

MOUNT UNION FOOTBALL

Shugarts back for third coaching stint with Trojans

By **BRIAN CARSON***Sentinel correspondent*

MOUNT UNION — It was a season of turmoil for the Mount Union football team in 2012.

With the passing of beloved head coach Alan Hartman, Trojan wrestling coach Corey Wertz was thrust into the spotlight and asked to take over the program with heavy hearts all around.

The results were not surprising. A 2-8 overall record with a 1-4 showing in the Inter-County Conference Gold standings concluded a very forgettable season.

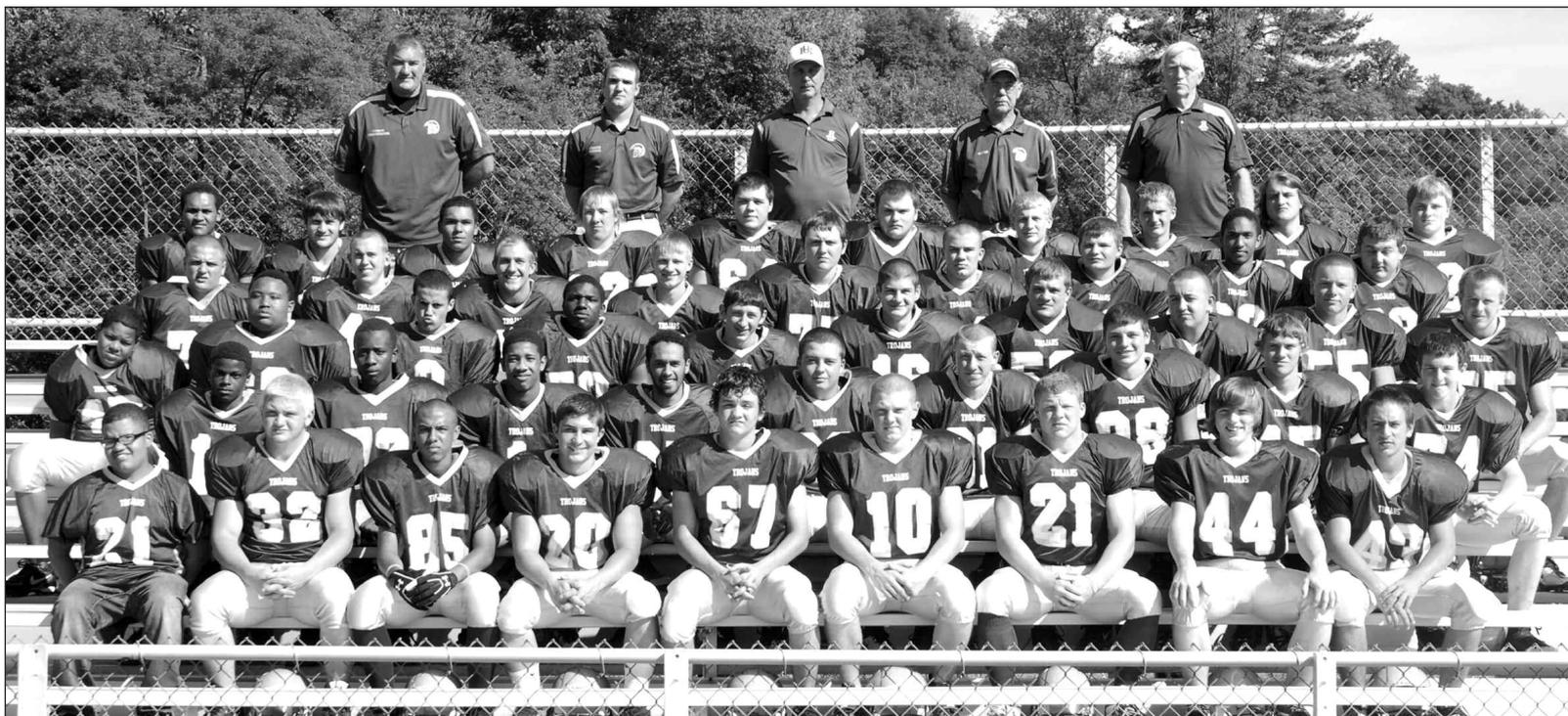
Wertz decided to focus on wrestling and stepped down from his football post, paving the way for a very familiar face.

