

# JVs put together another great year

By Bruce Smith  
Matchup

Putting together a consistently successful junior varsity football team isn't easy. Practices together are limited. Bingham coaches Josh Johnson and Randon Young had a mantra for this year, though.

"You throw it (the team) together and go play," Johnson said.

OK. Perhaps it involves more than that. Winning isn't as important, but possessing a winning attitude can't be lost. The JV team finished 7-1 in 2011 and the coaches believe that their team continued to evolve – and improve – as the season progressed.

"My best memory was that we just finished strong," said Young, the squad's defense coach. "The kids really came together and everything was clicking for us."

That was apparent at the end of the season, when the Miners put the finishing touch on their season with a 36-0 victory over Lehi and 36-7 against Pleasant Grove. It was the defense that had troubles earlier, but the offense always seemed to pull through.

"We averaged over 40 points per game, and that's saying something," said Johnson. "We had a lot of weapons and everyone contributed."

Johnson and Young



Linebacker **Carson Hussey** chases after the American Fork quarterback.

agreed that junior Carson Hussey was the team's MVP. He combined with A.J. Pickering and Amonai Itaaehau on defense. On offense, Hunter Hyde, Jantzen Bowles and Scott Nichols were key players.

"Carson stepped in and did well," said Young. "He had some big plays on defense, especially on fourth down. He's a tough-nosed kid that had a

nose for the ball. He will be a contributor for the varsity for sure."

The defense's improvement was based on just playing together more and learning specific playing assignments.

The Miners were tested by rival Riverton in midseason

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# BINGHAM FOOTBALL: JV season recap



**LEFT: Scott Nichols** provided instant offense for the JV team's running game.

**ABOVE: Blake Sasine** moves downfield, thanks to a block by **Jantzen Bowles**.

**MIDDLE: QB Walter Auvaa**

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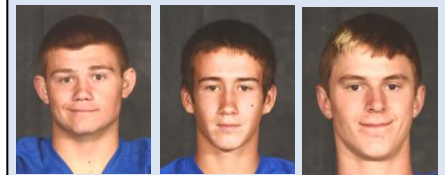
and trailed 43-42 when the Silverwolves scored a touchdown with about a minute left in the game. Bingham got the ball and, thanks to a successful double pass, got within field-goal range.

Kicker Preston Chitty got the game-winner, bouncing the kick off the upright and through.

"I like games like that," said Johnson. "It was competitive. Those kinds of games are good for the kids."

The JVs only loss was its season opener, 34-28 to Alta. The most impressive win came a week later when the Miners blanked Cypress, Calif., on their California trip. Another highlight was a 46-29 win over Lone Peak, whose varsity won the 5A title.

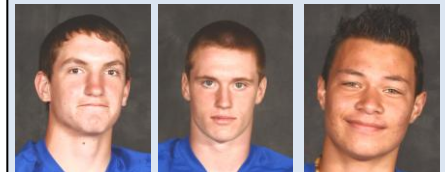
The JVs have had successful seasons for several years, and the players have continued with the same kind of success – or better – on the varsity. Looks like that trend will continue.



**Carson  
Hussey**

**A.J.  
Pickering**

**Hunter  
Hyde**



**Jantzen  
Bowles**

**Scott  
Nichols**

**Amonai  
Itaaheau**

## 2011 results (7-1)

<u>Opponent</u>	<u>W/L</u>	<u>Score</u>
Alta	L	28-34
Cypress (Calif.)	W	55-0
Layton	W	37-7
Riverton	W	45-43
Lone Peak	W	46-29
American Fork	L	48-21
Lehi	W	36-0
Pleasant Grove	W	36-7