

## Trivette Signs With Brevard

Written by Mike Kelly

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Clint Trivette is a man of few words, but at the same time, he isn't one, who will shy away from hard work and responsibility. Just ask Watauga High football coach Tim Pruitt, who had the pleasure of coaching him the last four years.

"He did whatever we asked him to do," Pruitt said. "He's that kind of guy. He was our backup punter, and he played defense for us when we

had some people go down with injuries on that side of the ball."

And Trivette was rewarded for his efforts by signing his National Letter of Intent with Brevard College, a Division II school in Brevard, N.C., and a member of the South Atlantic Conference. "I'm just glad it's over with," Trivette said. "Now, I can focus on playing baseball and finishing my senior year. It's a relief. Brevard was the only school that made an offer. I was nervous. I kept wondering if a coach would call me. Brevard has given me a chance, and I'm thankful to be playing at the next level."

Matt Proffitt of the Pioneers will play baseball at Brevard next season. He signed in November. "I went with Matt on a visit, and I really liked the school," Trivette said. "The smallness (658 students) of the school really attracted me to it. I really wanted to go there after I took that trip." And Trivette joins a football program that's only seven years old. Brevard, a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics before it became of full-time Division II, NCAA school in 2008, fielded a football team in 2006 for the first time since the 1950's.

The Tornadoes are 15-36 since resurrecting the program. Paul Hamilton, who graduated from Appalachian State University in 1981 and has coached at Air Force, East Tennessee State, The Citadel and Elon, is in his sixth year as head coach. The Tornadoes were 3-8 last season. But Trivette loves the odds.

"No one backed us last year (at WHS)," he said. "But coach Pruitt believed in us, we believed in ourselves, and we took it out on some people. It was a great way to finish my senior year."

The Pioneers, who many believed wouldn't win a game, won seven games (they finished 7-6), they produced their first winning season since 2007, and they also snapped a three-game losing streak in the state playoffs. And Trivette played a vital role for the Pioneers during their run.

As a tight end, Trivette caught 17 passes for 195 yards and a touchdown; defensively, he made 14 tackles, including 2.5 tackles-for-loss.

"There's a need for a tight end in our scheme," Pruitt said. "He's basically another offensive lineman. But Clint has very good hands, and he can catch the ball in traffic. We also flanked him out at times. He's a good athlete and he gave us another weapon."

"(Brevard) is looking at me more as a linebacker than a tight end," Trivette said. "And I would rather play defense. I like the idea of hitting somebody and stripping the ball. But it was nice to catch some

passes last season, because we're primarily a running team. And catching that touchdown pass was special. It was the first one in my career."

Add to the fact, it came from his best friend, Ethan Greene.

"Ethan and I have been best friends since the fourth grade, when we started playing little kids

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football," Trivette said. "And we've been on the same team all those years, so we can read each other pretty

well. It's been a lot of fun being his teammate. Ethan is a great athlete."

Trivette, who is currently a member of the WHS baseball team, has been on the shelf with a hairline fracture in his right hand since March 8.

"I'm anxious to get back," he said. "I'm just glad the injury happened now, instead of later in the season. There's still a lot of baseball left to play, and I want to help this team any way I can."

Some old habits are just too hard to break.