

7N - NEWSPAPER SPORTS WRITING (28 points possible)

Using the following facts and quotes, write a 250-300 word sports story for your newspaper, *The Liberty Bell*.

The writer should determine which information is relevant and important to the story. The writer should also determine which quotes to use and whether to use quotes in their entirety.

Write your name on your entry.

Use neat handwriting so that judges can read it.

School Info

Name: Spirit High School

Location: Quaker City, PA

Enrollment: 1,800 (9-12)

Principal: Dr. Betty Bloom

Colors: Blue and Silver

Mascot: Groundhogs

Newspaper: The Liberty Bell

BACKGROUND

- Spirit High School entered the football season with high expectations, but fell short of winning the Suburban One Conference title, falling to Jefferson Heights High School, 24-23.
- Spirit High School finished with a record of 9-3 on the season.
- Five players from the team won All-Conference Honors: junior wide-receiver Ryan Smith, senior quarterback David Ryman, junior cornerback Tyree Davis, senior kicker Ron Burkhardt, and senior center George Davison.
- Coach required the entire team to wear navy pants, a white-collared shirt, and the football tie to every home game. Players also had to wear the attire every Friday at school on game days.
- In the playoff game against Jefferson Heights, both teams played through torrential downpours.
- Four seniors have accepted scholarships and committed to various PA universities around the state.
- Coach Chad Kauffman retired after the season, his 22nd year coaching at the school.
- Spirit High School has reached the playoffs for the past 7 consecutive years and been in 4 of the last 5 Suburban One Conference Championships - winning 2 titles.
- The school has produced 6 NFL players and is regarded as one of the best football programs in the state of Pennsylvania.

QUOTES

- Coach Chad Kauffman: "This group was truly special. We overcame some injuries early in the season and pulled together to play extremely well down the stretch and into the playoffs. Even though I'm retired now, I'll still be around to make sure everything goes as it should."
- Coach Mike Simmons: "Sure, I'm disappointed we lost with such high hopes entering the year, but these kid's showed heart, and we lost to a solid team."
- Coach Peter Foster: "This senior class - they embodied everything we want of our students from Spirit. They are going to do great things in the future, even away from the field."
- Junior cornerback Josh Humphrey: "We had a blast, and though it didn't end the way we wanted it to, we lost to a tough opponent."
- Senior Matt Bowman: "We really wanted to send Coach Kauffman off with a another Conference title in his last year, but we fell a bit short. I do think he's proud of what we accomplished though, especially recovering from so many injuries."
- Senior kicker Ron Burkhardt: "It broke my heart at the end of the game knowing that I made that field goal kick in the pouring rain, and we still lost the game in the last 40 seconds."