

Gryphons' Lair  
Issue 77  
June 1, 2023

The Gryphon family extends beyond our current players, alumni, and community – we're thrilled to have the Toronto Argonauts back on campus and calling Alumni Stadium for the duration of their Training Camp. The Argos arrived in mid-May, and have been utilizing our facilities for camp, staying in residence on campus and enjoying the incredible food prepared by our Hospitality staff at Creelman Hall. Gryphon Alumni, [Royce Metchie](#) is a current Defensive Back for the Argos, and it's being great seeing him back at his alma mater. A few of our Gryphon coaches, Mark Surya and Donnavan Carter, have been helping out at Training Camp, and have gotten to work alongside the Argo staff.

Be sure to catch the Argos in action at Alumni Stadium TONIGHT (June 1) for a pre-season match-up against the Ottawa Redblacks. In addition to Royce Metchie, we've got Gryphon Alumni, [Eric Starczala](#) playing OL for the Ottawa Redblacks.

The North Endzone is the perfect place to catch the CFL pre-season game. The area will be licensed, we've got lawn games for the kids and tickets include a drink ticket.

Purchase your ticket [here](#).

Football is back at Alumni Stadium, Gryph Nation!





## ***A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD COACH***

Greetings to all friends of the Gryphon Football Program. I hope that this message finds you well and that you are enjoying the wonderful weather and are also counting down the days until next football season. We had a very impactful off-season which culminated in a five-day spring camp at the end of April which saw 75 returning players take the field. The roster put in four and half solid months of strength and conditioning training in the performance centre and indoor fieldhouse, and our football staff went coast to coast to recruit 35 new players to join our football team for the 2023 campaign and beyond. The players have been working hard and we are all ramping up for August!

### **THANK YOU**

The Football Program would like to express its sincere gratitude to all of those who were involved with the Gala Dinner Fundraiser on May 6<sup>th</sup>. It was a wonderful event filled with great fellowship, laughter, and great memories shared as we honored some distinguished alumni and celebrated our program's traditions. Significant efforts and contributions were made by Bill Brown, Sarah Garrett, and Stuart Lang from the Lang Innovation Team to make the Gala Dinner possible. We are superbly appreciative of our sponsors: Tricar (Adam Carapella), Dr. Surya Dental & Associates (The Surya Family), Domino's Pizza (Kevin Barber), FieldTurf (Darren Gill), Sorinex, and the Islip family. Lastly, a very special thanks to the Gala Dinner Committee led by Randy Dimitroff and Brian Cluff, and assisted by Jessie Kennedy and Jaqueline Andrews. Their relentless efforts helped bring the event to life and we cannot thank them enough.

### **PRO FOOTBALL**

Professional football is back in full swing and brought a wave of excitement through the Gryphon Football community. Former player Tavius Robison was drafted by the Baltimore Ravens of the NFL, and four Gryphons, including Tavius, were selected in the CFL Draft on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Siriman Harrison Bagayogo (2<sup>nd</sup> Round), Clark Barnes (3<sup>rd</sup> Round), and Spencer Masterson (6<sup>th</sup> Round) all heard their names over the airwaves and are currently in CFL training camps. All reports indicate that they have performed well and representing our programs with flying colors. The Gryphons currently have 12 former players in CFL training camps.

The Toronto Argos training camp was back for its 3<sup>rd</sup> year on Guelph's campus, and the feedback from players, coaches, and executives has been tremendous. They feel right at home in our first-class facility and are excited to be back again next year. Their stay at the University culminates June 1<sup>st</sup> as Alumni Stadium will serve as host to the

Argos vs. Red Blacks exhibition game at 7 PM!

### **STAFF CHANGES**

Adam Kania has departed the Gryphon Football Program to pursue a new opportunity in the Private Sector. Coach Kania has been an important member of our team and instrumental in our on-field, and especially off-field success since the summer of 2019. On behalf of the entire Football Program, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to Coach Kania for all that he has given to the team over the last four years. I would like to wish him and his wife Leah, as well as their children Miles and Rilynn health, happiness, and success in their next chapter. The search for a new S&C Coach for our program is underway and we are planning on having our new S&C Coordinator in place by the end of June.

