

Henderson City Champions

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It seems like just yesterday when Lethridge and Co. had their first ever practice three years ago at Burkholder- a two hour session that makes for great blooper footage. Fast forward to the Falcon's third year of existence.

Foothill used four touchdowns and 175 yards rushing from John Ford Friday in defeating Silverado 35-14 at Silverado in claiming the Henderson City Championship. Foothill ran the table against other Henderson area schools to capture the honor, given annually by the News to the area team with the best head to head record against each other. Foothill went 3-0 against Henderson opponents.

It's safe to say the three years had flown by. Especially for Lethridge, a 6 foot 4, 320 pound senior offensive lineman who injured his knee in the first game of the season and was forced to miss five contests. "This is the greatest experience of my life," Lethridge said after giving the traditional first kiss to the City Championship trophy.

"My teammates are my family and family sticks together when things aren't right. We are a family first and everyone does their part." That holds especially true for Ford- the speedster from California who made the Falcons immediate contenders when he transferred to the school. After sitting out the first quarter, Ford made his presence felt early and often.

With the score knotted at 14 midway through the first quarter, Ford turned up the heat late in scoring the game's final three touchdowns to clinch the championship. "I never thought I'd get a chance to win a championship like this," said Ford who had touchdown runs of 5, 6, 10, and 45 yards. "I just pick my spots. I know I'll eventually get in the end zone."

The Falcons believe they have what it takes to win one of the Sunrise Region's two spots in the state tournament. "I think we played pretty darn well," Foothill coach Fenton said. "In high school football, the name of the game is consistency. We are just that."