

Cat Chat



Cashion High School

October 2010

Words for Wildcats

By: Mrs. Oard

I frequently get asked my opinion about issues, both educational and non-educational. Trust me, I usually have an opinion and love to share it (sometimes too rapidly). I have been asked lately about my opinion on many education issues and have hesitated to say too much about some topics due to the political nature of the subjects. As your superintendent, I don't think my political views should be inflicted on patrons of the district. However, I am deeply passionate about education. That includes the education of students, colleagues, patrons and myself. While I will withhold comment on some issues, I would like to provide you with places to find information on hot topics so you can form an educated opinion on the topics of the fall semester.

Nationally, education is being strongly criticized. A two day summit in New York City on September 27 & September 28 was hosted by NBC News. *Education Nation* desired to engage the public, through meaningful dialogue, "in pursuit of the shared goal of providing every American with an opportunity to pursue the best education in the world." There are pros and cons to this conference as there are to all things. I have included some links below for further reading as you explore this subject.

<http://www.educationnation.com/>

<http://voices.washingtonpost.com/answer-sheet/race-to-the-top/the-elephant-obama-lauer-ignor.html>

In addition, there is a great deal of talk about the release of the movie *Waiting for Superman*. The movie is now playing in select theaters across the United States. It is a personal exploration of filmmaker Davis Guggenheim of the state of education in the U.S. and the affect it has on America's children. In particular, there are personal interviews with school children and their families.

<http://www.waitingforsuperman.com/synopsis>

<http://voices.washingtonpost.com/answer-sheet/guest-bloggers/what-superman-got-wrong-point.html>

Finally, on the state level, election day will be here shortly. There are eleven state questions for consideration. The most hotly contested question is probably State Question 744. This question requires state government to provide funding for public education that is at least equal to the average of surrounding states. This question has been greatly debated and voters really need to educate themselves to form an opinion. As with the two items above, I have included a couple of links to help you get started on your continuing education of education. There is a plethora of information on all three issues; these are just some links I discovered to help you get started.

<http://www.yeson744.com/>

<http://www.stop744.com/>

FCCLA News

FCCLA took 25 FCCLA members to the North 3 District Meeting in Hennessey on Wednesday, September 29. The theme for this event is "65 Years Strong"

FCCLA is celebrating its 65th birthday, thus the theme. Ryan Moran from Heavy Penguins Corporation spoke at this event. Door prizes, hot spots, and District Officer Installation made it an event to remember. The group stopped in Kingfisher for lunch and then returned to school.

Last week the Cashion FCCLA members prepared food for the football team, coaches, managers, and homecoming court on Friday for the Homecoming celebration. Lil' Smokies in a blanket, brownie cupcakes, cookies, invisible kool aid, bar-b-que smokies, vegetable tray, fruit tray, ranch dip, chips, rotel cheese dip, and puppy chow provided the special fare for the feast. FCCLA members were also invited to eat. Most preparations were made on Thursday the 23rd in the new food lab. Thanks to everyone who helped with preparation and clean up for this fun time.

Secondary News

By: Mr. Vandruff
H.S. Principal

School has gotten off to a great start! Our students are enjoying all of the activities in the classroom and are learning. They are also enjoying each other when participating in extracurricular activities. We have had more school spirit and camaraderie than we did all of last year. Students really got into the dress-up week for Homecoming. Homecoming was an amazing success! It was truly gratifying to see all of the students come together and really be united as a student body.

We were able to host Open House last month which was an amazing success. We had over 130 parents, and students attend the open house. That great attendance is a credit to our parents and students. Our teachers really enjoyed getting to meet everyone. Our next parent-teacher conferences will be on October 26 and October 28 from 3:30 to 6:30. We hope to see you on those nights, but I would like to remind you that school will not be in session on October 29.

Our football team is currently ranked Number 1 with a record of 4-0. We play Crescent on October 1 at Crescent. This match-up might be a challenge and another exciting game. Hopefully it will start to cool off a little so we can get to that coveted football weather. I really have been impressed with the crowds at our home football games. Thank you for supporting our teams.