I hope to you all at our Home Opener vs. The Toronto Varsity Blues on Saturday August 26<sup>th</sup>.

-Ryan Sheahan



## ***WHAT HAPPENED IN MAY?***

---

### **Gryphon Football Gala**

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual gryphon Football Gala was an incredible success!

The passion, support, and camaraderie that was on display throughout the event was truly remarkable, and it was a testament to the incredible community that we have built around Gryphon football. The memories that were shared, the fun that was had, and the laughter that filled the air made for an unforgettable night.

The night started with a bagpipe entrance from Fred Promoli, a Gryphon Alumni. We honoured our graduating Senior players, celebrated our Honour Jersey Recipient, Jeremy Oxley, and our Distinguished Alumni, Andrew Oosterhuis. The night concluded with a fireside chat with Gryphon Alumni Thomas Dimitroff and Dino Roumel.

A special thank you to Randy Dimitroff and Brian Cluff for their support of this event. Many hours went into the planning and preparation and we are grateful for their commitment and passion towards making sure that this night was special. From coordinating the silent auction, to helping with the agenda of the evening and bringing back our alumni to the event! Thank you to the Gryphon Athletic Department and Jacqueline Andrews for managing all the logistics, marketing assets, run of show, the list goes on!

We are thrilled to report that we were able to raise over \$40,000, thanks to the generosity of everyone in attendance and those of you from home who participated in the Silent Auction.

This support will go a long way in helping us continue to provide the best possible experience for our student-athletes and build upon the success of our football program.





*Pictured: Fred Promoli*



*Pictured: Jeremy Oxley and teammates*





*Pictured: Andrew Oosterhuis and teammates*

### **Big Brothers Big Sisters Guelph Food Truck Festival**

On May 28<sup>th</sup>, the community of Guelph came together for the annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Guelph Food Truck Festival.

There was a fantastic turnout and proceeds from the event went to support the local Big Brothers Big Sisters Organization. There were food trucks, live music, a DJ, lawn games and a special appearance from the Toronto Argos!

We had our Gryphon football players in attendance and had a great day chatting with alumni, members of the community, fans and #FutureGryphons who want to play for the Gryphons!

The event was a wonderful example of the support within our community and we look forward to many more opportunities to connect with the city of Guelph!

Watch the recap [here](#) from CTV news!



*Pictured: Players from the Jr. Gryphons, Gryphon Football Team, and Toronto Argonauts  
Photo Credit: Laurel Jarvis*



*Pictured left to right: Jakob Tomas and Isaiah Smith playing football with a Jr. Gryphon  
Photo Credit: Laurel Jarvis*

### **East West Bowl**

Congratulations to the 5 Gryphon Players who were selected to represent our Program at the East-West Bowl on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Ron Joyce Stadium in Hamilton, Ontario.

[Josh Campbell](#) and [Kristian Stewart](#) were a part of Team East, and [Curtis Woodmansey](#) and [Kaine Stevenson](#) were on Team West. \*[Scott Murray](#) was unable to participate due to injury.

Team East came out victorious with 37-0 victory.



Read the full game recap [here](#).



*Pictured left to right: Kristian Stewart, Curtis Woodmansey, Dennis McPhee, Josh Campbell, Kaine Stevenson*



## **CELEBRATIONS**

### **CFL Draft**

Congratulations to Siriman Harrison Bagayogo, Clark Barnes, Spencer Masterson and Tavius Robinson for being selected in the 2023 CFL Draft!

Training Camp is underway for these players and we look forward to seeing them compete at the next level in the CFL!

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TEAM</b>	<b>ROUND</b>	<b>OVERALL PICK</b>
<a href="#">Siriman Harrison Bagayogo</a>	DB	BC Lions	2	14
<a href="#">Clark Barnes</a>	WR	Calgary Stampede	3	24
<a href="#">Spencer Masterson</a>	OL	Edmonton Elks	6	50
<a href="#">Tavius Robinson</a>	DE	Saskatchewan Roughriders	8	66





## Incoming Recruits Honoured at High School Football Banquet

Our 2023 recruit class has got some incredible talent and we wanted to give a special shoutout to incoming WR Thomas Rodehutsors and WR Chris McLarty for being honoured at their local high school (Holy Trinity Academy) Football banquet in Okotoks, Alberta.

