

New Bastrop tradition is stickler for family

By Michael Adams
Sports Editor

Bastrop head coach Gerald Perry added a very unique tradition to Bears football this season.

On Thursday night, Perry invited all of his players and their families to the locker room to have the fathers place the Bears helmet decal on their son's helmet before the first district game.

"This is a really neat tradition," Perry said. "A lot of these kids' fathers played football here and when the current players get older and have kids their sons possibly could be

playing football here. Bastrop football is a family and this is another way to bring the players, their families and the community together."

Before any decals were placed on the helmets, the players and their families met in the meeting room for pizza before the large group filed down the hallway to the locker room.

Scott Simon, father of senior linebacker Drew Garcia, was more than happy to share in this experience.

"This is a great idea," Simon said. "When I was in high school we never did anything like this. I think it's going to do a lot for this team and this

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The Bastrop Advertiser photo/ Michael Adams

Ozie Monroe, left, and his son Josiah, a Bastrop football player, look over the placing of the helmet decal Thursday in the Bears locker room.

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community."

Garcia said that because it was his senior year, it was really special to him.

"This is my last year and it's wonderful that I can share something like this with my dad," he said.

Junior wide receiver Auston Shipley and his father Samson also felt the

experience was going to be a special memory.

"This is a great bonding experience for us and our parents," Auston Shipley said. "It's going to be something that I can share with my kids someday."

Perry said this tradition is something he expects to do every year.