

## A Look Back

On Saturday, May 6, at the Delta Hotel and Conference Centre, supporters of the Gryphon Football program gathered to take part in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Gryphon Football Gala. The evening featured several highlights including a celebration of the 1992 Yates Cup championship team, an unveiling of the 1970's Team of the Decade, as well as the annual presentations of the Distinguished Alumni Award and Honorary Jersey. Over \$20,000 was raised from the evening, with all proceeds going towards supporting athletic scholarships for student-athletes on the Gryphon football team.

With 2017 marking the 25-year anniversary of the Gryphons' 1992 Yates Cup victory over the Western Mustangs, the '92 squad was well-represented with a total of 24 players from that roster in attendance.

The Honorary Jersey was presented to former linebacker Steve McKee after putting together a sensational five year career with the Gryphons that spanned from 1989 to 1993.

The other major award winner of the evening was Pete Partridge, who was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Finally, a total of 26 players were named to the 1970's Team of the Decade, with a total of 16 of those individuals in attendance.



## Meet The Team 2017

On Saturday, May 27 the Gryphon Football program officially introduced their 2017 recruiting class during the team's annual "Meet The Team" luncheon at Cutten Fields.

A total of 54 individuals are set to join the Gryphons for training camp in August, making it one of the largest recruiting classes in Gryphon history.

"We are extremely excited for this year's recruiting class. We say it every year, but once again we think this is one of the best classes we've ever had. It addresses needs at multiple positions and will give us great depth across the board," says Director of Recruiting, Todd Galloway. "I am really proud of not only the talent coming in, but the quality of character as well. It is going to be great to see these young men grow on the field but also grow up to be great members of the community and better people."

"We've expanded our recruiting efforts this year nationally and across the border," adds Galloway.

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The Gryphons are excited to welcome two new Coaches to our staff – Mark Forsyth, Defensive Backs Coach, and Joe Sardo, Linebackers Coach.

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Included amongst the out-of-province arrivals are receivers A.J. Chase (Montreal, QC) and Zeke Margaritis (Canisius High School – Buffalo, NY) as well as Running Back Jacob McDonald (Calgary, AB) and Offensive Lineman Tyler Grisolia (St. Francis High School – Buffalo, NY). All four were in attendance on Saturday at Cutten Fields for the “Meet The Team” luncheon.

For Gryphons Head Coach Kevin MacNeill, the 2017 recruiting class is one that he expects to contribute right away. “We expect to see several freshmen have an immediate impact on the field this season. The 2017 recruits are a special class, that have tremendous ability, character and a passion for being a Gryphon. I am extremely proud of how hard the coaches have worked in putting this class together and we cannot wait to get things started in August.”

Along with the 54 incoming recruits, the Gryphons are also expecting around 65 returning players from last season.

Rookies and veterans alike will report to training camp on August 10 with the OUA regular season officially set to kick off on Sunday, August 27 with a home game versus the Ottawa Gee-Gees.

Original article from [gryphons.ca](http://gryphons.ca)

**#NextGryphon**



The Gryphons are extremely excited to welcome Niagara Spears (OVFL) player Sandor Mod to our family. In his ten year playing career, Mod has played in the CFCFPC, on Team Ontario and on Team Canada. He helped bring the team to a bronze medal at this year’s Canada Cup, and was also awarded a scholarship at the 2016 OVFL all-star game. Welcome Sandor!

***From the Parents of Players***

***What does the POP mean to you?***

Being a part of the POP is an extension of the strength and respect exemplified from the Coaching staff, throughout the entire Gryphon Football Program. It is an opportunity for parents to come together to support and cheer, not one son, but 100!

-Christine Korol, Mom of 4<sup>th</sup> year Gryphon Luke and member of the POP Committee



## Gryphons in the Community

This summer, we have three Gryphon Football players in the Amazon working with the Me to We project. Justis Croasdale, Jamal Hooker, and Akeem Knowles were granted this amazing opportunity thanks to the Joan Hewitt Scholarship. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year we have been able to partner with the Scholarship and the program. Below are some photos from previous years.



## To The Hill With Kevin MacNeill

With the summer months quickly approaching and the 2017 Meet the Team event having passed, our excitement for the completion of the Pavilion continues to grow stronger.

Having this facility will allow our coaches and players to consistently have access to each other in the same facility with awesome perks like positional meeting rooms, a kitchenette, and of course, a state-of-the-art locker room.

In terms of alumni outreach, it will allow us to reconnect with past players in an environment that displays the growth and success we hope to achieve not only this year, but in years to come as well.

The Pavilion reflects the past, present, and future of Gryphon Football, and our entire staff could not be more excited.

### Did You Know?

The Guelph Gryphons currently hold 5 USports (CIS) Football records and 2 OUA Football records!

## Celebration

Two of our Gryphons were recently drafted into the CFL – Receiver Jacob Scarfone was drafted 47<sup>th</sup> overall by the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, and Defensive Lineman Ian Marouf was drafted 50<sup>th</sup> overall by the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

In addition to this, two Gryphons signed with CFL teams this year – Running Back Johnny Augustine with the Edmonton Eskimos and Linebacker John Rush with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

## Featured Alumni

Don Taylor, OAC class of 1964, was a Football Captain and Redmen Football Letterman. Don is an extremely generous donor to the Triple Victory Program, and not only does he contribute to and support the Gryphon Football program, but also numerous scholarships at the University of Guelph.

Don learned a lot while playing football, and carried that with him into his wildly successful business career. Beginning at Ford Motor Company for 10 years, followed by a Swedish Ship Building company for 5, Don then became the President and General Manager of Westeel in Winnipeg in 1982. It was during that time that he also sat on the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers for 13 years, watching them win 3 Grey Cups.

Don is pictured below wearing number 30.





## Help build Gryphon Football.

Your **Friends of Gryphon Football (FOGF) Membership** contributes to Canada's top university football program.

	RED	BLACK	GOLD
	<b>\$5</b> /mo (or \$60/yr)	<b>\$20</b> /mo (or \$240/yr)	<b>\$50</b> /mo (or \$600/yr)
Membership Card	Yes	Yes	Yes
Gryphon Football Swag	1 Item	2 Items	3 Items
FOGF AGM Invite	Yes	Yes	Yes
Glory Bowl Alumni Game Invite & T-Shirt	Yes	Yes	Yes
FOGF Board Meeting Invites	-	Yes	Yes
Gryphon Football Challenge Coin	-	Yes	Yes
18 Holes & Meals at Annual Gryphon Football Golf Tournament	-	1 Ticket	2 Tickets
FOGF Board Meeting Voting Privilege	-	-	Yes
VIP Passes to a Gryphon Football game*	-	-	2 Passes
Program Acknowledgment in Gameday Programs	-	-	Yes
Gryphon Football Gala Invite with Preferred Seating	-	-	Yes

\* Excludes Homecoming // Prices shown subject to HST

**JOIN THE FAMILY**

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