Thom received the 'Get Ripped' award and the Leadership and Dedication Award. Chris was the recipient of the Special Teams MVP Award.

Congratulations, Thomas and Chris! We look forward to having you join our Gryphon Family for the 2023 season!



*Pictured left to right: Chris and Thomas*

### **Happy Mother's Day**

A special shoutout to all the Gryphon Moms and Mother-figures that support our program!

We asked the players what their favourite thing is about their Mom and the responses are so special! Check out the video [here](#).

### **TD for Clark Barnes**

Congratulations to the rookie, on his first TD in the CFL against the Edmonton Elks.

The first of many TD's for Clark Barnes!

Watch the clip [here](#).





## Gryphon Alumni Receives Promotion with the Buffalo Bills

Congratulations to Gryphon alumni, Curtis Rukavina for being named Co-Director of Pro Scouting for the Buffalo Bills.

Read the press release [here](#).



*\*Curtis pictured on the far left*

## Theo Landers - QB1

Congratulations to Gryphon Alumni, Theo Landers on being named QB1 for the Bucharest Rebels, a Romain American Football Team!



June 1 is a very important day for high school students. It's the deadline for accepting their offer to University. It's a big milestone in one's life, as they are choosing where they are going to live, what program they are going to study, and essentially what university community they are going to be a part of.

The Gryphon Family is very happy that LB [Denver Beazley](#) made the decision in 2022 to attend the University of Guelph. Denver dressed for every game that he was healthy for, got involved with our community events, and overall has been a great asset to our program.

Denver attended Football North, a high school in Mississauga. Their program strives to provide students both a strong academic opportunity and an elite football experience, allowing students to achieve their academic and athletic goals. We've been fortunate to have many players come through



their program and attend the U of G. Last year alone, six incoming rookies previously attended that high school.

“Having a rigorous schedule at Football North definitely helped prepare for the transition of what it’s like to be a university student-athlete. They did a really good job of making the high school program seem like a university environment, and so I think I got a sense of what I had ahead of me.”

During Denver’s high school career, he had the opportunity to visit colleges in the States and learn about their programs and tour the facilities. When he came for his official visit to the U of G, that was first time he had stepped foot on campus, and he was extremely impressed. In terms of quality, he noticed that Guelph had top notch facilities, and his parents were particularly impressed when they learned about how the coaching staff take care of the players both on and off the field. Whether it be academic support from our Academic Coordinator, Lindsay Williams or treatment from Chris DeZorzi, our Athletic Therapist, there is a fantastic support system built into the program.

Moving to a new city and meeting 100+ teammates can be overwhelming, and something that often helps with that transition, is the guidance that our older players provide to our rookies.

“There was lot of support for the rookies, especially from the veterans like [Brandon Ferigo](#) and [Simon Chaves](#). Because they’ve been a part of the program for a few years, they have a good understanding of the program. Whether it was advice to help us on the field, or how to manage the academic workload, their help and guidance was really beneficial.”

Denver is studying Sport and Event Management, which is a part of the Bachelor of Commerce Program at the U of G. First year business involves courses such as Introduction to Microeconomics, Financial Accounting, Marketing and the Business of Sport and Event Tourism. He just finished up his first year of study and is thinking of pursuing a career within sport administration for a professional team.

“What made the transition from high school academics to university a bit easier, was that there were a lot of rookies this year that were a part of the Bachelor of Commerce Program, so we would study together a lot.”

From the classroom to the field for practice and gameday, the players spend a lot of time together. A great advantage that they have is being able to use the facilities to study, hangout, meet with the coaches, workout in the Performance Centre, etc. The workload of a student-athlete can be challenging at times, but for Denver, he was prepared for it.

“I guess I could say it was what I expected. My high school, Football North, they did a really good job preparing us for the next level. Six of the incoming recruits for the 2022 season were from Football North and I think that we were well prepared and ready to get to work. I know for me personally; I was excited and ready to start the next chapter of my football journey with a new team.”

In his rookie year, Denver made it a goal of his to volunteer and get involved with greater Guelph community.

