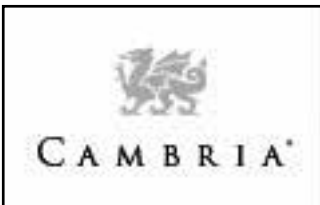


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CODE OF ETHICS

Preamble

One of the distinguishing characteristics of a profession in education may be that its members are cognizant of, and perhaps dedicated to, rendering a service to humanity. As educators who choose to coach football, we must understand that the justification for football is that it provides educational and physical values for those who play the game, and the game essentially belongs to the players who choose to play it. The welfare of the game depends on how coaches live up to the spirit and letter of ethical conduct, and how coaches, as educators, model ethical conduct, and remain mindful of the trust and confidence placed in them by colleagues, players, and the public.

Purpose

This code of ethics has been developed to protect, promote, and preserve the best interests of the game and the coaching profession. Its primary purpose is to clarify and distinguish ethical and professional practices from those which are detrimental. Its secondary purpose is to emphasize the value of football as an experience that contributes to the overall education of the student-athlete and to stress proper functions in relation to schools, players, and the public.

Article One – Responsibility to Players

1. Coaches shall be aware of the tremendous influence they have on the education of the student-athlete; therefore, they shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character and integrity.
2. Coaches shall follow or create and enforce a set of training rules for players that reflect the positive values of abstaining from drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.
3. Coaches shall never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players.
4. Coaches shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give players special consideration.
5. Coaches shall show respect to all players by treating them with integrity and honesty in both verbal and nonverbal behavior, regardless of their role or contribution to the team.
6. Coaches are responsible for their players' actions on the field and must not permit them to perform with the intent of causing injury to opposing players.
7. Coaches shall not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players; they shall instruct players to play within the written rules and within the spirit of the game at all times.

Article Two – Professional Behavior

1. Coaches shall exemplify the highest moral character, behavior, and leadership.
2. Coaches shall display modesty in victory and be gracious in defeat.
3. Coaches shall promote ethical relationships among fellow coaches.
4. Prior to, and following contests, coaches for the competing teams should meet and exchange cordial greetings to set the correct tone for the event.

Article Three – Sportsmanship

1. Coaches shall exhibit, model, and teach good sportsmanship.
2. Coaches shall exert their influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep clubs, booster groups, parents, and administrators.

Article Four – Scouting

It is considered ethical to scout opponents only during games and agreed upon scrimmages, and within the designated rules of the conference or section by-laws. The head coach is responsible for the actions of his scouts.

Article Five – Relationships with Game Officials

Coaches shall respect the integrity and judgment of the game official. Coaches shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against officials. Public criticism of officials is considered unethical.



Tom Mahoney Man of the Year

Nolan Desjarlait

Head Football Coach / Activities Director
Red Lake Schools



Nolan Desjarlait is an enrolled member of the Red Lake Nation. Nolan began his love for sports at a young age, he played little league baseball in Red Lake, is a proud alumni of Red Lake High School class of 1992. One of Nolan's most favorite high school accomplishments is being on the first team ever in Red Lake school history to make it to the state tournament for baseball. After high school

graduation he went on to play baseball at Northland Community College attaining his Liberal Arts degree in 1994. Nolan returned home to Red Lake and became a middle school coach. After 17 years of being a football, basketball, and baseball coach, Nolan was offered to become the athletic director and he hasn't looked back since. Being the athletic director, head coach,



assistant coach, mentor, husband, and father to four daughters, sure keeps him busy. Nolan is quite the problem solver and has more patience than most. Nolan and his wife Nicole live with child loss. Their beloved son Nolan Jr. passed onto the spirit world on May 29, 2015 due to an ATV accident. Nolan Jr. is forever 10. Fighting for life in a positive way, remembering and honoring his late son Nolan Jr. in a positive way has been Nolan's path since his new life began. Taking no break from coaching; Nolan cannot walk away from coaching the Red Lake Nation Youth. The Minnesota Football Coaches Association is proud to name Coach Desjarlait as our 2023 Man of the Year!



Past Tom Mahoney Man of the Year Awards

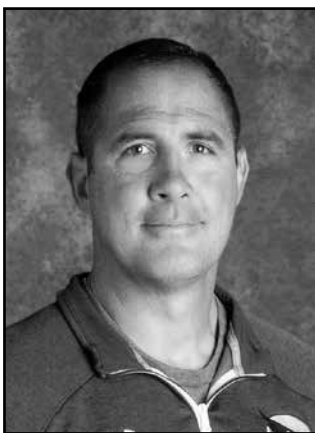
- 2022 Darrell "Bozo" Wincek, Gopher State Officials Association
- 2021 Charles Adams, III, Minneapolis North
- 2020 None selected
- 2019 Randy Shaver, KARE-11 Anchor
- 2018 Kevin Merkel, Administrator
- 2017 Jeff Ferguson, Totino Grace High School
- 2016 Gary Sloan, Grand Meadow High School
- 2015 Dwight Lundeen, Becker High School
- 2014 Mike Grant, Eden Prairie High School
- 2013 Dave Nelson, Minnetonka High School
- 2012 Glenn Caruso, University of St. Thomas
- 2011 Steve Johnson, Bethel University
- 2010 Don Swanson (posthumously), Minneapolis Public Schools
- 2009 Bob Nielson, University of MN Duluth
Kalen DeBoer, University of Sioux Falls, SD
- 2008 Dave Dose, Retired Glencoe-Silver Lake HS
- 2007 Wally Malmstrom, Mahtomedi High School
- 2006 Ron Stolski, Brainerd High School
- 2005 Jack Osberg, Augsburg College
- 2004 John Gagliardi, St. John's University
- 2003 Jim Mader, Albany High School
Dave Nigon, Totino-Grace High School
Grady Rostberg, Hutchinson High School
- 2002 Gary Engen, Mounds View High School
Lyle Anderson, Cook County High School
- 2001 George Thole, Stillwater High School;
Jim Simser, Fairmont High School
- 2000 Mark Dienhart, University of Minnesota
- 1999 Jesse Ventura, Minnesota Governor;
Gary Gustafson, North St. Paul High School;
Buz Rumrill, Glencoe-Silver Lake High School
- 1998 Jim Dotseth, Mpls. Henry High School;
Ron Gustafson, Grant Park High School;
Terry McLean, Elk River High School
- 1997 Joe Samuelson, Stillwater High School
- 1996 Dave Skrien, University of Minnesota
- 1995 Cal Stoll, University of Minnesota
- 1994 John Gagliardi, St. John's University
- 1993 Murray Warmath, Minnesota Vikings
- 1992 George Wemeier, University of Minnesota
- 1991 Tom Porter, St. Olaf College
- 1990 Bob Roy, Clinic Founder





Cal Stoll Award

Brad Wendland – Waseca



Brad fell in love with Minnesota high school football while he was growing up in Blue Earth. Along with his older brothers, Mike and Paul, he cheered on and participated for the Bucs. He was a three sport athlete and was fortunate to have transformational coaches that motivated and inspired him. His parents Arvid and Kay taught and demonstrated the values of being a hard worker and a good person.

In 1991 Brad was off to Brookings SD to attend South Dakota State University where he earned a degree in Social Studies Education and played linebacker for the Jackrabbits. During these years Brad met many people that positively impacted his life including his position coach and soon to

be head coach John Stigelmeier. After graduation, Brad got a job teaching and coaching at St James High School. He got his first opportunity to be a head coach in 2002 and served in that role for four years

In 1997 Brad married Kim who is the love of his life. They moved to Waseca from Lake Crystal in 2006 after Brad got a job teaching social studies at Waseca High School. Their three sons all graduated from Waseca and attended the University of Minnesota. Tyler, their oldest son, lives in Seattle and is a software engineer for Facebook. Blake and Ryan are both still currently at “the U” studying physics and electrical engineering respectively.

With the help of a great staff and some great families Brad has been able to build a successful football program in Waseca. The Bluejays have made several trips to the State Playoffs and have won eight or more games in nine of the past ten years. Brad is a proud member of the Tackle Cancer Committee, a member of the MFCA advisory board, and was head coach for the North Team at the 2019 All-Star Game. He is also an assistant track coach for the Bluejays.

