# Girl power on the gridiron

**Wade Young** 

Montgomery Messenger

Don't let her looks or her gender fool you. Dressed in football pads with a fierce determination, Anastasia "Ana" Stasney is out to win on the gridiron.

According to veteran coaches, Stasney is the first female to play football for Tri-City United School and the previous Montgomery-Lonsdale School District.

Ana's introduction to football started when her brothers Tadd, 23, and Jayden, 20 played the sport. Even then, she thought it was rather boring - until she started to play

The speed, athletics and agility piqued her interest when she was in sixth grade at TCU Montgomery. During recess, she started playing two-hand touch football with her friends, all of whom are boys. As the year progressed, she started catching on to the game and began to like it.

"Before, I knew nothing about football, but over the school year, I got really good at it," she explained. "It seemed fun. I had all this height built into me and I could run."

and Cathy Stasney, was introduced to tackle football at varsity coach Ken Helland's cess, he had never played the Taekwondo. She has pracannual Football Camp held in July.

When she heard her daughter want to play tackle football, Cathy was worried.

"Me, being a mom, I was concerned for her sake emotionally and physically," she said. "I said there's going to stated. be boys who aren't going to give a rip if you're a girl, and they're going to tackle ... and tackle hard."

On the first day, Ana said her presence seemed to bother some players, but her friends rallied around her.

"When I first walked on to the field, I could hear people murmuring and looking at me and stuff, and my friends met me under a tree where they had their stuff. They welcomed me," she said, adding that there was one boy who asked why she was in football.

The fearless seventh grader told her soon-to-be teammate, "Because I can be!"

A friend backed her up, saying, "Yeah! Because she can be!"

Ana said tackle football is more physical than the twohand touch football she had played on the playground but she didn't mind.

"Tackling someone is fun," she said. "I kind of like rough-housing."

Her coach, John Goebel, said Ana is doing great.

"She is always watching and learning. Though she may not talk a lot, it shows during practice that she has been paying attention," he said.

The season just started and the team played their first game in Waseca last Thursday. She played cornerback who covers receivers, to defend against pass offenses and make tackles. Her coach wants to make use of her height and speed.

"She is fast and tall, and at that position you need to be able to think on the go. I think she would handle that just fine after some practices," Goebel stated.

Ana doesn't consider herself a sports enthusiast. She hadn't really watched football before because she never understood the game.

That's about to change.

"Now, I'm probably going to watch it more because I know what's going on," she

Goebel is happy to have

her on the team.

"Congrats to her and this team. I think she is breaking new ground that girls don't have to be cheerleaders and volleyball players during the fall," he said. "If she wants to play football, I'm going to treat her as I would any of the other players on the team. I don't think she would want the extra attention just because she is a girl, but if I see that she is struggling with something, for sure, I will help her out just like I would

with anyone else." Brandt Eighth grader



While Cathy was worried

Ana Stasney, a seventh grader playing football for Tri-City United Middle School, is pictured after her first game against Waseca last Thursday.

Lemieux practices with in football, Ana's determina-Ana, the daughter of Dean Ana's grade. He's been in tion and athleticism have football for four years. Even made her excel in another in younger grades during resport with a girl. When he ticed and studied it for three saw her walk on the field for years, earning nine belts so practice, he didn't mind.

Now that they have prac- high red belt, which is two ticed for a couple of weeks, belts below a black belt. he thinks she has some foot-

"I think she's good," he and exercised more.

Outside of her new career about her daughter's gridiron

Cathy stated with a laugh.

season, Dean wasn't.

family was watching foot- might be you at the bottom!" "He said she'll be fine," ball, they witnessed a huge And, so it seems. One on top of the other. Cathy bottom of the pile. It was night a while ago when the quickly declared, "Ana, that kind of fun."

But, Ana responded with a pile of tackled players, one smile, "I was already at the





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MH 744PD, 6 CYL Perkins Diesel, Made in Scotland, Standard, Fenders, PTO, Tires need replacement, Solid Cast Front & Rear Rims, SN- 234



MH 745, 4 CYL Diesel, Fenders, MF 302 Industrial, Gas, With Loader, Fenders, Lights, PTO, Rockshaft, no linkage arms Left Hand Reverser, 16.9-