“Before I came to the U of G, I followed the program on social media and I saw all the types of opportunities the players had to get involved within the community. I made it a goal of mine to volunteer this past year and I really appreciate how our coaching staff encourages us to get involved, whether it be helping out with events on campus, or in the city. It’s great to be involved in the community and give back because this community and the school itself is so supportive of Gryphon Football.”

Denver is living at home in Waterdown this summer and working for his Dad, Todd Beazley. Todd is a FOGF member and was featured in [Issue 73](#) (February 2023) of the Gryphons' Lair. Todd and Denver were both at the recent Gryphon Football Gala and we look forward to seeing them play together at the upcoming FOGF Golf Tournament on July 21 at Guelph Lakes!

Thank you, Denver for being this month's feature player! You've been an incredible addition to our program, both on and off the field, and we look forward to seeing what you accomplish in the 2023-2024 season!



**FEATURED ALUMNUS**

Gryphon alumni. Gryphon Football Coaching Staff. FOGF Golf Member. FOGF Board of Directors, Treasurer. Our alumni feature has pretty much been involved in every aspect of our Gryphon Football Program!

We are pleased to have Rob Kitching as our Alumni Feature for Issue 77 of the Gryphons' Lair.

Rob attended Centennial High School in Guelph and deemed himself an average QB, but after attending a football camp in grade 12, he realized that he had a fast release and could throw a spiral exceptionally well.

Rob joined the Gryphon Football program in winter of 1990 and played for the Gryphons until 1994. It was a very exciting time to join the program, with their Vanier Cup championship in 1984, and then Rob was a part of the Yates Cup Champion Team in 1992.

"After graduating, I went to Europe and played in in the Swedish league for 2 years. I then decided to come back home to Canada and wanted to focus on my career. However, my 'retirement' from football didn't last long, as I played for the Tri-City Outlaws in their inaugural season in 2003. I knew the guys started the team and they kept bugging me saying that they needed a QB, so I ended up playing for them."

Rob helped out Gryphon Alumni and threw the ball for Justin Dunk at his tryout for the BC Lions. Dunk was trying out for a WR position, and Rob told us that he joked with the Coach and asked if there was any room for him to tryout as a QB.

This feeling on being back on the field and interacting with the players was something that Rob couldn't let go of. He enjoyed throwing the ball and wanted to stay connected to the Football community. He ended up being a part of the Gryphon coaching staff from 2000 – 2012. He took a break from the team in 2012 as he had kids and wanted to focus on his family, and then 4,5 years later he found himself back at Alumni Stadium.

"2016/207 was a really exciting time for the Gryphon Football Program. They had just come off of Yates Cup victory in 2015, the FOGF membership program was spearheaded and the design process of the new pavilion was beginning. I remember being out for lunch with Stu Lang, and he pulled out a napkin and started drawing his idea for the new facility. To see it come to life over those next few years was pretty special."

In addition to supporting the players on the field, Rob holds the position of Treasurer on the Friends of Gryphon Football Board of Directors. As someone who runs his own business, he has a lot of experience with bookkeeping and financial records and transactions. In addition to his role within FOGF and the coaching staff, Rob has hired many of our players throughout the summer.

"I do wear a few different hats within the program and, overall, I want to see the program succeed. So, if I can be a resource to players and help them find summer work, or through the ball for them at practice, and also support from a fundraising perspective with FOGF, that's important! Football made such a positive impact on my life. I learned how to deal with people, and you know obviously playing and the game itself is great, but it's the off the field skill development that can be the most impactful. Being a football player takes discipline, and it might be gruelling and challenging at some points, but it will pay off in the end."

Thank you, Rob for your continued support of our program. We appreciate all the dedication and time you give to our players, coaching staff and FOGF community!





## FEATURED FOGF MEMBER

# JESSIE KENNEDY



### *Current Career:*

ALTHOUGH I GRADUATED FROM THE U OF G IN 2017, I'VE NEVER LEFT THE CAMPUS! I SPENT FIVE YEARS WORKING IN THE ADMISSION AND RECRUITMENT OFFICE, WHERE I HAD THE CHANCE TO TRAVEL ACROSS CANADA AND PRESENT TO OVER 5,000 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ABOUT THE U OF G. IN 2021, I JOINED THE WOOD CENTRE, WHICH IS THE INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP HUB WITHIN THE LANG SCHOOL OF BUSINESS. I AM CURRENTLY THE MANAGER OF THE CENTRE, AND MY ROLE IS TO DEVELOP PROGRAM STRATEGY, MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS AND LEAD OUR TEAM.