September 3rd was the date of the opening game of the 2021 season. Waseca was playing a strong St. Peter team and the clock was winding down. After taking off his head set Brad was walking back to the team when he felt very light headed. His intention was to take a knee and let it pass but suddenly he collapsed due to a sudden cardiac arrest. His heart stopped. Luckily trainers for both teams along with medical personnel from the stands came out to attend to Brad right away. He was given chest compressions and eventually regained consciousness after a shock from an AED. He was rushed by ambulance from the football field as the crowd looked on.

Brad spent several days in the Mankato Hospital as they tried to determine the cause. While there, he had an Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) placed in his chest. This acts as an AED if another sudden cardiac arrest were to occur. The cardiologists determined that Brad had a rare condition of the mitral valve and surgery was scheduled at the Mayo Clinic for March. In the meantime, Brad returned home and resumed teaching and coaching.



The Cal Stoll Award

- 2022 Trevor Solem, Minnewashta
- 2021 Larry Herm, Foley HS and Bethel University
- 2020 None selected
- 2019 None selected
- 2018 None selected
- 2017 Conley “Con” Natwig, Browerville-Eagle Valley
- 2016 Roger French, Brigham Young University and Minnetonka High School
- 2015 Dan O’Brien, Senior Associate Athletic Director, U of MN
- 2014 Jerry Kill, U of MN Gophers
- 2013 Brad Engen, White Bear Lake High School
- 2012 Jeff Moritko, Totino Grace High School
- 2011 Roger Lipelt, Providence Academy
- 2010 Jim Reinhardt, Rushford-Peterson High School
- 2009 Dave Thielman, Richfield High School
- 2008 Joel Maturi, University of Minnesota
- 2007 Richard Robinson, Minneapolis High Schools
- 2006 Bruce Nelson, Burnsville & Eagan High Schools
- 2005 Gary Wilson, Minneapolis Park Board
- 2004 Mark Johnson, Rocori High School
- 2003 Wally Johnson, University of Minnesota
- 2002 Frank White, Richfield Park & Recreation
- 2001 Pat Gallinagh, Ironwood High School, Michigan





Ron Stolski Partnership Award

Minnesota Vikings

The Minnesota Football Coaches Association would like to recognize our partners in this clinic for most of the last two decades, The Minnesota Vikings. The Vikings won their first regular-season game vs. Chicago (37-13) on opening day of 1961 and they've been Minnesota's most consistent pro franchise ever since. Current head coach, Kevin O'Connell and general manager, Kwesi Adofo-Mensah, recently led the Vikings into their 62nd NFL season and a 13-win, NFC North Division title. We look forward to many more successful seasons partnering with the Vikings – they continue to join us as "Keepers of the Game."



The Ron Stolski Partnership Award

- 2022 Brian Kramer, Field Turf
- 2021 Mike Kottke, Doubletree by Hilton—Park Place
- 2020 None selected
- 2019 Charlie Peterson, Champion Products
- 2018 Torin Otis, HUDL
- 2017 Tom Horne, Rogers Athletic Gear
- 2016 Dave Marrinan, Wilson Sporting Goods
- 2014 John Reglein, The Graphic Edge




The MFCAs congratulates Charlie Reed from Woodbury as Minnesota's 2023 recipient of the Broyles Award. Coach Reed will be honored in December at a ceremony in Little Rock, Arkansas!

HIGH SCHOOL
BROYLES
AWARD

PRESENTED BY
FieldTurf
A Tarkett Sports Company

Honoring Top High School Assistant Coaches Since 2018

AFFILIATE GUIDELINES
REVISED 6/2021



BROYLES
AWARD

BROYLES
AWARD

THE HIGH SCHOOL BROYLES AWARD

The Broyles Award has 25+ years experience selecting the top collegiate assistant coaches. To apply this experience to the high school level, we are creating a network of state football associations that will work together to select and recognize top assistant coaches in every state.

WILSON MATTHEWS: A MODEL ASSISTANT

When making the decision which of his former assistants would be featured in bronze beside him on the Broyles Award trophy, Frank Broyles had some notable options. Barry Switzer, Joe Gibbs, Jimmy Johnson, Johnny Majors, Haden Fry, Raymond Berry, and Jackie Sherrill were just a few of the 25 former Broyles' assistants that later became head coaches.

Without hesitation, however, Broyles' choice was Wilson Matthews. Matthews, Broyles' first assistant coach hire at Arkansas, was a legend in Arkansas high school football leading the Central Tigers to 10 state titles in 11 years, a 111-14-3 record including a 33-game winning streak and fresh off the mythical national high school championship in 1957.



Wilson and Broyles (1960s)

He remained at Arkansas until 1968, helping the Hogs capture a National Championship in 1964 and make 8 bowl game appearances. Regarded by his high school and collegiate players as fierce-yet-loved, and by Coach Broyles as his most loyal and trusted assistant, Matthews was Broyles' role-model for the perfect assistant coach.

Today, the Broyles Award continues to celebrate the vital relationship between Head and Assistant Coaches; a lineage traced back over sixty years of excellence in coaching. It also celebrates Broyles' legacy off the field by supporting the Broyles Foundation, which provides game plans for Alzheimer's caregivers in crisis.



Wilson and Broyles, Hoagland Broyles Award (1996)

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HIGH SCHOOL
BROYLES
AWARD

OUR MISSION

The High School Broyles Award honors a class of coaches that has never before been celebrated at the national level. With this program, nominated coaches will be provided the same level of support and accolade as their collegiate peers.

Nominated coaches will be given a unique opportunity to network and advance their careers in association with the National High School Football Coaches' Alliance. As an associate, your program will gain a visible and vital link that connects these coaches and their high school programs to new opportunities across the country.

SELECTION

- Winners must be selected through a process determined by each state's responsible athletics association. Our organization is not responsible for the selection of assistant coaches.
- For states that currently recognize an assistant coach of the year for each coaching classification, an overall winner will need to be selected as the High School Broyles Award winner.
- Winners are announced in the calendar year following the season in which their performance was recognized.
 - For example, the winner of the 2021 season will be recognized during the following Spring (2022).
- If no assistant coach of the year is currently recognized in your state, but there is a head coach of the year award, we encourage you to add an assistant coach of the year component to that existing selection framework.

CRITERIA

- As an 'on-the-field' performance award, this award is inherently subjective. Affiliates are responsible for following fair and impartial judgment procedures when selecting coaches.
- Criteria for selecting the winner can be the performance of the coach's team unit, their individual players, and/or overall team success. Examples include a state or district championship, playoff run, or a significant statistical improvement from the previous season without the benefit of a title or playoff run.
- The award is not a lifetime achievement, but rather a reflection of the assistant's most recent season performance. In the case of a tie or close vote, however, a coach's body of work can be considered a tie-breaker.
- The High School Broyles Award reserves the right to reject nominations if they do not meet the standards of personal and performance excellence required by our organization.

HIGH SCHOOL
BROYLES
AWARD

AFFILIATE BENEFITS

- Access to the High School Broyles Award Affiliate communication network.
- National recognition for programs/coaches that receive the High School Broyles Award.

BENEFITS FOR COACHES

- Customized winner plaque 5 lapel pin plus a Broyles Award gift bag.
- Winner announced through Broyles Award social media & featured on the BroylesAward.com website.

SCHEDULING

- Nominee submissions must be submitted on a timely basis.
- Upcoming dates and annual schedules are available on our website.

DIRECTORIES

Our website contains the following directories:

- Information about past winners (starting in 2018) from each state.
- Affiliate members and contact information (updated annually).

BECOME AN AFFILIATE

Affiliate sign-up is free, and there is no obligation to participate.

Click button above, or visit www.hsbroylesaward.com for more information.