Kockshart, no linkage arms, Left Hand Reverser, 16.9-28 Rears, Rear Weight Box, Model 300 Loader, 72" Bucket, SNJGM19700261 MF 1130 Diesel, Cab, Power Adj Rims, 18.4-30 Rears, WF, 3PT, PTO, 2 Hyd, 6533 Hrs Showing, SN-9B31195 MF 1130 Diesel, Cab, Power Adj Rims, 18.4-30 Rears, WF, 3PT, PTO, 2 Hyd, 2877 Hrs Showing, SN-9B20623 MF 2805 Diesel MF 285 Diesel, Cab, Power Adj Rims, 16.9-38 Rears, WF, PTO, 2 Hyd, 3 PT, 6556 Hrs Showing, SN-9A342369 MH Pacemaker Standard, Fenders, Spoked Rims, SN-74618HA MH 44, NF, PTO, 12-38 Rears MH 44 Special Wheatland Gas, Fenders, Lights, PTO, 1 Hyd, 16.9-30 Rearcs Belt Pulloy. Fenders, Lights, PTO, 1 Hyd, 16.9-30 Rears, Belt Pulley, Rear Wheel Weights, Model 44GISF, SN- 57306



MH 44-6, Fenders, Lights, PTO, 1 Hyd, WF, Gas, 13-38 Rears, Belt Pulley, older restoration,



MF 184-4 MFWD Diesel, 2 Hyd, 3 PT, PTO, 16.9-30 Rears, 3808 Hrs Showing, with MF 236 Loader

Fenders, Lights, FTO, Tires & Rims need repair, unable to locate SN MH Super Twin Power 101, Gas, Elec Start, PTO, Fenders



72" QT Bucket MH 102 S Senior Wheatland Gas, 14.9-26 Rears, Wide Gas, 14.9-26 Rears, Wide Swing Drawbar, PTO, Belt Pulley, Fenders, Loader Mounts, SN- 361739 MH 101 Jr Twin Power, NF, Fenders, Lights, PTO,

Lights, Belt Pulley, Side Panels, NF,12.4-38 Rears, Model 231 Engine, unable to locate SN MH 444 LP, NF, SN- 444BIRF72926 MH 101 Super Twin Power, NF, Fenders, Side Shields,

12.4x38 Rears On Spoke Rims, Farmall H, NF, 11.2-30 Rears On

MH 25 On Steel, Fenders, not running 1935 McCormick-Deering



Fenders, 14.9-24s, 3 PT, 6054 Hrs Showing, 2134 Engine, SN- JGA342899 MH 333, Fenders, Lights, PTO, 1 Hyd, 3PT, Gas, Power Adj Rears, NF, 12-38 Rears,

Rears, NF, 12-38 Rears, 3326 Hrs Showing Model 333GIRE, SN- 22041 MH 33, Fenders, Lights, PTO, 1 Hyd, 3 PT, Gas, Radio, 13.6-38s, WF, Model 33GIRF, SN- 6823 MF 88 Wheatland, Gas, PTO, Fenders, Lights, 18.4-30s, Wide Swing Draybar, 1 Hyd. renders, Lights, 18.4-30s, Wide Swing Drawbar, 1 Hyd, 4950 Hrs Showing, SN- G881301, not running MF 65 Dieselmatic Multipower, WF, Power Adj Rears, 14.9-38 Rears, Fenders, Lights, PTO, 3PT, SN- 2971064

MH 20, Elec Start, PTO, Fenders, WF, Near New 11.2-28 Rears, Side Panels, SN- 1779 MF 204 Industrial, WF, PTO,

CO-OP #3, WF, Fenders, PTO, Lights, SN B11083

MH 44 Diesel, NF, PTO, Bad Pump, SN- 30GP10991 MH 44 Special, for parts MH NF, Fenders, Eng SN-MFC124G, loose MH 444 Fenders, Lights, No Engine, SN DISF74129P MH 444 WF, Fenders, SN-GIRF70045 MH 444 Wheatland Diesel, Fenders, Lights, PTO, Wide Swing Drawbar, 1 Hyd, 16.9-Rears, unable to locate SN Lots of Hoods, Fenders, Fuel Tanks, Manifolds, Engines, Suit Case Weights, Lights, 3PT's, Top Links, Hyd Cyls, Gaskets, Air Cleaners, Starters Steering Wheels, PTO Shields, Generators, Radiators, Magnetos, Steel Wheels, Wheel Weights, Much More



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MH 30, Fenders, Lights, PTO, Wide Swing Drawbar, 1 Hyd, 11-38 Rears, Gas, SNMFB1620G152238
CO-OP #3, WF, 14-30 Rears,



Allis Chalmers B, WF, Fenders



MH Pony, WF, Fenders, Lights, 1 Hyd, With Mid-Mount 5' Sickle Mower, SN PGA333C MH 55 Wheatland Gas, Fenders, Lights, PTO, 1 Hyd, unable to MH 44 Standard Gas, Fenders

PTO, Wideswing Drawbar SN- G55606

SN- G55606
MH 55 Standard Gas, Fenders,
PTO, not running
MH 446 Industrial Wheatland,
Fenders, Lights, PTO,
Repainted, 3228 Hrs Showing,
MH 33 NF, Fenders, Lights,
PTO, 1 Hyd, 13.6-36 Rears,
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