### *Favourite FOGF Event:*

THIS PAST MAY, I ATTENDED MY FIRST GRYPHON FOOTBALL GALA. IT WAS REALLY SOMETHING SPECIAL TO SEE ALUMNI FROM VARIOUS DECADES, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, COACHES, PARENTS, AND PLAYERS COME TOGETHER FOR THIS EVENT. THIS PROGRAM HAS SUCH AN INCREDIBLE FAMILY ASPECT TO IT, AND I THINK THE GALA IS AN EXCELLENT REPRESENTATION OF THAT.

### *Reason for joining the FOGF Membership Program:*

AFTER GRADUATING FROM UNIVERSITY, I NOTICED HOW MUCH I MISSED THAT STUDENT CONNECTION, AND THAT FEELING OF BELONGING TO A COMMUNITY. I GOT INVOLVED WITH GRYPHON FOOTBALL IN 2018, AND I INSTANTLY FELT WELCOMED INTO THE FAMILY AND FELT A PART OF THIS COMMUNITY. I THINK FOGF IS A GREAT WAY TO ENHANCE THAT CONNECTION, AND IT HAS ALLOWED ME TO EXTEND MY PROFESSIONAL NETWORK AND CONNECT WITH INDIVIDUALS WHO SHARE A SIMILAR PASSION OF GRYPHON FOOTBALL.





## MR. CASASANTA'S HISTORY CLASS

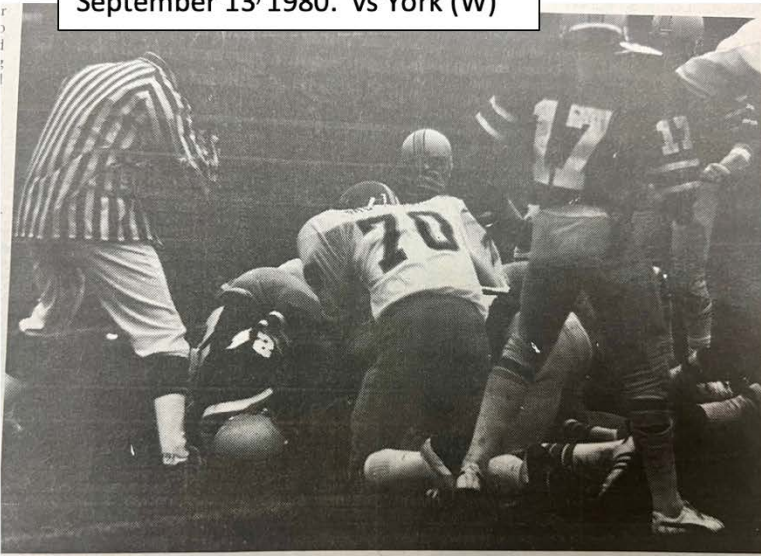


Welcome to GFB – 100. Welcome back to the June Edition of GFB - 100. I am your instructor John Casasanta, your resident Gryphon Football historian. GFB -100 is a master's class where we will delve into interesting and historical facts about all things Gryphon Football. Each month I will provide you with an interesting fact about the Gryphon Football program. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any of your own facts or stats to add to this segment each month. Forward any information, stat, story, or correction to me at [jcasasan@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jcasasan@uoguelph.ca). The monthly goal is that you find this section informative and educational. I look forward to sharing with you all, so without further ado, let's begin.