Our softball team traveled to Minco for their district play. Our girls played hard and persevered all year. They came up a little short against Okarche by the score of 6-5. We then played Minco the next game losing that one also, but I saw great improvement from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. I really want to thank all of our Seniors who have given a lot of time and been so dedicated to softball the past four years. We appreciate their efforts and believe that they have started a foundation for something that will be great. They stayed committed and persevered through some major struggles over the years in softball. We would also like to thank Coach Hess for working so hard to build a program.

As the year progresses, students are going to be challenged in the classroom. Some will start struggling

with grades and could possibly end up ineligible. Our teachers have a vested interest in our Cashion students and will do what is necessary to help them when they are struggling. Please don't hesitate to call or email our teachers concerning strategies for help with your child. We believe we can make great strides with our students by keeping our lines of communication open. We also provide free tutoring for our students. We have two teachers who will help students needing a little extra help. Here is their schedule for the school year:

Mr. Eaton/Math Monday 7:45-8:15 Room 305
Wednesday 3:15-3:45

Mr. Wilson/English Tuesday 7:45-8:15 Room 304
Thursday 3:15-3:45

High Expectations....High Achievement
Kyle Vandruff

The World of High School English II, III, & AP Literature

The sophomore class has finished *The Scarlet Letter* and are about to begin a unit on mythology, fables, and folklore as part of their world literature curriculum.

The junior class has made their way through early American literature including the puritan classic *The Crucible*. They also researched the events surrounding the slave trade and immigration into the United States by the Chinese, Scots, and Irish.

Advanced Placement Literature students have finished the novel *Jane Eyre*, and looked into how archetypes are identified in literature using Disney's *The Lion King* as an example. AP students have also written their first college admission essay, first AP free response question, multiple short essays, and have been studying literary terms. They are now on to Shakespeare's *King Lear*.

BPA Names Officers

BPA had its first meeting on September 9. Officer applications were handed out. These applications were reviewed by three high school teachers. The 2010-2011 BPA officers include Melissa Barry, President; Kelley Marlow, Vice President; Shelby Sexton, Secretary/Treasurer; and Kathryn Grimmert, Reporter. BPA will join the other school organizations the first of November to perform a community clean-up service project.

Notice

Modern Woodmen of America's Cashion Chapter will be co-sponsoring a community service event with Chisolm Trail Technology Center's Practical Nursing Class and Logan Medical Center.

If you are **NOT** eligible for Medicare benefits, you can not go to your county Health Dept. and receive the shot, free of charge. We have been notified that the flu shot this year will cost at least \$25.00.

So, we will be making the flu shot available to all community members, who are at least 16 years of age. (Any one under 18 years of age, must have parental consent form signed.)

We can not to file any insurance claims.

Payment by cash or check must be made prior to receiving a flu shot.

When: Wednesday, October 27, 2010 from 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Where: Cashion School Cafeteria Annex

Cost: \$15.00

The supply is limited, so it will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Should you have any questions, you may call Michelle Wiens, Director of Practical Nursing @ Chisolm Trail Technology Center. (405-729-8324)

Academic Team News

The Academic Team started the season playing a scrimmage at Piedmont. The varsity split a 2-game set while the JV lost both games. The high scorer of the night was Evan Bird with 40 points. The first conference triad of the season was hosted by Cashion on September the 28th. The varsity beat Calumet 200-50, and beat Watonga 110-90 while the JV beat Calumet but lost to Watonga. The high scorer of the night was Austin Hoffman with 80.

Cashion's next competition will be in October at Lomega High School where they will face Lomega and Chisholm.

Go
Wildcasts!

Where the WILD Things Are!

Principal Lisa Hudson

At Cashion Elementary we're "Wild About Learning!" If you've perused the hallways of Cashion Elementary, you've probably noticed evidence of our school theme this year. If you haven't made it into the building, we invite you to take a walk on the wild side and come see for yourself the variety things happening at our school.

I am pleased to report that the school year has gotten off to a fantastic start, and as October approaches we are excited about all the fall happenings. The sixth grade class is preparing to get wild at Camp Goddard October 12-15, while the fifth grade tailgate party kicks off after school on October 15. On October 28, Mrs. Taylor's kindergarten students have planned a class trip to the Pumpkin Patch. In addition to these special events, students get a little wild and crazy every Monday and Friday morning at "Wildcat Wakeup."

