

2017 Wheelersburg Pirates

“Words of a State Champ”

I tried my best this season to show each and every one of you how the game is supposed to be played. It's not about you or your stats. It's about doing your job to the best of your ability so the team as a whole can succeed. Play for the man to your left and right. Not for yourself. Selflessness is one of the top attributes of the game. You must be willing to sacrifice your wants and desires for the ultimate goal and that's exactly what this team did. And look where it got us. I couldn't be more proud of you guys.

I busted my butt all summer just so you would see what hard work looks like. Now that you know how to work hard and how it pays off I expect you to carry that go-getter attitude with you next season. Be ambitious. Not only next season, but through life in general. If you want something you better bust your butt until you capture whatever it is that you desire. If you are going to do something do it with all of your heart and soul. When you absolutely put all of your heart and mind into something anything is possible. It just matters how bad you want it and how hard you are willing to work for it.

This game will teach you more lessons than you ever expected it would. This game completely transformed me. It turned me into the man I am today. It's much more than just x's and o's. You must open your eyes, your heart, and your mind in order to soak in everything that this game brings to the table.

It's very important that each of you know that 100% of this game is mental. With a strong, stable mind you cannot be beat. Obtain positive thoughts only and discard the negative ones. When you practice all summer and all season, practice with no thought of slacking, but only the thought of what it takes to win. If you want to win then you will work for it. If you work hard enough for it then you will get it.

Lastly, believe in the man upstairs. All of you know I'm not the most religious guy but I quickly learned that faith will carry you a long way. When you play for him he rewards you. Remember God is great.

Once again I love you all to death and if you ever need me you know for a fact that I'll be there for you. I hate that this journey has to come to an end. But there's no better way to go out. I am forever grateful for each of you. I LOVE YOU GUYS