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2022 MFC A Coaches Awards

9 MAN COACH OF THE YEAR

Dan Zubich, Mountain Iron-Buhl

CLASS 1A COACH OF THE YEAR

Chad Johnston, Minneota

CLASS 2A COACH OF THE YEAR

Bryan Strand, Barnesville

CLASS 3A COACH OF THE YEAR

Chad Gustafson, New London-Spicer

CLASS 4A COACH OF THE YEAR

Chris Mensen, Simley

CLASS 5A COACH OF THE YEAR

Steve Hamilton, Elk River

CLASS 6A COACH OF THE YEAR

Matt Lombardi, Maple Grove

STATE COACH OF THE YEAR

To be announced at the
MFC A Awards Banquet

BUTCH NASH AWARD

Chad Anderson, Totino Grace
Bryan Cook, Mora
Jerry Eggermont, Owatonna
Greg Ellsworth, Mankato West
Eric Graham, Cambridge-Isanti
Michael Johnson, Edina
Glenn Mogensen, Farmington
Todd Mortimer, Warren-Alvarado-Oslo
Troy Nelson, Brainerd
Michael Puhmann, Stillwater Area
Neil Steffes, Fertile-Beltrami
Dirk Wells, Lakeville South

COACHING AWARDS

Assistant Coach of the Year

Charlie Reed, Woodbury

Distinguished Service Award

Marc Bachman, St. Peter

Jerry Kill Power of Influence

Bryan Strand, Barnesville

Don Swanson Award

Rick Sutton, Farmington

SERVICE AWARDS

40 Years

Mike Grant, Eden Prairie

Rick Sutton, Farmington

35 Years

Dean Aurich, Watertown Mayer

30 Years

Scott Tschimperle, Glencoe-Silver Lake

200 Wins

Joe Scoblic, Lester Prairie

John Clark, Jr., Mahomen/Waubun

Jeff Erdmann, Rosemount

Chad Johnston, Minneota

Tom Schuller, Jackson County Central

2022 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION

- Terry Bahlmann, Marshall
- Randy Kuechenmeister, Blue Earth Area
- Chuck Ross, Underwood

ASSISTANT COACH DIVISION

- Doug Ekmark, Park

CITATION DIVISION

- Darrell Thompson, University of MN,
Green Pay Packers, Bolder Options

State Winners Announced for Inaugural NFF National High School Academic Excellence Award



The National Football Foundation (NFF) & College Hall of Fame today announced the state winners of the 2022-23 NFF National High School Academic Excellence Awards, which go to the top academic football teams from each level of play within each state. The 60 teams will now vie as finalists for the NFF Hatchell Cup, presented by "The Original" Bob's Steak & Chop House, which will be announced February 8 and recognizes the top individual high school football team in the nation for excellence in the classroom, on the field and in the community.

“Academic and athletic success go hand-in-hand,” said NFF Chairman Archie Manning. “We are proud to recognize these 60 outstanding high school football teams as the top academic performers in their states. These schools, coaches, players and their families should all be incredibly pleased with their accomplishments, and we look forward to announcing the overall winner of the Hatchell Cup on February 8th. We hope by inspiring teams to compete in the classroom with the same competitive spirit that it takes to win on the field, we will better prepare high school football players for success later in life.”

The NFF announced the creation of the award in February 2021. One-year later, Cypress Woods High School (TX), led by Head Coach Cody Simper, claimed the inaugural Hatchell Cup. This season marks the second season the awards are being presented. The initiative is designed to inspire and foster a culture of academic excellence on high school football teams throughout the nation.

Eligibility requirements for the NFF National High School Academic Excellence Awards include:

- A minimum cumulative team GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Superior academic application and performance.
- Successful football season.

The 60 winners from each division of play were selected by the individual states' high school coaches associations from a pool of nominees submitted by each school's head coach. A selection committee, compiled and led by the NFF, will be responsible for choosing one school as the recipient of the Hatchell Cup as the best team in the nation.

The NFF Hatchell Cup is named in honor of NFF President & CEO Steve Hatchell. Since taking over the helm of the NFF in 2005, Hatchell has overseen numerous programs expanding the NFF's reach and impact as it continues to promote the scholar-athlete ideal. His career in athletics administration spans more than five decades and includes countless accomplishments, including serving as the first commissioner of the Big 12 Conference and holding the top jobs at the Southwest Conference and the Orange Bowl.

This past December, "The Original" Bob's Steak & Chop House became the presenting sponsor of the Hatchell Cup. Since its 1993 opening in Dallas, Texas, Bob's Steak & Chop House has proudly offered the best cuts of meat available to guests, making the name "Bob's" synonymous with a best-in-class steakhouse experience. Over the years, the restaurant has built upon the reputation that it earned at the original Dallas location by opening restaurants across the nation, providing guests a first-class experience no matter where they call home.

“The Minnesota Football Coaches Association is privileged and proud to participate in this visionary initiative to recognize and honor academic excellence by our student-athletes and look forward to years of growth in and for this forward-thinking program. We thank the leaders of high school football in our nation for implementing this important effort. The NFF National High School Academic Award is yet another way to salute the intrinsic lessons and values of our fraternal huddle” stated Ron Stolski, MFCA Executive Director.

NFF National High School Academic Excellence Award 2022-23 State Winners:

9-Man – Kittson County Central High School - Overall State Champion

1A – Parkers Prairie High School

2A – St. Clair High School/Mankato Loyola High School

3A – East Grand Forks High School

4A – Benilde-St. Margaret's High School

5A – Mahtomedi High School

6A – Farmington High School

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING MFCA COACHES CLINIC ADVERTISERS



MINNESOTA FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION’S TACKLE CANCER INITIATIVE

2012	\$120,661	2016	\$281,784	2020	\$45,872
2013	\$190,074	2017	\$311,475	2021	\$326,297
2014	\$230,170	2018	\$348,423	2022	\$473,024
2015	\$233,269	2019	\$368,990		

TOTAL \$ 2,930,038 2023 GOAL \$500,000

TACKLE CANCER EVENT IDEAS

Collect donations at the gate before the game and at the concession stand during the game. Have PA announcer remind fans during pre-game to make their donations.

Two Minute Challenge - during halftime, following half time activities, pass buckets down each row of your home and away stands. Put two minutes on scoreboard clock and have PA Announcer give directions and provide “play by play.”

Sell wristbands to the student body during the week at lunch.

Make up Tackle Cancer T-Shirts and sell to student body during the week.

Get your Student Council, NHS, DECA, and other groups involved.

Make a video with your team and show to student body during the week.

Reach out to teachers at elementary and middle schools to get involved.

Create a competition between your school and your opponent.

Involve your youth football teams! Youth teams can pledge \$ for each TD scored in their games during your Tackle Cancer week!

Reach out to businesses and restaurants in your community for partnerships. Many businesses already work to fight cancer and would love to partner with you.

GOPHERS, VIKINGS, MIAC, NSIC

The MFCA would like to thank the Minnesota Vikings, the Minnesota Gophers and the programs in the MIAC, NSIC and UMAC for their support of Tackle Cancer.



TACKLE CANCER



After one of the biggest games in Simley High School football history, a victory on Nov. 17 that moved the Spartans into the Prep Bowl state championship game this week, head coach Chris Mensen was standing in a quiet hallway inside U.S. Bank Stadium and talking about Kim Madigan.

Kim was 59 years old when she died on January 20, 2020. Her husband Mark is an assistant football coach at Simley and Kim was an administrative assistant in the athletic department at the school in Inver Grove Heights. Her memorial service was held in the school gymnasium.

As Mensen talked about Kim, he touched a rubber wristband he wears in her memory. The Spartans had just defeated Rocori 17-16 in the Class 4A state semifinals; they will face Hutchinson in the Prep Bowl on Friday afternoon. The coach's thoughts were focused on the team and the day, but when asked if his school raises money in support of Tackle Cancer, his focus shifted.

Kim Madigan died after a battle with cancer.

"I still wear her bracelet because she means the world to this program and this community,"

Mensen said. Like at many schools across Minnesota, Simley's Tackle Cancer activities include T-shirt sales and free-will donations during one designated week and home game each fall.

"And we try to honor someone, a part of the Simley family, who's suffering from cancer," he said.

Tackle Cancer began 10 years ago, and by the time all the participating high schools and colleges in Minnesota send in the funds they have collected this fall, the 2022 total will exceed \$400,000. In the decade that Tackle Cancer has existed, nearly \$3 million has been raised to fight cancer.

There may be no other charitable effort like Tackle Cancer in the country. The Minnesota Football Coaches Association (MFCA) leads the efforts, which provide funding for research, prevention, treatment and other programs relating to the needs of the cancer community.

THE BEGINNING WAS SIMPLE, and no one could have imagined 10 years ago what was to come. It started with two friends: a television veteran and a football coaching veteran.

Randy Shaver, news anchor at KARE TV, is a cancer survivor. He and his wife Roseanne started the Randy Shaver Cancer Research & Community Fund after his experience with the disease. Dave Nelson, now retired as a football coach, was the head coach at Minnetonka High School when he was treated for prostate cancer in 2011. Shaver invited Nelson to one of his fund's charity events.

"I asked Dave to just come see it, as a friend," Shaver said. "I told him, 'Come see what we do, meet some people, have some fun.' He took that moment and turned it into something that was totally unexpected on my part. It was his initiative to try and do something with the MFCA to benefit something we all deal with in one way or another."