Speaking of things getting wild, we've had quite a time managing our before school and after school car traffic. We would appreciate your cooperation with drop-offs and pick-ups. Between the hours of 7:45 - 8:30 and 2:45 - 3:45, parent traffic is *prohibited* in the bus loop on the east side of the school. Parents are asked to use the west loop exclusively. It is also permissible to pick-up and drop-off at the sidewalk leading to the middle building in the parking lot. Your cooperation maintaining the safety of our bus riders is greatly appreciated!

On a personal note, I enjoyed my own wild experience transitioning this summer from Colorado back home to Oklahoma. Now that I've settled in, I'd like to thank all the students, staff, parents and patrons for making me feel so welcomed and part of the Cashion community.

Freshman Class Making Good Use of Opportunity

The freshman class is taking full advantage of an opportunity provided by the varsity football team. At each home varsity football game the freshman and their parents have volunteered to work the concession stand in order to make money for their prom expenses. Each student and their parents work the entire game taking

orders, making burgers and hot dogs, frito pie, and nachos. A few even take on the ever-so-tricky popcorn machine.

"It is a great community service opportunity while fulfilling a need for the freshman class along with teaching students the value of responsibility and how to deal with the public" says Mr. Wilson co-sponsor of the freshman class. "The students work their tails off" that is for sure. "Mr. Stover and I are very proud of each of the volunteers and are grateful for the parents who have sacrificed their time watching the game in order to be involved with their child's fundraiser." The freshman class will be working throughout the regular season and the play-offs.

Senior Domination

September 28th, 2010, the Senior class and the Junior class went head to head in the Powder Puff Football game. The game was a DEFINITE victory for the SENIORS!



Counselor's Corner

By Meagan Scott

SCHOLARSHIPS SEARCH

**To search for scholarships use www.fastweb.com

ACT TEST DATES COST \$33.00

Register online at www.actstudent.org

The ACT school code is 370-645

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 11, 2010*	August 6, 2010	August 7 – 20, 2010
October 23, 2010	September 17, 2010	September 18 – October 1, 2010
December 11, 2010	November 5, 2010	November 6 – 19, 2010
February 12, 2011**	January 7, 2011	January 8 – 21, 2011
April 9, 2011	March 4, 2011	March 5 – 18, 2011
June 11, 2011	May 6, 2011	May 7 – 20, 2011

