

MERCURY ALL-AREA FOOTBALL PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

FALL 2016

Combine & Conquer

Perk Valley's Jaworski, Sturm formed most prolific combo in Mercury-area history



By Sam Stewart
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GRATERFORD » Perkiomen Valley's Stephen Sturm was taken aback when he was told he was going to be selected as the Mercury All-Area Player of the Year his junior season.

Not because he was selected for the award, but because he believed someone deserved it more than he — wide receiver and teammate Justin Jaworski.

Now, after the duo finished off their illustrious careers with sensational senior seasons, the only thing right was to do what hasn't been done in football all-area history — select them both.

Jaworski and Sturm, a month

removed from helping lead the Vikings to the District 1 Class 6A semifinals and a second Pioneer Athletic Conference championship in three seasons, are the 2016 Mercury All-Area Players of the Year.

"It's a great honor and it's awesome to share it with a teammate, especially since he's a big part of all my success," Jaworski said.

"I think this is the way I've wanted it," Sturm added. "I wanted it this way last year because I know how much he does for me and my success always depends on him. Last year I thought he was going to be player of the year because of all of the stuff he does. This year, with both of us earning the award, it's kind of the best of both worlds. It's nice

to get recognition for what I do, but then to see my teammate pick up recognition for all of the work he does every game, it's also nice to see."

The duo left the Perkiomen Valley program as the most prolific wide receiver/quarterback duo in Mercury-area history.

Sturm wrapped up the best career of any District 1 quarterback at the largest-school classification, passing for a PAC-record 3,438 yards with 42 touchdowns opposed to just nine interceptions. Sturm, who set the District 1 single-season mark for passing yards in a season for a week before North Penn's Reece Udinski bettered it in the district title game, passed Downingtown

FOOTBALL » PAGE 3

MERCURY ALL-AREA PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

Justin Jaworski and Stephen Sturm are the first co-players of the year. Here are the past honorees:



2015:
Stephen Sturm, Perkiomen Valley



2014:
Mike Fowler, Pottsgrove



2013:
Rasaan Stewart, Perkiomen Valley



2012:
Rasaan Stewart, Perkiomen Valley.

NFL

Eagles down Dallas in season finale, 27-13

With the NFC top seed Cowboys resting most of their starters, the Eagles capitalized and won their season finale, 27-13, Sunday at Lincoln Financial Field.

FULL STORY ON PAGE C4



WRESTLING

Upper Perk boasts 4 champs at Va. tourney

Outstanding wrestler Jared Kuhns led a group of four Upper Perk Perkiomen wrestlers atop the podium over the weekend at the Abingdon (Va.) Classic.

FULL STORY ON PAGE C2

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Penn St., USC set to meet in Rose Bowl

The matchup in the 103rd Rose Bowl would have seemed preposterous in late September. But late-season surges by No. 5 Penn State and No. 9 USC have them meeting up in Pasadena today.

FULL STORY ON PAGE C2

NFL ROUNDUP

Washington blows playoff chance

Facing an opponent with nothing to play for, the Washington Redskins blew their chance to make the playoffs with an uninspired 19-10 loss to the New York Giants on Sunday.

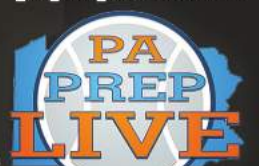
NFL ROUNDUP ON PAGE C5

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MERCURY ALL-AREA FOOTBALL



SAM STEWART - DIGITAL FIRST MEDIA

Perkiomen Valley's Stephen Sturm (9) and Justin Jaworski (25) celebrate after Jaworski's touchdown during Week 1's contest against Downingtown West.

Football

FROM PAGE 1

Develin (2006) for most career passing yards with 8,554 yards. His 94 career passing touchdowns tied Manheim Township's Pat Bostick (2003-2006) career mark.

Jaworski, meanwhile, broke his own league record for most receiving yards in a season, finishing with 1,396 yards receiving with 14 touchdowns, all while missing two games of the season with a MCL injury. Jaworski, who returned during the Vikings' victory over Spring-Ford in Week 7, shattered the PAC career mark for receiving yards in Week 3, besting the mark set by Upper Perkiomen's Ronnie Gillespie in 2011 (2,147 yards). Jaworski capped his career with 3,270 career yards.

The Vikings, meanwhile, finished the PAC season undefeated, defeating Pottsgrove in the inaugural PAC Championship game before rolling through two district rounds until falling to eventual district runner-up Garnet Valley in the semifinals.

With Sturm and Jaworski, the Vikings finished as the winningest class in school history, going 31-5 the past three seasons.

"Everyone wants to tell them-

selves that they believe they can do and achieve what they want to do," Sturm said. "But at the beginning, I don't think any of us understood the magnitude of what we could do. It's not only an honor for us, but for our coaches. They put it in place for us."

"I almost didn't play my sophomore year because I didn't think I was going to get time," Jaworski said. "Coach (Scott) Reed gave me a chance and I played pretty well. Last year I didn't see our success coming at all. Now, after all this and all of the success we've had, I just hope the young guys keep that tradition. It started with Rasaan's (Stewart) class going to districts and they passed the torch to us."

Now, both Sturm and Jaworski hope the winning trend continues as both prepare for college athletic careers — Sturm in football, Jaworski most likely in basketball.

"What I hope is that we set an example of what Perkiomen Valley football is about," Sturm said. "It's about succeeding on the field from a young age and succeeding off the field and being a good person. I think that's as big of an award you get can, helping the community and making an impact. Moving forward I think we'll remember it, but the work doesn't stop here. We both have plans to play sports in college."



