

SPORTS EDITOR: DAVE BOEHLER
 Phone: 893-6411 ext. 19
 Facebook: plymouthreview
 Twitter: @plymouthreview

SPORTS

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Sports is the toy department of human life."
 -Howard Cosell

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The picture is up, and it's good!

Like a field goal kick, Brill-Meerdink's senior photo is right down the middle

If only Green Bay's Mason Crosby could get back to kicking field goals to the same spot Mason Brill-Meerdink takes seniors pictures: smack dab in the middle of the uprights.

The tight end, who made second-team all-East Central Conference, was looking around Plymouth's football field this past summer for the perfect picture place with his mom and photographer Tyler Luedtke.

Luedtke suggested to Brill-Meerdink that the goalpost would make a good one.

"I looked up there and said, 'yeah, I'll get up there,'" Brill-Meerdink said. "So I ... sat with a football, snapped a couple photos and they turned out great."

Luedtke actually meant the goalpost would be a good place to stand next to, but Brill-Meerdink jumped up, reached for the crossbar with both hands, pulled - and then pushed - himself up to sit in the middle

Dave Boehler

THE REVIEW
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(where the crossbar and the post attached to the ground meet).

"My mom said, 'oh gol, I hope he doesn't fall off of there,'" Brill-Meerdink said. "But I was like, 'nah, I got this.' ... I'm the only one this year I know that's going to get this photo, so I better make it good."

School hadn't started yet, but some people coming into or leaving the building couldn't help but notice Brill-Meerdink.

He says they took "quite a few" pictures, including some holding a football high and tight or with his arms spread out, or him just looking out into the distance.

It took about 5-10 minutes, so there wasn't too much of



MASON BRILL-MEERDINK takes a senior picture atop a goalpost. - Photo by Tyler Luedtke

a concern the Panthers would need to fix a goalpost before the season began.

"Yeah, it was a little shaky getting up there, but I was like, 'this thing's big enough. I'll be able to stay up there,'" Brill-Meerdink said.

To get down, Brill-Meerdink lowered himself into the pull-up

position and then let go. Next, he checked out the pictures on the camera and was complimented by Luedtke: "Man, you look really good up there."

Brill-Meerdink, who spent three seasons on varsity, also was photographed in various spots on the football field.

"There were a lot of good

poses," he said.

Brill-Meerdink also posed behind Deo's by the river wearing a suit and/or button-down shirt.

But who doesn't do that?

"It was kind of a unique thing to do and I was glad that (Tyler) brought (the goalpost) up," Brill-Meerdink said.

Sign says it all

Josephs has 'flipping' time at state

No matter what Isabella Josephs did at state, the Plymouth diver knew Ellen Keuler had her back.

Keuler, her friend and former diver at Kiel, showed up at the Division 2 championship meet Friday in Waukesha with a sign that read: "Go Ella. You're flipping awesome."

"That just made my day," Josephs said.

In her fourth and final state performance, Josephs finished in 11th place with 350.20 points after taking 12th the previous two years.

"I was happy about it, and it showed how much I've been working these past few weeks and these past four years," she

said.

Josephs said her goal was "to do her best," and she was hoping to reach her seed score (sixth).

"Unfortunately, that didn't happen, but I didn't let that discourage me," Josephs said. "I know that state is a very hard meet to get to in the first place, so I was just very thankful that I made it."

Josephs, who is hoping to dive at UW-Eau Claire, Minnesota State-Mankato or possibly UW-Green Bay, is thankful for all the support she's had as a Panther.

"That's probably the best part that I will always remember," she said.



ISABELLA JOSEPHS (left) holds the sign that her friend, Ellen Keuler, made for the state championship meet.

- Photo by Claudia Herold

Mella makes all-state team

Plymouth outside linebacker Kellan Mella has been named small school all-state honorable mention by the coaches association

The senior recently made the WFLA all-region team, and was tabbed the co-linebacker of the year - and the offensive player of the year - by East Central Conference coaches.

"It's a dynamic, interesting duo to be a quarterback and a linebacker," coach Dan Knaus said. "You don't see that very often."

Mella has the size and athleticism to give him a huge advantage at his defensive position.

"He's big enough we can use him to set the edge like an outside linebacker/defensive end, but is also ath-

letic enough to drop into coverage to play those skilled parts as an outside linebacker as well," Knaus said.

And Mella did not even play defense last season.

"He practiced it all the time, so he knew the techniques and everything," his coach said. "He's always had a defensive mindset. In his mind, he rather be a defensive player than quarterback since day one. But he happened to be the best quarterback we had."



MELLA

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Jana Gruttner
 Broker/Owner/Realtor

 W6955 Stoney Ridge Lane
 Plymouth, WI 53073
 P: 920-893-1350 F: 920-694-1793
 janagruttner@gmail.com