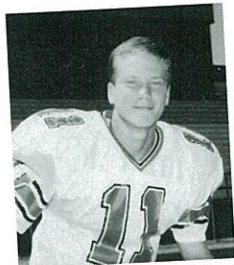


**Kenneth Gilbreath**  
First Team All-district  
Second Team All-state



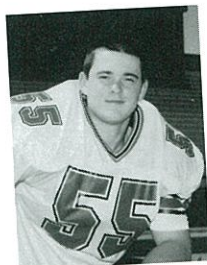
**Justin Hamm**  
First Team All-district  
Third Team All-state



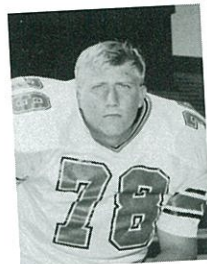
**DoroMendoza**  
First Team All-district



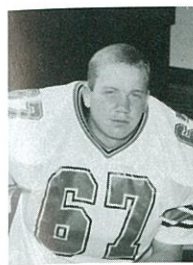
**Tim Martin**  
First Team All-district



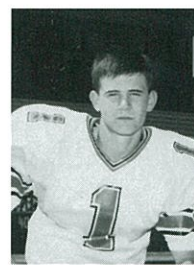
**Coby Slaughter**  
Second Team All-district



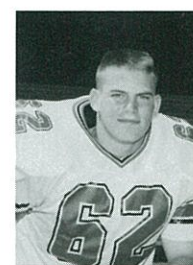
**JohnWingrove**  
First Team All-district



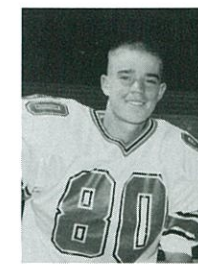
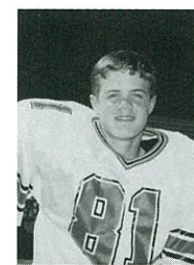
**Jared Green**  
First Team All-district



**John Henderson**  
Second Team All-district



**Casey McCallister**  
Hon. Mention All-district



**Jeremy Cross**

**Pat Gray**  
First Team All-district  
Second Team All-state



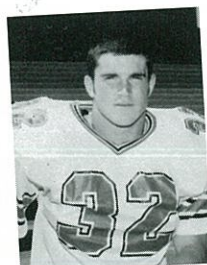
**Joe Renteria**  
Second Team All-district



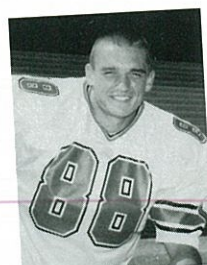
**Jody Soltero**  
Second Team All-district



**Brandon Thompson**  
District MVP  
First Team All-district  
Second Team All-state



**Alan Watts**  
First Team All-district  
First Team All-state



## Another Successful Season for the Cats

The goal of the Wink Wildcat football team is to win state. This high expectation is what keeps players going through the grueling rigors of off-season and two-a-days.

This year some veteran players fell by the wayside deciding the program is just too demanding or time consuming for such a far away goal. But, the players truly dedicated to the goal (including ten freshmen) stuck it out.

For much of the '97 season the Wildcats ranked number one on the Associated Press Class 1A Football Poll and built up a record of 9-0. Confidence and determination flourished.

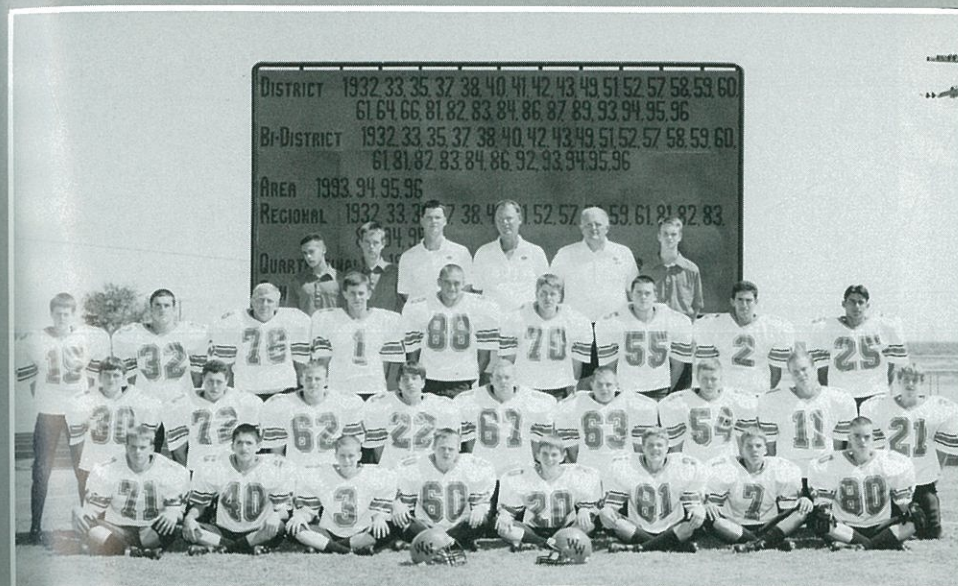
But the Wildcats fell just short of their fifth consecutive district title with a loss to Rankin and then lost to Petersburg in the bi-district game. Some might think the players and coaches feel their time has been wasted. But they are wrong.

The '97 Wildcats had success in coming together as a team to overcome the obstacle of inexperience. They had success when the six seniors became leaders and mentors to the sophomores and freshmen. They had success when the young players stepped in to fill positions with dogged determination. They had success in learning to genuinely care about each other.

### Season Record

Wink	51	McCamey	6
Wink	46	Garden City	0
Wink	31	Plains	12
Wink	43	Van Horn	6
Wink	31	Presidio	6
Wink	56	Fort Hancock	0
Wink	60	Fort Davis	0
Wink	47	Jal	6
Wink	79	Marfa	0
Wink	23	Rankin	28
Wink	6	Petersburg	35

"You can't judge a season as being successful or unsuccessful simply by looking at the final won-loss record," said Coach Sam Scott. "No one is ever a failure as long as he gets out of bed each morning and tries to do something positive. The twenty-six youngsters on this team will always have a special place in



1997 Wildcats: top - Adan Rey, mgr., Lonnie Lovell, mgr., Coach Jodie Scott, Coach Sam Scott, Coach Gene Zeigler and Gary McKee, mgr.; standing - Ben McGehee, Brandon Thompson, Coby Slaughter, Jared Green, Alan Watts, Pat Gray, Tim Martin, Jody Soltero and Doro Mendoza; kneeling - Weldon Thompson, Patrick Voyles, John Henderson, Joe Renteria, John Wingrove, Kenneth Gilbreath, Derek Erskine, Justin Hamm and Swen Swenson; front - W.E. Tinkler, Marco Enriquez, Derrick York, Skylar Jamison, Clayton Hawkins, Casey McCallister, Eathan Hamm and Jeremy Cross

my heart because they competed every-day trying to get better. I am proud to have been their coach."

There were disappointments to be sure, especially when the seniors lost their first ever district game. But each player can look back and feel pride in their accomplishments.



**Clayton Hawkins**



**Derrick York**



**Patrick Voyles**  
Second Team All-district



**Marco Enriquez**



**Derek Erskine**



**Eathan Hamm**



**W.E. Tinkler**



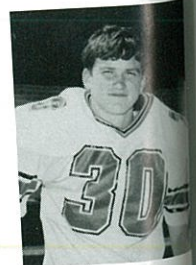
**Skylar Jamison**



**Ben McGehee**



**Swen Swenson**



**Weldon Thompson**  
Hon. Mention All-district