MERCURY ALL-AREA SELECTIONS

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

- Quarterback**
Stephen Sturm, Perkiomen Valley
- Running Back**
Rahsul Faison, Pottsgrove
Matt Garcia, Phoenixville
Selwyn Simpson, Spring-Ford
Matt Gibson, Spring-Ford
- Wide Receiver**
Justin Jaworski, Perkiomen Valley
Ryan Okuniewski, Daniel Boone
Sean Owens, Perkiomen Valley
Ryan Kendra, Upper Perkiomen
- Offensive Line**
Chris Jimenez, Perkiomen Valley
Parris Janusek, Pottsgrove
Vaughn Stolzer, Perkiomen Valley
Casey Callahan, Spring-Ford
Jon Miller, Phoenixville
Noah Silva, Spring-Ford
Ephraim Hurt-Ramsey, Pottsgrove
- Athlete**
David Williams, Perkiomen Valley; Stone Scarcelle, Spring-Ford

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

- Quarterback**
TJ Pergine, Spring-Ford
Zeke Hallman, Upper Perkiomen
- Running Back**
Tyler Whary, Upper Perkiomen
Isaiah Mayes, Pottstown
Ryan O'Toole, Methacton
Justin DeFrancesco, Spring-Ford
- Wide Receiver**
Nasir Green, Phoenixville
Ryan Kormos, Pope John Paul II
John Keenan, Methacton
- Offensive Line**
Nick Salomone, Spring-Ford
Cole Fryer, Upper Perkiomen
Jahir Holmes, Perkiomen Valley
Liam Lockrey, Pope John Paul II
Ryan Cassidy, Pottsgrove
- Athlete**
Dan Cirino, Pope John Paul II

HONORABLE MENTION

- Quarterbacks:** Matt DeLaurentis, Pope John Paul II, Nick Guadarrama, Perkiomen School.
Running Backs: Brendan Schimpf, Perkiomen Valley; Larry Wingo, Pottstown; Javon Colbert, Pottsgrove; Hunter Scherfel, Owen J. Roberts; Daniel Adeboboye, Hill School.
Wide Receivers: Remy Sell, Perkiomen Valley; Quinn McKenna, Spring-Ford, Hunter Hinrichs, Owen J. Roberts; Tyler Keyser, Upper Perkiomen; Chandler Brooks, Perkiomen School.
Tight End: Sean Brennan, Pope John Paul II
Offensive Line: Jake Puderbach, Owen J. Roberts; Josh Havrilak, Owen J. Roberts; James Andrews, Norristown; Pat Ricci, Boyertown; AJ Dejewski, Pope John Paul II; Nico Palumbo, Upper Merion; Tom Doyle, Pottstown; Bryce Thompson, Phoenixville.
Defensive Line: Jon Miller, Phoenixville; Liam Lockrey, Pope John Paul II; Michael Dickey, Pottsgrove; Jeremiah Bynum, Norristown; Toby Poet, Spring-Ford.
Linebackers: Brendan Krumenacker, Owen J. Roberts; Austin Tutolo, Upper Perkiomen; Nehemiah Collins, Pottsgrove; Ricky Williams, Phoenixville; Jake McGrath, Upper Merion.
Defensive Back: Ted Bradford, Owen J. Roberts; Matt Brownley, Owen J. Roberts; Austin Montgomery, Norristown; Matt Garcia, Phoenixville; Kobey Baldwin, Pottstrove; Aaron Diamond, Pottstown; Adam Sharkey, Spring-Ford; Sean Praweckyj, Owen J. Roberts.
Specialist: Nathan Kasper, Pottsgrove; Anthony Littlewood, Upper Merion.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Rob Heist, Perkiomen Valley
Heist led Perkiomen Valley to the District 1 Class 6A semifinals during his first year at the helm. Team won the PAC title with win over Pottsgrove.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

- Defensive Line**
Jonathan Rotonda, Perkiomen Valley
Tyler Smith, Pottsgrove
Nick Duliakas, Owen J. Roberts
Tanner Romano, Spring-Ford
- Linebacker**
Lee Albert, Spring-Ford
Brian Fehr, Perkiomen Valley
Mario Scotese, Perkiomen Valley
Ryan Finn, Pottsgrove
Nick Yerger, Pope John Paul II
Kyle Beaudoin, Perkiomen Valley
- Defensive Back**
Justin Jaworski, Perkiomen Valley
David Williams, Perkiomen Valley
Stone Scarcelle, Spring-Ford
Adam Girafalco, Pottsgrove
Ryan Kendra, Upper Perkiomen
Dan Cassidy, Spring-Ford
- Specialist**
Garrett Patla, Perkiomen Valley

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

- Defensive Line**
Ernest McCalvin, Pottstown
Kevin Lovett, Perkiomen Valley
William Frazier, Spring-Ford
Kenny Luscavage, Upper Merion
Dylan Henry, Methacton
- Linebacker**
Ryan Yanulevich, Spring-Ford
Noah Shine, Perkiomen Valley
Nick Marren, Perkiomen Valley
Tyler Whary, Upper Perkiomen
Isaiah Mayes, Pottstown
- Defensive Backs**
Koran Butler, Norristown
Matt Ford-Bey, Perkiomen Valley
Jerry Kapp, Boyertown
Jake Bildstein, Pope John Paul II
Desmond Austin, Pottsgrove
Bob Strunk, Phoenixville
- Specialist**
Erick Rodriguez, Spring-Ford