If this were a movie it would aptly be titled, 'The Return of Dayton Shugarts, Part 2.'

Shugarts, entering his third stint as head coach of the Trojans, was asked to take over and help rebuild the program back to respectability.

"I'm 74 years old. I've learned a lot in 74 years but one thing I never learned is how to say no. I didn't apply for the job I was asked if I would do it after what happened in the past with Alan (Hartman) dying and Corey (Wertz) stepping in and doing it, but not wanting to do it another year," Shugarts said, explaining how he was offered the job. "They asked me if I would do it and keep the program going on a solid footing and maybe mentor one of the assistant coaches to take over in the future. This is definitely not long term, because I don't have long term to go."

One positive note at the start of training camp was the turnout. Mount Union has 49 on the roster. It's a goal of



Sentinel photo by BUFFIE BOYER

Members of Mount Union's football team are, from left, front, manager Brian Stennett, Riley Grainey, Juwan Taylor, Anthony Giuliani, Dylan Smith, Austin Low, Dylan Smith, Braydon Kylor and Austin Yakamac; second row, Shaq Walker, Sam Fenderson, B.J. Loner, Devante Raison, Zach Morgan, Austin Roher, Landan Speck, D.J. Bookwalter and Thomas Atherton; third row, Jonas Fortson, Zach Morris, Kole House, Duquane Ellis, Robbie Steel, Sam Estep, Philip Kyle, Zach Glunt, Brody Suter and Cody Hamman; fourth row, Zach Clemens, Curtis Jury, Nate Goodrich, Klayton Heffner, Mason Hockenberry, Wesley Miller, Luke Bubba, Keiton Pollock and Nathan Renninger; fifth row, Darrian Stapleton, Devon Kylor, Trevon Walker, Nick Henry, Seth Rogers, Brandon Shumaker, Andrew Tress, Caleb Diven, Zach Snyder and Adam Rigney; back, coaches Jamie Brumbaugh, Matt Young, John Shugarts, Bruce Hicks and Dayton Shugarts.

AT A GLANCE**MOUNT UNION
TROJANS**

District 6, Class AA

Coach: Dayton Shugarts, assisted by Jamie Brumbaugh, Matt Young, John Shugarts, Brian Lewis and Bruce Hicks.
2012: 2-8, 1-4 Inter-County Conference

Shugarts to keep all of them healthy, and on the team, all season long.

"It's great to have the numbers we have. That's how you build a program. The junior high is holding pretty steady at 43 kids. That's superb numbers," he said. "I want to see every kid who's with us

right now end up on the team at season's end. I don't want to lose any kid."

Offensively, senior Dylan Smith takes over at quarterback in place of last year's starter, Travon Walker. Smith was the leading rusher for the Trojans in 2012 with 409 yards. He will be one of the leaders in 2013.

"We have a lot of good kids. One of them is Dylan Smith at quarterback. He ran QB at the end of last season when (Travon) Walker went down hurt. He's definitely leader material," Shugarts said. "It's really hard to pick out many because there are so many of these seniors who can lead. Klayton Heffner is another kid who is a leader type. Nathan Goodrich is a

superb kid who a lot of the other kids look up to. The cream comes to the top. After we start scrimmaging and playing games we'll have a pretty good handle on who the leaders will be."

Walker, who threw for 867 yards and seven touchdowns, will see action at quarterback

and wide receiver. Heffner and Goodrich are set at receiver.

Key losses for the Trojans were wide receivers Kahlil Fortson and Jamal Smith (27 catches, 456 yards and four TDs). Defensively, Cory Kylor will be missed.

Shugarts believes the grad-

uating seniors can be replaced by the talent on hand.

"I honestly can't think of one kid who graduated last year who can't be replaced this year. I mean there were some good kids last year, but we have the talent to replace

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to All
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