IMPORTANT DATES

September 14-----Plan Test for all sophomores

September 16 -----Explore test for all 8th graders

October 13th -----PSAT/NMSQT for any interested sophomore or junior

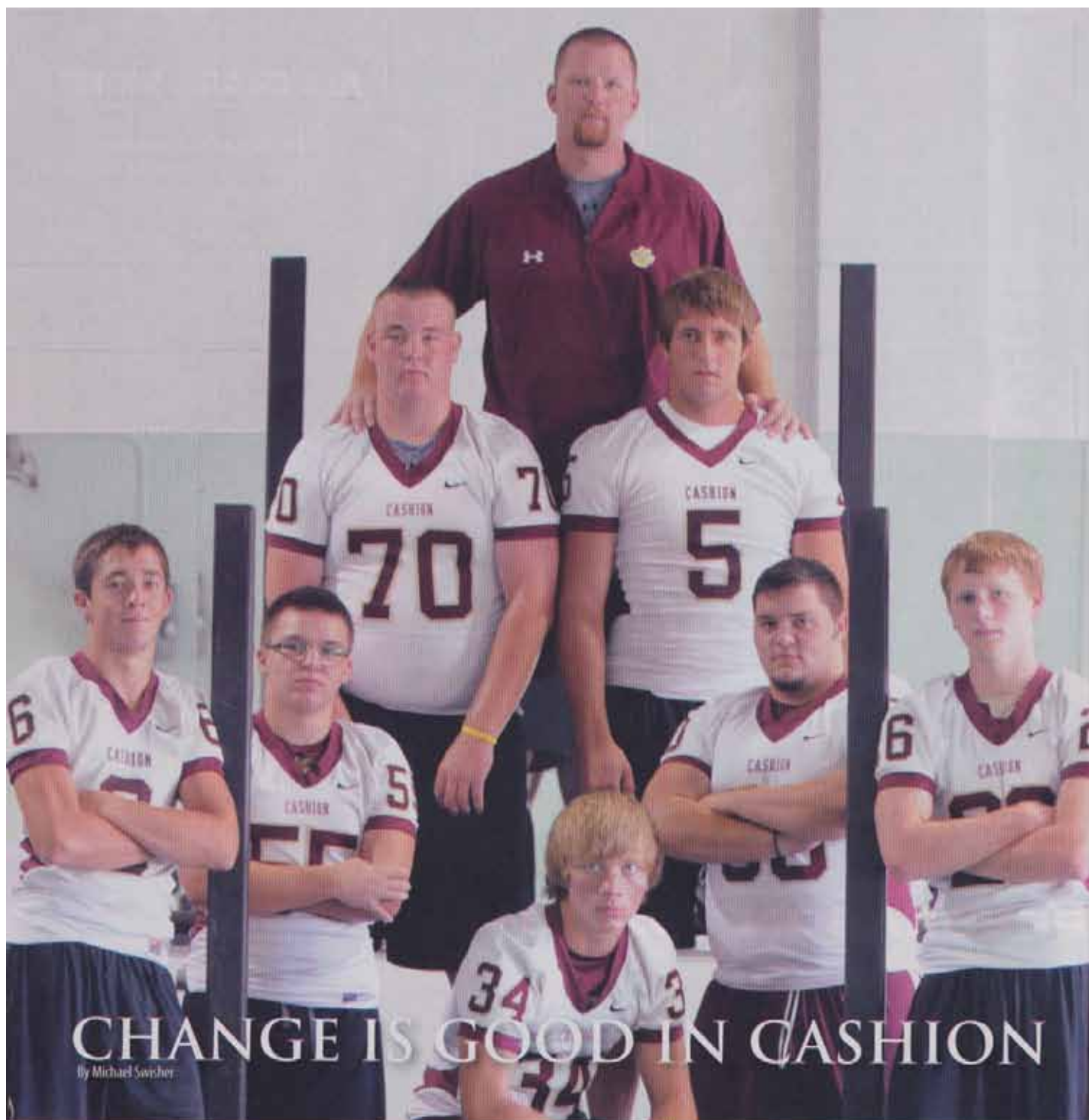
Used Ink Cartridges

Please help us by donating your old and out of service cell phones and empty laser and inkjet printer cartridges!

We can collect and exchange old cell phones and empty cartridges for free computer equipment!

Please donate the above to Mrs. Gruntmeir

**See pages 6 and 7 for Coaches Aid Football article. Copied with permission.



CHANGE IS GOOD IN CASHION

By Michael Swisher

A lot has changed since Lynn Shackelford came to Cashion seven years ago. There's a new high school. What was once an indoor swimming pool on campus is now a spacious weight room. The old high school, the gym and cafeteria are being remodeled.

Few things look the same as they did when he came to town in 2003. "It's safe to say things have changed quite a bit in my seven years here," Shackelford said.

And that includes the football program.

For starters, Shackelford came into an eight-man program. The Wildcats are about to enter their third season in Class A, the smallest of the 11-man classes. Cashion enters the 2010 season — which is a new era for Class A football in Oklahoma — as the No. 1-ranked team in its class and returns 14 starters off a team that went 12-1 a year ago, losing in the quarterfinals to eventual runner-up Stroud.

When Shackelford arrived in the Kingfisher County town, none of that probably seemed possible. Originally hired as a football assistant and head boys' basketball coach, he's seen the culture there change first-hand. "When two-a-days started my first year here, we had 16 guys on the field the first day," Shackelford said. "Then there were 22 kids in the gym (for basketball) on my first day when school started."

That culture has completely changed.

"Now when school starts, there will be probably five or six kids in the gym and we expect about 33 or 34 kids to be out for football," he said.

Success has been a big reason.

Although Cashion won Class C (eight-man) championships in 1977, 1979 and 1981, the tradition had worn off and the Wildcats had become only occasional visitors to the playoffs.