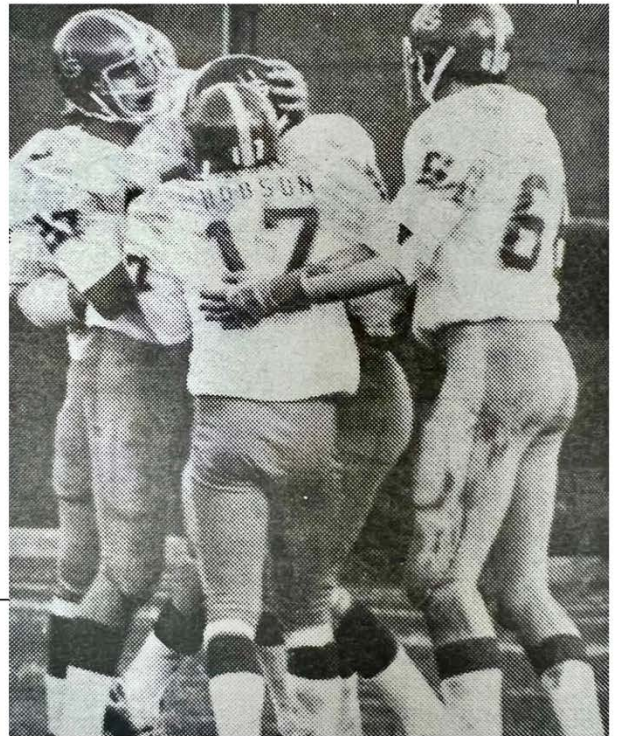
For this month's lesson we will continue with our pictorial retrospective of Gryphon Football. June's focus will be from 1980-1985. With one exception - the members of the 1984 team may notice there no images of the magical '84 season. Relax Cluffer, don't get too worked up. The reason for excluding the 84 team is that I will do an entire pictorial lesson on this season next month and make sure to highlight all of the great accomplishments from the '84 season. Thanks to the staff of the Ontario for allowing us access to every issue beginning in 1952 with the OAC Aggies then Redmen and right up to today's Gryphons. I hope you enjoy this retrospective and for some of you I hope you enjoy seeing some of these great moments you were a part of. Enjoy.



September 13, 1980. vs York (W)



**I got it, you take it:** Gryphon linebacker Angelo Molinaro (70) is last man in as players from both teams scramble for a loose ball. The terrible conditions on a rainy, dreary afternoon were instrumental in eleven fumbles and a variety of unpredictable bounces that played a major role in the sixty-four points accumulated. Guelph emerged as 33-31 victors in their inaugural OUA contest.

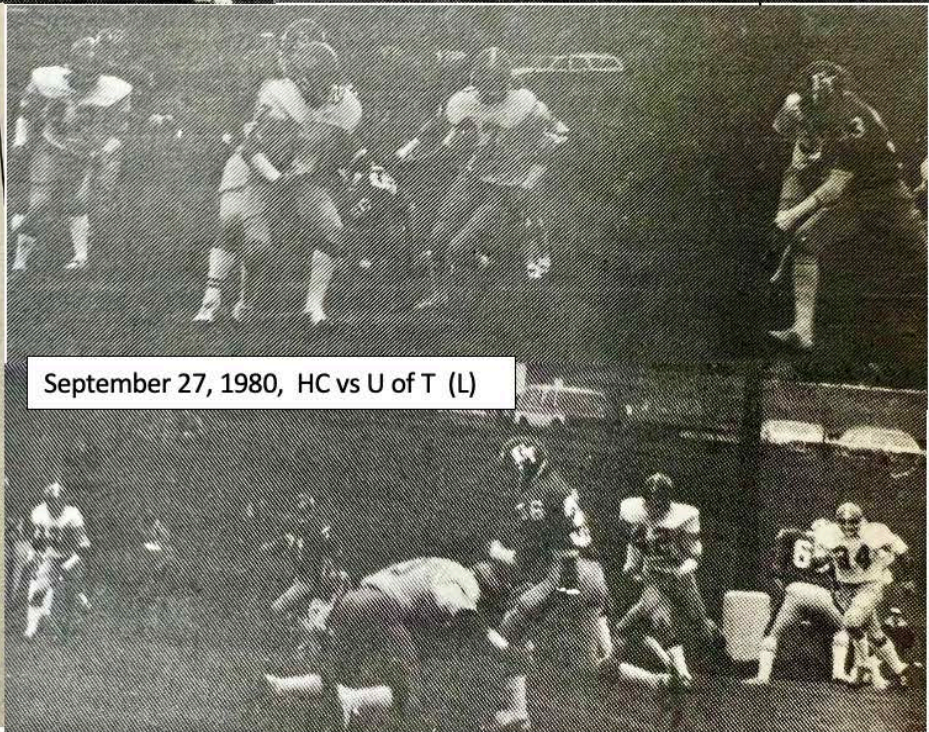






September 20th, 1980, vs Laurier (W)