Nelson and his wife Maureen found the evening to be life-changing, hearing inspirational stories of what people were doing to support Shaver's foundation. As the Nelsons drove home, Dave began pondering ways to help. "I was thinking, there's got to be something we can do," he said.

At a construction project near Minnetonka High School, rocks needed to be removed from the site. The Skippers football team pitched in, spending three days shoveling rocks into wheelbarrows, with Shaver stopping by to show support and take photos with the kids. They dubbed their effort "Rock Cancer" and were paid several thousand dollars, which they donated to Shaver's cancer fund.

Nelson met with fellow officers from the Minnesota Football Coaches Association, asking if such efforts might be something that other teams would be interested in. That's when the partnership between Shaver's foundation and the MFCA began rolling.

"I asked our executive committee, 'How about if a bunch of teams did this?'" Nelson said. "We got Randy's blessing and everybody thought it was great."

The coaches committee met with Randy and Roseanne (she dubbed the project Tackle Cancer) and they decided it would be fantastic if they could raise \$5,000 during the 2012 football season. The total? \$120,000.

Shaver said, "My first concern was I didn't want to inconvenience coaches. I didn't want them to feel obligated. Dave said, 'They're all going to be on board.' They took it and ran with it."

THEY'VE BEEN RUNNING FASTER AND FARTHER each year as Tackle Cancer efforts have spread around the state. This year, 182 high schools and 18 colleges, including the University of Minnesota, have taken part. The small community of Randolph, which has a well-deserved reputation for charitable giving, led the way by raising \$49,000 this fall in their Tackle Cancer efforts.

Stillwater High School raised \$26,000 and St. Thomas Academy provided \$25,000 to Shaver's fund.

The St. Thomas Academy head football coach is Dan O'Brien, whose son Casey is a well-known cancer survivor. Casey, who played football at Cretin-Derham Hall and was a holder for kicks at the University of Minnesota, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a bone cancer, at age 13 and has had multiple cancer fights since. Casey has undergone 25 surgical procedures and has spent 300 nights in hospitals.

"Cancer has touched everybody in our community," Dan O'Brien said. "Everybody knows somebody and you think about it every single day. The coaching community is a tight-knit deal. People go through stuff they shouldn't have to go through. It rips your guts out and you want to support them."

During this year's Tackle Cancer events at St. Thomas Academy, the Cadets had donation buckets at the gates, also selling wristbands, headbands and other items. Students at the school wear uniforms, but if they bought a Tackle Cancer shirt they could wear that instead of the uniform.

"For us it's a week-long deal, not just the day of the game," Dan O'Brien said. "We start preparing for it in the summer. Our community really rallies around it."

After 10 years, students and families at high schools all over Minnesota are familiar with Tackle Cancer efforts. The focus is on football games in the fall, but money also is raised for Tackle Cancer during basketball games, wrestling meets and other sports.

The funds are distributed mainly to support cancer research in Minnesota; the Shaver fund puts nearly 95 cents of every dollar into that support. The organization is lean, with Roseanne Shaver serving as executive director and Heather Austin as assistant executive director. Much of the work is done by volunteers.

"We don't pay (medical) salaries, we don't pay for researchers or their assistants. We pay for the things they need to do their research," Randy Shaver said of where the money goes. "It allows us to really dig down and support incredible research projects with the Mayo Clinic, University of Minnesota, University of Minnesota Duluth, all those great places."

THIS WAS A GRAND FOOTBALL SEASON at Wheaton/Herman-Norcross, with the Warriors winning 12 consecutive games before losing to Mountain Iron-Buhl in the Nine-Man state semifinals.

"Everyone's impacted by cancer nowadays somewhere. We've had parents have it, we've had grandmas and grandpas, it's just everywhere," said Warriors coach James Paul.

"Tackle Cancer is a way for us to rally for a cause, and I think the kids enjoy it. We have great support with it, too. We order T-shirts and this year I ordered pink team socks, so now we can keep those and use those every year."

The Warriors also hold an auction with the winners taking possession of the seniors' jerseys, among other fundraisers.

At Becker, everyone knows Dwight Lundeen has completed 53 seasons as the only head football coach in school history. Some also know that his wife Pam is a breast cancer survivor, his sister Marlene has been declared cancer-free and his brother Dave is currently receiving cancer treatment. Cancer indeed touches everyone.

During Becker's 2021 efforts, the players wore pink jerseys during warmups before their designated Tackle Cancer game, with the jerseys being given to players' family members and friends who have been impacted by cancer. This fall, the Bulldogs were given pink footballs, to be gifted to the person of their choosing. Dwight gave his pink football to his brother Dave.

Barnesville and Hawley usually come together on a Tackle Cancer game when they meet in a passionate rivalry with large crowds. If it's during Homecoming week at Barnesville, girls are not allowed to wear the boys' jerseys; instead, a silent auction allows girls to get in bidding wars for the jersey they want to wear. The jersey auction alone raised \$1,000 last year.

"In our community, we lost a teacher this past summer to cancer and I think everybody knows somebody that's affected by it," said Barnesville coach Bryan Strand, whose team will meet Chatfield in the Class 1A Prep Bowl game on Friday.

Simley's Tackle Cancer efforts extend beyond the dollars raised. The football team talks about how cancer impacts their community.

"We speak that week about the importance of thinking about family members and everyone who has come into combat with this awful disease," Mensen said. "I don't think there's a person out there who hasn't been touched by it. I know I have personally, good friends of mine are currently battling cancer. Everything we can do to fight this horrible disease, I'm in and the kids are in and we want to help serve. That's a great thing."

Ron Stolski, who retired at Brainerd following the 2019 season after 58 years as a football coach, is executive director of the Minnesota Football Coaches Association. He and other coaches among MFCA leadership have been the driving force behind Tackle Cancer, but Stolski doesn't hesitate in calling Nelson "The wheelhorse behind this. He has driven it, formed a committee of over a dozen reps responsible for certain sections of the state and did all this great work."

Stolski, who attends the American Football Coaches Association convention each year, said he talks about Tackle Cancer with people from other states and basically sees blank stares from coaches who are so wrapped up in the game that they have a difficult time thinking of devoting so much time and effort to off-the-field charitable efforts.

That's clearly not the story in Minnesota. Tackle Cancer is an incredible tale of selflessness and commitment, with football coaches and football players, joined by their communities, going above and beyond to help conquer cancer.

"It's been so cool to watch it grow," Nelson said. "The coaches of Minnesota have been so awesome and so many good football programs are behind it. This year our goal was \$400,000, which would be a record, and we're going to breeze past that."

What does the future hold for Tackle Cancer?

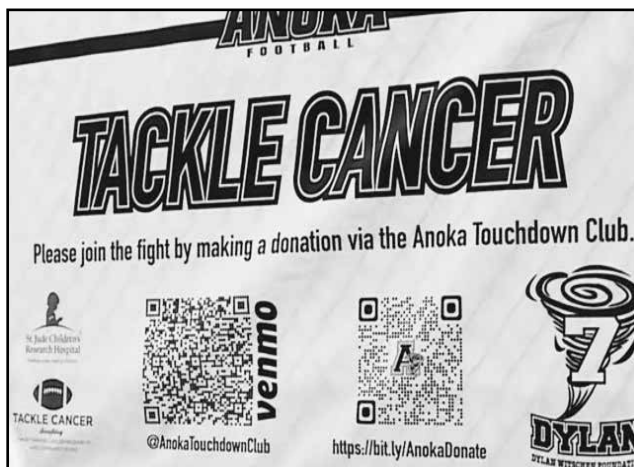
"I think the sky's the limit, I really do," said Nelson. "Next year our goal might be \$500,000, what the heck? To see what these schools do, it's unbelievable."

Shaver smiles when he thinks back to how Tackle Cancer started, how far it's come and what could happen in the years ahead.

"It's amazing," he said. "It started with one guy who took it to the MFCA, who all said, 'Yes, let's do this thing.' I just kind of stand back in amazement and watch what they've done."