The turnaround began with Phil Elerick, but has been catapulted by Shackelford, now entering his fifth season as the head coach. In his first four years, Cashion has won at least 10 games three times and rattled off a 42-7 record. "It's just so popular now with all the kids," he said. "We have 25 sixth graders playing football this year. That shows that it's what the community has fallen in love with."

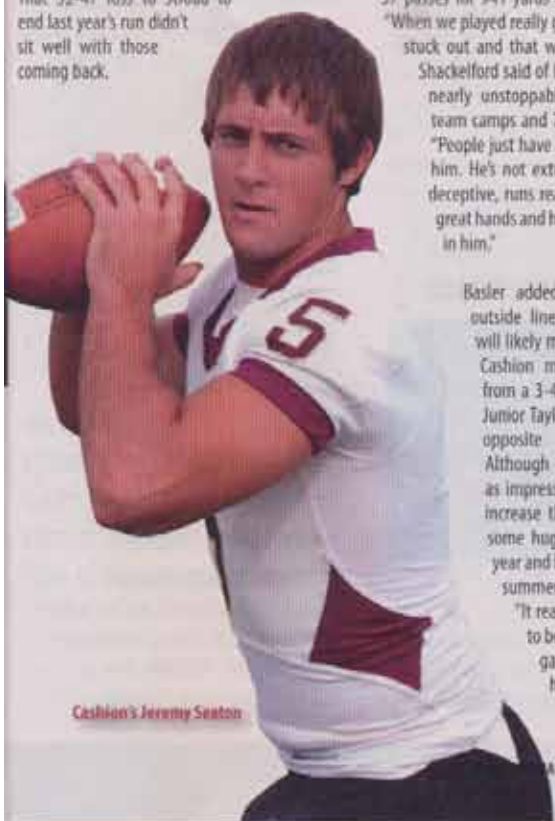
He says that much is evident on Friday nights. "They pack the stands now and it wasn't always like that," he said. "It's been really amazing to see the turnaround."

Of course, Shackelford is no stranger to success. A product of Morrison, Shackelford never tasted defeat in high school as his teams went 54-0 and won four state titles (he started all four years, playing a combination of defensive back, running back and quarterback). As a coach, he's learned how valuable those extra 14 games were to the program. "If you look at the teams that are in the playoffs all the time, there's no big secret why they're there," he said. "You get to practice more and you play more games."

Shackelford played more than an entire extra season in his career and all that extra time just continued to build the monster that was Morrison football. "Every round you win in the playoffs, it just helps the program so much more each time," he said. "The practice and the experience you get from that are invaluable."

Cashion now has that experience.

This year's crop of seniors played in the Class B quarterfinals in 2007, the Class A first round in 2008 and had three playoff games last year. That 52-47 loss to Stroud to end last year's run didn't sit well with those coming back.



Cashion's Jeremy Seaton

Leading that charge is quarterback Jeremy Seaton.

At 6-foot-4, 230 pounds, he could easily be mistaken for a linebacker (which he is, too), a defensive lineman, or even an offensive tackle. Instead, he's perhaps the most dangerous offensive weapon in Class A. Last year he threw for 2,015 yards, rushed for over 1,300 yards and took part in 42 total touchdowns.

"It's kind of scary what he might look like when he becomes a man because he doesn't even turn 18 until the middle of the season," Shackelford said. "But the thing about Jeremy is that he's the kind of leader I want on my team."

