ryan Thompson and Jayson Doty. All are seniors.

Eric Elsholz, a junior middle linebacker and part-time full-back, started as a sophomore and was the team's leading tackler.

"Right now, on defense, we've had some really good practices and scrimmages," Webb said. "We can really get to the football."

Two teams in their final Big North seasons, **CHEBOYGAN** and **SAULT STE. MARIE**, are looking to leave a mark on the league standings.

At the Soo, senior quarter-

back Ryan O'Neill, who also starts at safety, will guide the Devils' offense. Senior two-way end Jason Marble provides an imposing target for O'Neill at 6-foot-5 and 230 lbs.

Head coach Greg Rambo says the strength of his team will be up front.

"We're not very big, but we're quick," said Rambo, who is in his second year as head coach after 21 as an assistant. "We hope to be able to throw the ball a little more this year. We hope to be able to compete. With this being our last year in (the league), I hope we can leave a good impression."

Cheboygan lost 23 seniors to graduation and retained just nine of 22 starters, but head coach Jack Coon's program has been a bedrock of consistency in terms of offensive philosophy for a quarter-century.


"We've been running the wing-T for 25 years and we're going to continue to do so," said Coon, who is coming into his 16th season as Chiefs coach. "With the youth we have — and I think it's talented youth — I think we just simplify it a little bit. We have to make sure we entrench the fundamentals."



2003 Football Schedule

August 29	Grand Haven	Away
September 5	Jackson	Home
September 12	Cheboygan	Home
September 19	Cadillac	Away
September 26	Sault Ste Marie	Away
October 3	Petoskey	Home
October 10	Alpena	Away
October 17	Gaylord	Away
October 24	Traverse City Central	Home

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