--For more information on the Randy Shaver Cancer Research & Community Fund, click here: <https://randyshavercancerfund.org/>

--MSHSL media specialist John Millea has been the leading voice of Minnesota high school activities for decades. Follow him on Twitter @MSHSLJohn and listen to "Preps Today with John Millea" wherever you get podcasts. Contact John at jmillea@mshsl.org





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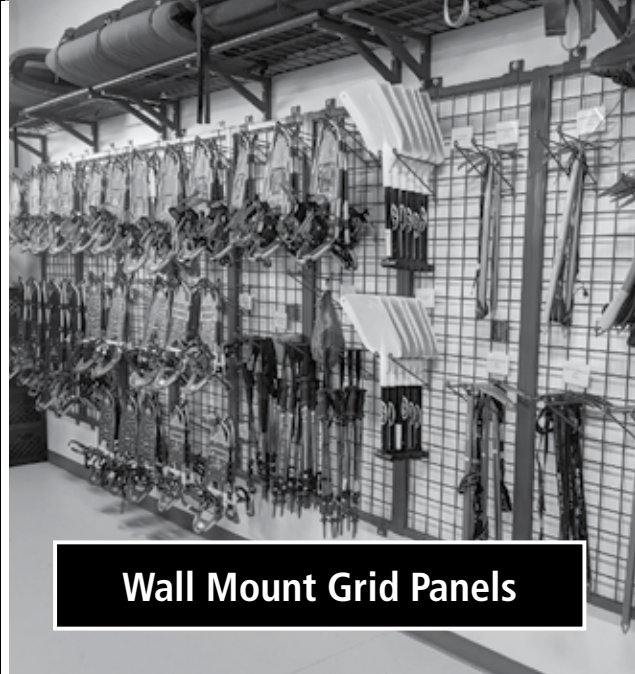


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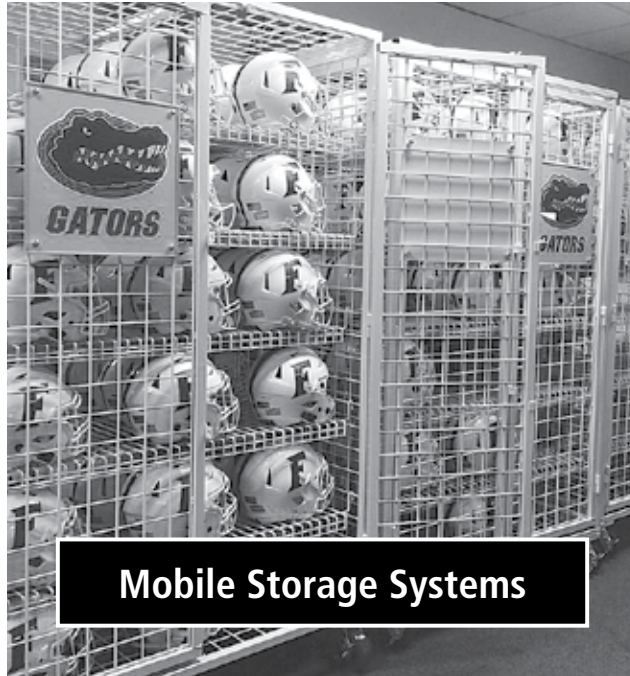
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Thursday, March 31 – Afternoon Clinic Speakers

Drew Sanders – Vandegrift HS

Since Coach Sanders' arrival to the Four Points area in 2009, he has led the Vandegrift Vipers to unprecedented success. In 13 varsity seasons, the Vipers have 121 varsity program wins, an Area Finalist finish in 2011, 2013, 2016, and 2017, 2019, a State Semi-Finalist team in 2014 and quarter-finalist finish in 2015, 2020, 2021, Regional Semi-Finalist in 2018, and state finalist finish in 2022 and 575 program wins. The football Vipers currently boast a 75% program winning percentage since their arrival on the Austin football scene. In addition to a winning on the football field, the Vipers also have an emphasis on being involved in their local community. On a yearly basis, they read to local elementary children through their "Viper Reader" program, assist the teachers with a teacher luncheon, and build wheelchair ramps for the home-bound in project they call "Build a ramp." Through putting others first and working hard in the classroom and on the field, the Viper football program is busy building men of honor. Coach Sanders also served on the T.H.S.C.A. (Texas High School Coaches' Association) Board of Regional Directors. He is a past Director for Region 8. He was District 25-5A Coach of the year for 2014, 2018, 2019, 2022. He's been married to his wife Janet for 25 years and has 3 children: Matt, a Senior at UMHB, Caleb a Sophomore at UMHB, and Sadie, a 9th grader at Vandegrift High.



DREW SANDERS

Brad Beeskow – Forest Lake High School

Coach Beeskow begins his second year as Head Football Coach at Forest Lake, following a 7-3 section runner-up season in 2022. In addition to his head coaching duties, he will coordinate the offense and coach the quarterbacks. Coach Beeskow played high school football at Andover High School, where he was an all-conference player, and collegiate football at St. Cloud State University and the University of Wisconsin - River Falls, where he was a starter and four year letter winner. His coaching experience includes stops at Augsburg University (2015-2018) as an offensive assistant and the Academy of Holy Angels (2019-2021) as the offensive coordinator, where his team won back to back section championships with trips to the state tournament in 2020 & 2021.



BRAD BEESKOW

Rich Wilkie – Augsburg University

Rich joined the Augsburg football coaching staff in 2020 as an assistant coach, bringing 32 years of experience to the Auggies. He spent 18 seasons (2002-19) as head coach at Andover High School, coaching there since the school's opening in 2002. Teams he coached won Minnesota section titles five times (2007, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017), and was selected as Section Coach of the Year five times. He began his coaching career in 1988, coaching the quarterbacks at Grand Forks (N.D.) Central under Hall of Fame coach Mike Berg. He then spent 10 years (1989-99) at his alma mater, Jamestown (N.D.) High School, coaching the offensive and defensive lines. He coached quarterbacks and wide receivers at Coon Rapids (Minn.) High School from 1999 to 2001. Wilkie has also worked with National Football Academies and its quarterback training program since 2012. Coach Wilkie has three sons -- Scott, Michael and Connor -- and two grandchildren.



RICH WILKIE

Thursday, March 31 – Afternoon Clinic Speakers

Taylor Moon – Minnetonka HS

Coach Moon is in his 4th year as a Special Education Developmental Disabilities Teacher at Minnetonka High School and is in his 3rd year as the Head Strength & Conditioning Coach. He oversees 18 different sports teams year-round before and after school. Before arriving at Minnetonka High School, Coach Moon taught Special Education, was an Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach at East Ridge High School (Woodbury, MN). Coach Moon oversaw football, boys' basketball, boys' lacrosse, boys' soccer, baseball, and cheer while working as a special education resource teacher. Moon graduated from Winona State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Special Education Learning Disabilities and Developmental Disabilities with minors in Coaching and Child Advocacy Studies. Continuing his education, Moon has completed a Master's Degree in Special Education-Emotional Behavior Disorders from Concordia University St. Paul.



TAYLOR MOON

Mike Farley Jr. – Mike Farley's Kickers Camp

Mike took over a summer camp tradition founded by his AFCA Hall of Fame father, Coach Mike Farley (UW-River Falls) by running a series of kicking camps throughout Wisconsin. Farley was a kicker, punter and quarterback at UW-River Falls and led the team to the WSUC conference title in 1984. The following year, he was signed as a free agent kicker by the Green Bay Packers. Currently, he's a special teams coach at Cedarburg High School (near Milwaukee, WI). He has a unique perspective on coaching special teams and helping young athletes improve their performance to help their high school teams succeed.



MIKE FARLEY, JR.

Kyle Bakken – Concordia College

Bakken just completed his 16th season as a member of the Cobber football staff and 12th year as a full-time member of the Concordia Athletic Department. He has served as the Cobber defensive coordinator for 13 seasons. Bakken was the head football coach at Fargo's Oak Grove High School from 2003 to 2007. During that time he amassed a 41-12 overall record and won the North Dakota State Championship in 2007. He helped the Grovers to five consecutive appearances in the North Dakota State High School League playoffs.



KYLE BAKKEN

Thursday, March 31 – Evening Clinic Speakers

Curtis Eben – Central Lyon High School

A graduate of University of Sioux Falls, Eben began his coaching career at alma mater Central Lyon in 2005. He was hired as the Head Wrestling Coach and volunteered for 6 years and then was hired as the Defensive Coordinator. Coach Eben accepted the head coaching job at Central Lyon-George Little Rock in spring of 2017. His overall record as a three-year head football coach is 43-21, earning 3 conference champions and 4 playoff appearances. In the 2022 season, the Lions recorded a 13-0 record, finishing as the Class 2A State Champions. Curtis and his wife Amanda have 4 boys: Graham, 17 years of age; Rhett, 6 years of age, Sage, 4 years of age, and Nash 2 years of age.