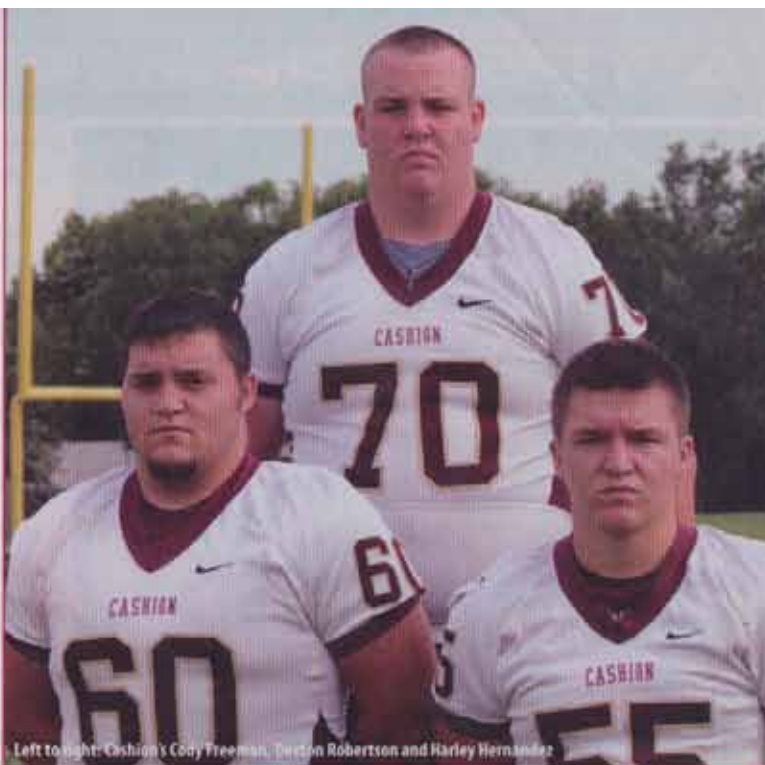
Seaton speaks with his actions, not his words. "He's not a 'rah-rah' guy. He doesn't yell and scream at his teammates," Shackelford said. "He just shows up, does what he's supposed to do and does it as hard as he can do it."

And he wants to help make others better too, even if it means getting his QB hands dirty. "If we're doing a drill and we need a defensive end or an offensive lineman, he'll jump in there and play," Shackelford said. "He just wants to do what it takes to get better and win."

The quarterback is also a dominant force on the defensive side, coming off a season in which he recorded 97 tackles, mostly at linebacker, where he'll play all of this season.

When throwing, Seaton's favorite target will be junior Britt Basler. As a sophomore, he caught 57 passes for 941 yards and 11 touchdowns. "When we played really good teams, he really stuck out and that was as a sophomore," Shackelford said of Basler, who has been nearly unstoppable in this summer's team camps and 7-on-7 competitions. "People just have a hard time covering him. He's not extremely fast, but he's deceptive, runs really good routes, has great hands and has a lot of confidence in him."

Basler added 81 tackles as an outside linebacker as well, but will likely move to free safety as Cashion makes the transition from a 3-4 to a 4-2-5 defense. Junior Taylor Cochran will start opposite Basler on offense. Although his numbers aren't as impressive, they'll certainly increase this year. "He caught some huge passes for us last year and he's had a really good summer," Shackelford said. "It really gives us a chance to be good in the passing game when we line him up opposite of Britt."



Left to right: Cashion's Cory Freeman, Dexter Robertson and Harley Hernandez

However, as good as Cashion may be at the skill positions, it may be even better on the offensive and defensive fronts. That, said Shackelford, is where it matters. "You can have the Heisman Trophy winner at quarterback, but if you can't block for him, it doesn't matter," he said. "That's what gives us the thought that we could be pretty good is the experience we have coming back up front."

That includes three linemen who started and two others who earned significant playing time. The biggest is Dexter Robertson, a 6-4, 300-pound sophomore who remarkably was just 14 years old when last season started. He worked his way into being the team's best lineman by the end of his freshman year.

Robertson and Branden Nixon, a 250-pound junior, will play offensive tackle. Cory Freeman, a 260-pound senior, will play guard. Harley Hernandez, Lane Welch and Mitchell Yearout will fill up the other spots. All six will also rotate on the defensive front.

The group gives the team not only experience, but size and strength. That kind of depth could come in handy once the Wildcats hit the playoffs, a destination the program fully expects to make every year now. "Once you get your program to a certain level, the expectation is that you just win. There is nothing else you think about," Shackelford said.

The coach admitted that his program isn't at that point just yet like Jenks, Union, Morrison, Carl Albert and a handful of others. But it's a lot closer than it was in 2003 when 16 players came out for that first practice.

"We're turning the corner here," Shackelford said. "Getting to the playoffs isn't a goal here anymore. It's expected."

"Now we want to do something when we get there and that's good to see."

CHARLESTON'S

RESTAURANT

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Oklahoma City, OK 73132

Proud Supporter of
Cashion Football