West Washington defensive coordinator Mark Gibson doesn't have any hair on his head, but he is the gray-beard of the staff.

He started coaching at West Washington in the early 1990s and has been there since.

Gibson, who is known to those in and around the football program as "Gibbie" got emotional after the Senators beat Milan 24-7 in the Sectional 39 championship.

"It was an awesome game," he said fighting back tears. "These are such good kids and they never give up and that's the type of players you have to have to win championships with. We don't have any one super-star player, but we have a bunch of kids who never give up and you can't ask for more than that out of a team."

Gibson who has been on the losing end of many games like Friday's contest at Milan said it not only took determination by the players to get over the hump, but a lot of work from the coaches.

"I think these coaches we have don't get enough credit," he said. "Coach Keith Nance does a heck of a job with the offense . We have one of the best line coaches in Duane Nance in Southern Indiana. We were facing a line that averaged 260 pounds and we average 200 pounds up front and we got the job done.

"The coaches deserve some of the credit, but most of it goes to the outstanding kids we have."

Gibson deflected attention from the job he did as D-coordinator.

The Senators finished the year with three straight shutouts and have only given up an average of 11 points a game in the tournament.

"We came out and we stuffed them," he said. "We gave up a long drive, but we came up with a stop in the redzone and we've been doing that all season long. These guys are giving up 11 points a game in the tournament and that's pretty good these days.

"We are ranked 10th in the state, not class A, the state on defense! Our front is strong and our linebackers fly around. We have a really good unit and it shows because we won a sectional championship."

Gibson and the WW defense will have their work cut out for them, as they face the top ranked offense in Class A.

Linton is averaging 53.3 points per game and giving up just a little over six a game.

"We've heled everyone except Christian Academy in week two under their offensive average all season long and that's what we're going to have to do Friday against Linton."

Friday's game is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.