CURTIS EBEN

Matt Lombardi – Maple Grove HS

Matt just completed his 12th season as the current Head Coach at Maple Grove Senior High. He has compiled a 95-34 record in his career with 7 trips to the state tournament, 2 trips to the Prep Bowl and a State Championship in 2022. Before that, he was the Assistant Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator at Wayzata and led them to 3 state championships during that period. He has been selected the District coach of the year five times and is the current 6A coach of the year with a team that averaged more than 36 points a game offensively and less than 11 points a game defensively as they finished with a perfect 13-0 record. Matt has been married to his wife Jamie of 23 years and has three children, Joey, Maggie, and Allie.



MATT LOMBARDI

Steve Hamilton – Elk River High School

Coach Hamilton has spent 25 years as a head high school football coach. He has coached in Michigan and Georgia and for the past 12 seasons, he has led the Elk River Elks. He has an overall record of 162-96 with a 96-36 record at Elk River, including a 29-26 win over Mankato West in the 2022 5A Prep Bowl. It was Steve's 2nd state championship. In 2016, he was our State 5A Coach of the Year and the Positive Coaching Alliance Coach of the Year. He and his wife, Stephanie, have two daughters: Ella and Sophia.



STEVE HAMILTON

Mac Stephens – Cleveland Heights HS

In 2022, Mac Stephens began his eighth year as head coach of Cleveland Heights High School, football team. Mac has over 20 plus years coaching at the high school level. Prior to coaching at Cleveland Heights, Coach Mac has been in several coaching positions in northeast Ohio, which include Euclid High School, Villa Angela St. Joes, Glenville High School, and Lutheran East High School. Mac currently serves as Co-President of the North Coast Youth Football Conference and Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Euclid. His playing days include being a starter and captain at the University of Minnesota and stints with the NY Jets and Minnesota Vikings. Mac's Cleveland Heights teams have won 88% of conference games during his eight years and qualified for the OHSAA Division 1 Region 1 State Playoffs in 2015, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.



MAC STEPHENS

Thursday, March 31 – Evening Clinic Speakers

Russ Flaten

Since 2010, Dr. Russ Flaten has worked as a mental performance coach in both military and sport populations. His specialty areas include learning and habit development, motivation, and high performance. Specific to Football, Russ works with teams to integrate psychology into key areas of training such as film study, playbook retention, and drill work, as well as key areas of performance such as pre-snap reads and sideline adjustments.

Russ's philosophy on high performance begins with having clear intentions and goals, with focused reflection. This in turn allows for more thoughtful and intentional training and adjustments along the way.



RUSS FLATEN

Ed Wolkind – Vandegrift HS

Coach Wolkind has been the top assistant at Vandegrift High School in Austin, Texas since 2016. Ed coaches the running backs and coordinates the running game and the special teams. Vandegrift was a 2022 6A state finalist in Texas. He has a total of 25 seasons on the sidelines – 11 of those seasons as a head coach. Prior to Texas, Coach Wolkind coached in the Washington DC/Northern Virginia area.



ED WOLKIND

Friday, April 1 – Morning Clinic Speakers

Matt McCarty – Northwestern College, Iowa

Matt McCarty is in his seventh season as the Red Raiders' head coach entering the 2022 season, moving into that position in December of 2015. McCarty was the team's defensive coordinator for 11 years and also served as assistant head coach from 2012 to 2015. He has led the Northwestern football program to two NAIA Football Championship games in the last three seasons – finishing 2nd in 2020 and capturing the title this past December with a win over Kaiser University (FL). In 2022 the AFCA named McCarty the NAIA Coach of the Year.



MATT MC CARTY

Chris Mensen – Simley High School

Coach Chris Mensen has been the head coach at Simley High School in Inver Grove Heights, MN for four years. In his tenure Simley has been to the Minnesota State Tournament 3 times, including a State Championship in 2022, with an overall record of 33-9. Before that he served as Simley's offensive coordinator for 8 years which included a state runner-up in 2014. Coach Mensen played his college ball at the University of Minnesota and currently resides in Farmington, MN with his wife, Nichol, and 3 children, Evan 11, Axel 8 and Adaline 6.



CHRIS MENSEN

Friday, April 1 – Morning Clinic Speakers

Bob Davies – Carleton College

Bob Davies was added to the Carleton coaching staff in the spring of 2020 to serve as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. In 2022, he guided an offensive unit that scored a team-record 36.3 points per game, passed for 2,528 yards (the fifth-highest total in team history), and accumulated 1,525 rushing yards (the program's highest total since 2015.) Davies graduated from Monmouth University (D-I) in 2017, where he was a backup quarterback and also served as an operations assistant for the Hawks.



BOB DAVIES

Andrew Phillips – Watertown-Mayer High School

Coach Phillips has been coaching football for 12 seasons, most recently as the Head Coach at Watertown-Mayer High School. Watertown-Mayer is a AAA school in the East Central South Division. They competed in 2022 in the State Semi Finals at US Bank Stadium. In 2018, when Coach Phillips took over the program, it was in need of a Culture change. During his first two seasons the Royals went 0-18. In the last three seasons, the Royals posted a 20-11 record.



ANDREW PHILLIPS

Joe Rossi – University of Minnesota

Coach Rossi just completed his 6th year on the Gopher staff – 4th as the defensive coordinator. He has spent 21 seasons in college coaching. He was a 2021 nominee for the Broyles Award – presented annually to the best assistant coach in college football. Coaching stops include Thiel College (PA), University of Maine and Rutgers University. Joe and his wife, Lynsey, have two sons: Nico and Luca.



JOE ROSSI

Greg Harbaugh, Jr. – University of Minnesota

A product of Averett University (VA), Harbaugh began his coaching career at North Carolina Wesleyan College before coaching stops at Methodist University (NC), Marietta College (OH), Western Michigan and Chattanooga. He just completed his 4th season with the Gophers and his first as co-offensive coordinator. Greg has had two prior coaching stints with the U of M – previously serving in a quality control role in 2017 and 2019. Greg and his wife, Emily, have on son, Rory, and one daughter, Lucy.



GREG HARBAUGH, JR.

Rob Wenger – University of Minnesota

Rob joined the Minnesota football staff in 2017 and served as the team's Special Teams Coordinator. He was promoted to Special Teams Coordinator/Rush Ends in February of 2020. Wenger played fullback and linebacker at Colgate from 2004-06. After graduating, he started his coaching career at Rutgers University. He earned his master's in athletic administration from Nova Southeastern University in 2010. Rob is married to Jacqui and they have a daughter, Skyler.



ROB WENGER

Friday, April 1 – Morning Clinic Speakers

Brian Callahan – University of Minnesota

Coach Callahan has spent five seasons on the sidelines with the Gophers (33 years overall in coaching). He coached the tight ends for a season before being named Offensive Line Coach/Run Game Coordinator. In 2021, all five starting offensive linemen were recognized with All-Big Ten honors, including Daniel Faalele, a 4th round selection in the NFL draft and the first Gopher OL to be drafted since 2006. Prior to Minnesota, Brian coached the offensive line at Western Michigan (2013-2017). Brian lives in Chanhassen with his wife, Jennifer, and their three children: Lauren, Grace and Kevin.



BRIAN CALLAHAN

Danny Collins – University of Minnesota

A graduate of Western Michigan University, Collins spent two seasons as a graduate assistant at his alma mater before following Coach Fleck to Minnesota. With the Gophers he served in a quality control role for two seasons and a Senior Defensive Analyst for two more before being named safeties coach in January of 2022 and added the title of defensive pass game coordinator in the following season.



DANNY COLLINS

John Schaeckel – University of Minnesota

A St. Paul native, Coach Schaeckel just completed his 11th season on the Minnesota staff. He has served as the recruiting coordinator since 2017. He holds a bachelor's degree from Valpariso where he played safety for the Beacons. John and his wife Sarah have three sons, Nolan, Liam and Benjamin.



JOHN SCHAEKEL

Dan Nichol – University of Minnesota

A certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist, Nichol earned an undergraduate degree in applied exercise science and a masters in strength and conditioning from Springfield College (MA). He has been the head strength and conditioning coach at Dartmouth, Tennessee-Martin, the University of Maine and Western Michigan. He has been on the Gopher staff since 2017. Dan and his wife, Suzanne, have twin daughters, Bailey and Savannah, and a third daughter, Lyla.



