

AAA – WEST REGION

BISMARCK CENTURY PATRIOTS



Coming off a rare losing season, Century starts fall camp with more questions than answers.

Ron Wingenbach, entering his 35th season as head coach of the Patriots, said his team has three starters back on offense and six on defense.

“There will be a lot of holes to fill,” he said. “We will look for leadership from our senior class and rely heavily on personnel from our 2023 JV program.”

Among the six starters back on defense is all-state linebacker **Ole Taylor** (6-1, 215), who had 32 unassisted tackles, 30 assisted tackles and four sacks last season.

Landry Wesson (6-0, 200) made 44 unassisted tackles in his junior season and is back to help anchor the defense. In the secondary, **Kolter Simon** (6-3, 190) and **Jordan Kellogg-Schmidt** (6-0, 170) each had two interceptions last fall. Senior linebacker **Cash Weisenberger** (5-9, 180) and defensive linemen **Ian Schweigert** (6-2, 265, sophomore) and **Braxton Dahl** (6-2, 265, junior) also contributed for the Patriots last season.

“Last year’s senior class was dotted with several linemen with size and experience, so our challenge will be to rebuild both sides of the line with the newcomers we have,” Wingenbach said.

Offensively, the Patriots will largely be breaking in a new group at the skill positions.

Jerys Burckhard (5-11, 190) had 23 carries for 121 yards and a touchdown last season.

On the outside, **Joey Kraljic** (6-3, 220) had nine catches for 99 yards in his sophomore season. **Zavion Harildstad** (6-2, 185) also saw spot duty at receiver.

“Our experience initially will be on the defensive side of the ball, so development of our offense will be critical,” Wingenbach said. “Offensively, we need to replace most of our backfield and receiving core.”

Wingenbach, who has coached Century to 228 wins and four state championships, sees the new season as a work in progress.

“Our overall team speed on offense and defense, which has been an important asset the past several years, is an area of concern as we will have several newcomers at key positions.”



Coach Ron Wingenbach

2023 RESULTS

Overall Class AAA Record: 3-7

Class AAA West Region Record: 2-3

WEST FARGO	W	46-40
at Mandan	L	23-26
at West Fargo Sheyenne	L	24-26
Minot	L	0-30
Fargo Shanley	L	35-48
at Williston	W	42-6
at Bismarck Legacy	W	41-13
Fargo Davies	L	7-28
at Bismarck	L	6-41

Class 11AA Quarterfinal

at West Fargo Sheyenne L 21-41

PREVIOUS TITLES WON

Region Titles: 12 (1976-77-94-95-2002-10-11-16-17-19-20-21)

State Titles: 4 (2015-16-19-20)

2024 SEASON

Head Coach: Ron Wingenbach (35th year)

Record as Head Coach at Century: 228-129

Assistant Coaches: Tim Fletcher, Justin Miller, Rod Breitbach, Clay Brosz, Brennan Doan, Steve Feeney, Dan Murphy, Kent Schweigert, Brad Townsend, Luke Little, Kevin Vanderpan, Cory Volk, Logan Schafer, Seth Braun

Key Players

Noah Bares, Sr, 6-3, 195, WR-DL
 Jerys Burckhard, Sr, 5-11, 190, RB-LB
 Brodie Gerhardt, Sr, 6-1, 235, OL-DL
 Jordan Kellogg-Schmidt, Sr, 6-0, 170, WR-DB
 Bryce Lasher, Sr, 6-2, 210, OL-DL
 Kolter Simon, Sr, 6-3, 190, WR-DB
 Jaylen Tarp, Sr, 6-1, 225, RB-LB
 Ole Taylor, Sr, 6-1, 215, OL-LB
 Cash Weisenberger, Sr, 5-9, 180, RB-LB
 Landry Wesson, Sr, 6-0, 200, TE-LB
 Darion Bitz, Jr, 6-1, 215, RB-LB
 Braxton Dahl, Jr, 6-2, 265, OL-DL
 Xander Hanson, Jr, 6-0, 165, WR-DB
 Zavion Harildstad, Jr, 6-2, 185, QB-LB
 Noah Herr, Jr, 5-11, 170, QB-DB
 Joey Kraljic, Jr, 6-3, 220, TE-DL
 Brayden Morris, Jr, 5-9, 175, RB-LB
 Tristan Pope, Jr, 5-10, 180, RB-LB
 Marshall Arndt, So, 5-11, 165, RB-DB
 Chance Hamers, So, 6-0, 215, OL-LB
 Wyatt Nelson, So, 5-8, 165, RB-DB
 Ian Schweigert, So, 6-2, 265, OL-DL
 Peyton Seil, So, 6-3, 245, OL-DL

BISMARCK CENTURY PATRIOTS

Website: www.bismarckschools.org/CHS

Team Colors: Red, White and Blue

School Song: Bismarck Century

Lyrics: Bismarck Century Red, White and Blue Century Patriots, We'll Cheer For You. We Will Help You Win This Game; Our Team Will Bring Us Fame. See Our Colors, Help Us Along; Bring Us Victory, Cheer Loud and Strong Shout Your Praises To The Sky For Century High. — Harold Kepler



— Dave Selvig