DAN NICHOL

Friday, April 1 – Afternoon Clinic Speakers

Wallie Kuchinski – University of St. Thomas

Wallie Kuchinski has been on board all 14 seasons of the Glenn Caruso era and guided a defense that earned a reputation among Division III's best. His defensive athletes received 13 All-America honors in the last 10 seasons. He was the Division III 2011 Defensive Coordinator of the Year. He has coaching stops at Concordia-St. Paul and Truman State. A captain and four-year starter, he graduated from Bemidji State with a degree in Physical Education, and earned a Master's degree in Education from Concordia-St. Paul. He lives in Eagan with his wife Alicia and sons Colton (12) and Claymore (10).



WALLIE KUCHINSKI

Jake Landry – University of St. Thomas

Jake is a product of the University of North Dakota where he served as team captain and starting QB in his final two seasons. He began his coaching career at the University of Minnesota-Duluth and had additional stops at North Illinois, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse, and most recently was the quarterback coach for the Owls of Temple University. Landry has a bachelor's degree from UND and master's degrees from Minnesota Duluth and Northern Illinois University. Last fall marked his 12th season on the college football sidelines.



JAKE LANDRY

Jeff Duvendeck – University of St. Thomas

Coach Duvendeck has logged 23 seasons on the football sidelines. He coaches the offensive line for the Tommies. A native of Flushing, Michigan, Duvendeck was a running back at Central Michigan University before beginning his coaching career with stops at Tiffin University, Grand Valley State, Michigan State University, Michigan Tech, Northern Michigan, Culver-Stockton College in Missouri, Lawrence Tech University and Eastern Michigan University. He has been a part of three conference championship teams and one national championship team.



JEFF DUVENDECK

Brady Grayvold – University of St. Thomas

Coach Grayvold is a graduate of University of Wisconsin-Whitewater where he was an All American defensive back and a two-time national champion with the Warhawks. He was a finalist for the Cliff Harris Award as the nation's top small college football DB. He coached at Fort Atkinson and Sun Prairie High Schools in Wisconsin before joining the Tommie coaching staff in 2000. Most recently he was selected to attend the AFCA Under-35 Coaching Leadership Institute – identifying future leaders in the football coaching profession.



BRADY GRAYVOLD

Friday, April 1 – Afternoon Clinic Speakers

Jarod Dodson – University of St. Thomas

Jarod Dodson just completed his 25th season in college football coaching and fifth with Tommie Football. Twice named a national finalist for AFCA Assistant Coach of the Year, he's held positions in all levels of NCAA football plus one stop in NAIA. After a playing career at the University of South Dakota, Jarod coached for the Coyotes before moving on to Michigan Tech University. Additionally, Coach Dodson has coached at the University of Buffalo with Turner Gill as well as South Dakota School of Mines, Old Dominion University and Alfred State. He and his wife, Shannon, have four daughters, Mariah, LaRae, JaeLynn and Kendyl.



JAROD DODSON

Doug Lichtenberger – University of St. Thomas

Doug joined the Tommie coaching staff in 2019 and serves as the special teams coordinator, and also assists with the defensive secondary. He has coaching and administrative experience in eight different college or university programs, including nine-year run at Tulane University where he coached and then served as an assistant athletic director overseeing the football program. Lichtenberger is a San Diego native and was a four-year letterwinner at Cal Poly from 1993-1997.



DOUG LICHTENBERGER

John Stiegelmeier – South Dakota State University

On September 13, 1997, Coach Stiegelmeier recorded his first win as the Jackrabbit head football coach, defeating Cal-Davis 17-7. Twenty-six seasons later, John would finish off his head coaching career with #199 and an FCS National Championship win over rival NDSU 45-21 in Frisco, Texas. In between, Stig led the Jacks to 12 FCS playoff appearances and winning seasons in 22 of his 26 years. In 2004 he led SDSU in making the jump from Division II to the Football Championship Subdivision and just three years later posted the Jack's first conference title in 44 years. Capping off a 2022 National Championship year, John was named the American Football Coaches Association National Coach of the Year and the 2022 Eddie Robinson Award winner. The MFCA wants to thank Coach Stig for his dedication to the game of football. In retirement, he and his wife, Laurie, will enjoy more time with their four children and their four grandchildren – AND, more time in the Garden!



JOHN STIEGELMEIER

Steve Johnson – Bethel University

Steve Johnson completed his 34th year as the head football coach at Bethel University in 2022. Under Johnson's leadership, Bethel's football program has risen to national prominence and has become a perennial contender for the MIAC championship. Bethel University's football program is based on the core values of being GRATEFUL for everything, TOUGHNESS in discipline and work, and DEVOTED to our brothers and the King.



STEVE JOHNSON

Friday, April 1 – Afternoon Clinic Speakers

Brian Bergstrom – Winona State University

Bergstrom was named the head coach for the Warriors in December of 2021 after a successful five-year stint as the defensive coordinator at South Dakota State University. In his first season in Winona, he guided the team to an 8-4 record and a spot in the NCAA Div II Championship Series. Brian is a native of Burnsville and played collegiately at Gustavus Adolphus. He coached at Gustavus and Augustana as part of his 17 years in college coaching. He and his wife, Kate, have three children: Krayton, Beckett and Berkley.



BRIAN BERGSTROM

Jason Petrino – North Dakota State University

Petrino was named defensive coordinator at North Dakota State University in January 2023. Petrino spent the previous four years as defensive coordinator and safeties coach at Southern Illinois, where he transformed SIU into one of the toughest defenses in the Missouri Valley Football Conference. Petrino played collegiately at Carroll College in Montana from 1996 to 1999 and was a team captain and second team all-conference defensive back for the Saints.

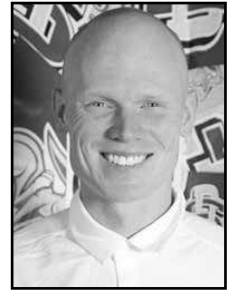


JASON PETRINO

Friday, April 1 – Afternoon Clinic Speakers

Jake Menage – South Dakota State

Menage returns to his alma mater this fall after serving as the offensive coordinator for NAIA Division, Northwestern College (IA). In his only season at Northwestern, Jake was nominated for the NAIA Offensive Coordinator of the Year and his offense propelled the Red Raiders to a National Championship. Jake previously had served one year at Southwest Minnesota State and three seasons as wide receiver and tight ends coach at Northern Illinois University. Menage will coach the wide receivers at South Dakota State.



JAKE MENAGE

Kirk Talley

Kirk is a coaching veteran of 40 years. A graduate of Pacific Lutheran University, he has coaching experiences at Miami of Ohio and Warner University (FL). Prior to Warner, Kirk had a 16-year stint as the head coach at the University of Northwestern-St. Paul. Under Talley's leadership Northwestern appeared in six bowl games and one NCAA III play-off appearance. Talley also has six years of experience coaching track & field and 20 years as an assistant professor of physical education.



KIRK TALLEY



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Saturday, April 2— Morning Youth Clinic Speakers

YOUTH CLINIC SPEAKERS

Thomas Kish – Zimmerman High School

The 2022 season marked Kish's 13th season as the Thunder's head coach. He guided the team to the class 4A state semifinals this past season. Prior to being named the Thunder's head coach, Kish was an assistant for the Thunder for 4 seasons and served as the defensive coordinator for the final 3. Prior to arriving at Zimmerman, he coached the 2003 season at Bemidji High School. Kish played football collegiately at Bemidji State. He and his wife, Jessie, have two sons: Gabe (13) and Owen (8).



THOMAS KISH

Mark Esch – Minnetonka High School

Coach Esch's is entering his 5th year as a Minnetonka Football coach and his 4rd as Head Coach. Mark is a graduate of Caledonia High School and played one year of college football at UW-La Crosse. He began his coaching career at UW-La Crosse and then coached for a year at White Bear Lake High School. Mark's college coaching career began at the University of South Dakota, where he spent one season before getting back into teaching and coaching at Austin High School. Mark was the head coach at Mankato West High School from 2006-16 where he led his team to 9 state appearances in 11 seasons while winning two state championships.



MARK ESCH

Ryan Bartlett – White Bear Lake High School

Ryan was named the head football coach at White Bear Lake High School in 2012. Prior to White Bear, Ryan was the head coach at Robbinsdale Armstrong High School. He got his start in coaching as a volunteer 9th grade coach with Irondale in 2003. Ryan and his wife, Amy, have 5 children: Brody, Dalton, Rory, Chase and Cecilia.



RYAN BARTLETT

Bryan Dahl – Chaska High School

Bryan Dahl has been the Head Coach at Chaska since 2014 with a record of 64-23. They have won 5 conference/district titles in his tenure. In 2019 led Chaska to its winningest season and first state championship in school history. Coach Dahl had been an Assistant Coach at North St. Paul, Armstrong, and Chaska prior to becoming the Head Coach.



BRYAN DAHL

Saturday, April 2— Morning Youth Clinic Speakers

Travis Walch and Tom Menke – Fastbreak Football

Fastbreak Football was formed in the spring of 2021 after Travis Walch (University of St. Thomas and Winona State) spoke at the MFCA youth clinic about incorporating multi-sport drills into football programming. A longtime high school and college football coach, Tom Menke (Minnetonka, Prior Lake and St. Olaf), pitched Coach Walch the idea of joining forces to create a football curriculum featuring gamified, small sided football drills with the goal to to regrow our sport and retain athletes. The formula was simple: increase football touches, reps and fun with drills that optimally challenge, score and have game-like tasks. Fastbreak Football is currently working on a format to help youth football associations train their coaches through the combination of clinics, camps and an online drill catalog organized by skill acquisition (throwing, blocking, pursuit, coverage, etc.). This mind, body and skill-based program focuses on producing football-ready body awareness, explosive agility, ball mastery and championship decision making.



TRAVIS WALCH



TOM MENKE

Steve Hamilton – Elk River High School

Coach Hamilton has spent 25 years as a head high school football coach. He has coached in Michigan and Georgia and for the past 12 seasons, he has led the Elk River Elks. He has an overall record of 162-96 with a 96-36 record at Elk River, including a 29-26 win over Mankato West in the 2022 5A Prep Bowl. It was Steve's 2nd state championship. In 2016, he was our State 5A Coach of the Year and the Positive Coaching Alliance Coach of the Year. He and his wife, Stephanie, have two daughters: Ella and Sophia.



STEVE HAMILTON

2023 MFCA RECRUITING DAY: FAIR & COMBINE – SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023

The MFCA Recruiting Fair and Combine will be held at the TCO Performance Center in Eagan.

**MAY 6, 2023 at TCO Performance Center
2600 Vikings Circle Eagan, MN 55121**

The schedule will be as follows:

10:00am to noon: **Recruiting Fair.** (College coaches meet with HS coaches; each will have a table)
8:00am to 11:00am: **Combine for 8th and 9th graders) (Provided by Bill Welle, Training Haus)**
Noon to 3:30pm: **Combine for 10th & 11th graders (Provided by Bill Welle, Training Haus)**

IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING THE RECRUITING FAIR, EMAIL JEFF FERGUSON

(Jeffreyferguson94@gmail.com) BY APRIL 10th SO WE CAN ACCOMMODATE YOU. High school coaches will have a table and chair where they can meet with college coaches to discuss their prospects. Wireless Internet will be available so feel free to bring a laptop to review your video. It is also a good idea to bring academic information about your prospects because we cannot include it in the information we distribute.

The MFCA Recruiting Fair has been very well received. Each year over 40 colleges from the upper-Midwest and over 40 Minnesota high school coaches attend. We provide recruiting information from nearly 150 high schools, including information for nearly 800 prospects, to colleges. **There is no cost for high school coaches to participate.**

Attending the fair is a great way to promote your players, especially “under the radar” D2/D3 players. College coaches appreciate the ability to speak to so many high school coaches in one setting instead of driving to each school.

Athletes who wish to participate in the combine should use this LINK (COST OF \$75 includes a T shirt):

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/77876ae4/-EEZWk06fUaQqHe8X21Yg?u=https://twincitiesorthopedics.wufoo.com/forms/2023-high-school-football-combine/>

Sincerely,

Jeff Ferguson, MFCA Recruiting Day Chair
612-877-0479
jeffreyferguson94@gmail.com.

COLLEGE COACHES PLEASE NOTE:

Pre-register by making a \$250 payment via PayPal at www.mnfootballcoaches.com/recruit • Or, on the day of the event at the check-in table by providing a \$300 check (payable to MFCA) We hope you take time to be involved with these events/processes, so the recruiting process is as efficient and effective as possible for your staff, college prospects and high school coaches.

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- Winter Leagues: January-February

3. 7on7 Tournaments

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- May 13th-14th
- MN HS Showdown
- Summer 2023



Contact Coach Jeff Ferguson at info@my7on7.com with questions



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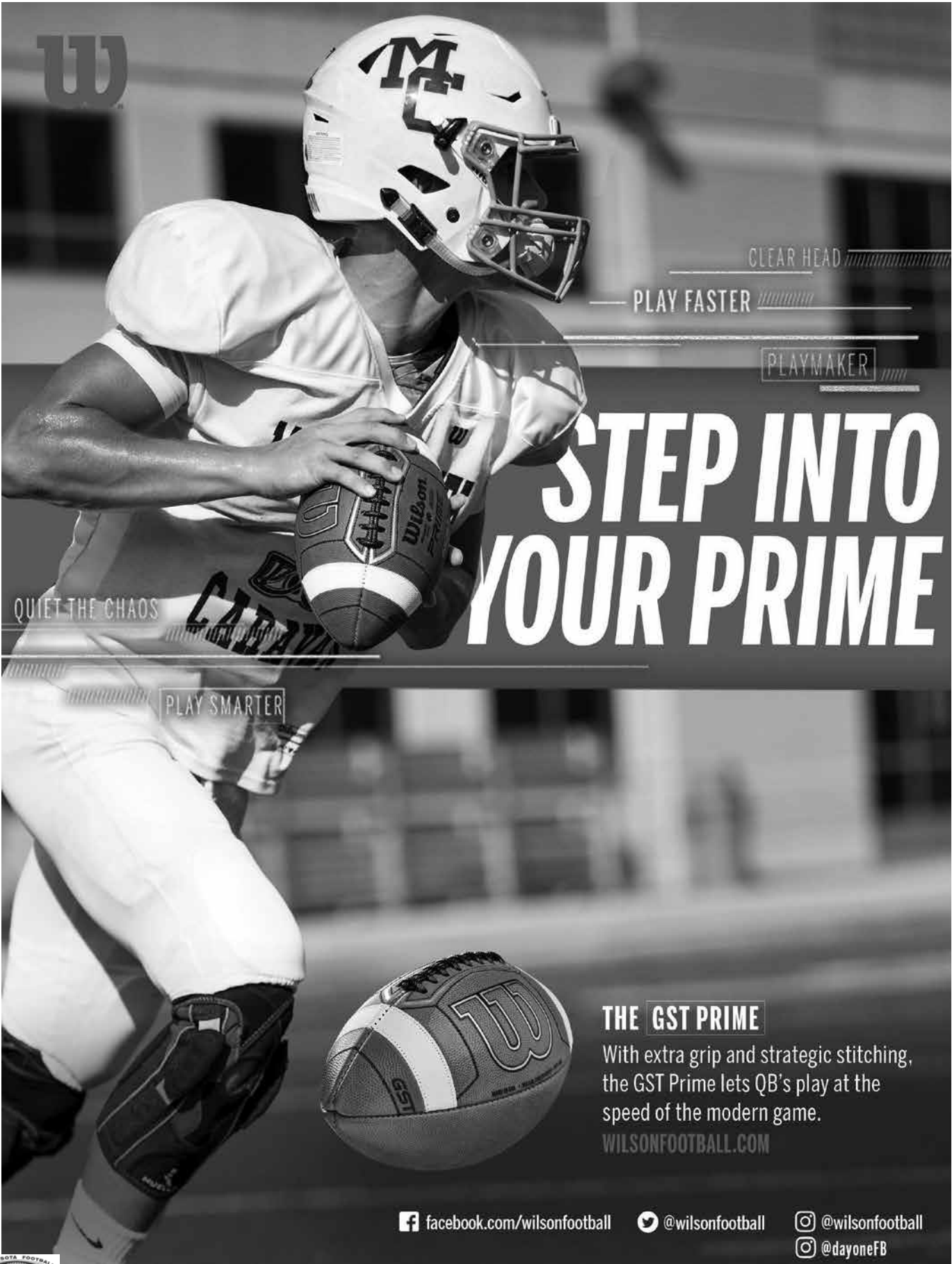


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