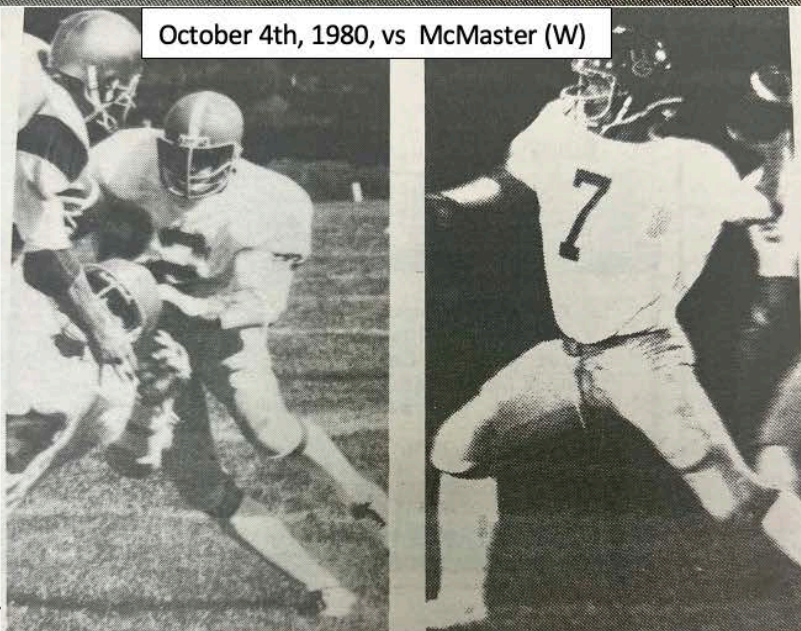
**Dial-A-Prayer:** Tom Dimitroff, talking over the phones while directing his troops against Laurier, has turned the Guelph program around. His squad will be severely tested this Saturday when the powerful Toronto Varsity Blues confront the Gryphons at Alumni Stadium. Game time is 2:00.



September 27, 1980, HC vs U of T (L)



**Players Rewarded:** Gryphon receiver Andy Balson (above) receives a Molson's travel bag after being named Guelph's offensive player of the game in Scott Hobson, who tallied

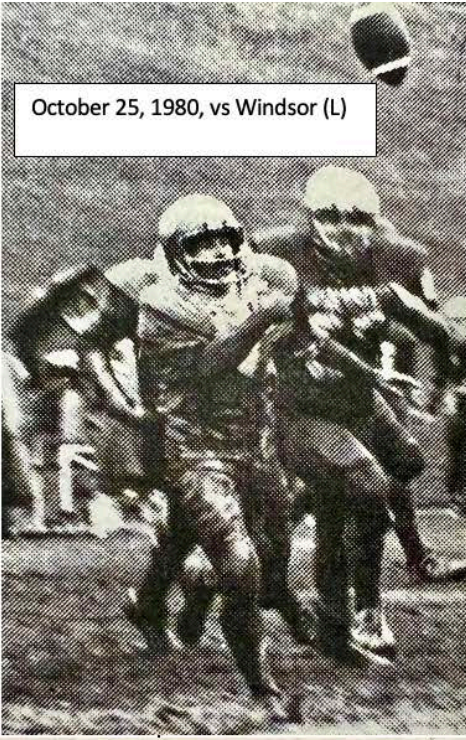


October 4th, 1980, vs McMaster (W)

**Low and behold:** The return of rushing stalwart John Lowe (22, left) and a 103-yard gallop with a screen pass by Ron Lively balanced an offday from quarterback Mike Eykens (right) as the offence counted three majors in a 28-15 triumph at McMaster. Gryphons host Western on Saturday.



October 25, 1980, vs Windsor (L)



September 19, 1981, vs McMaster (T)

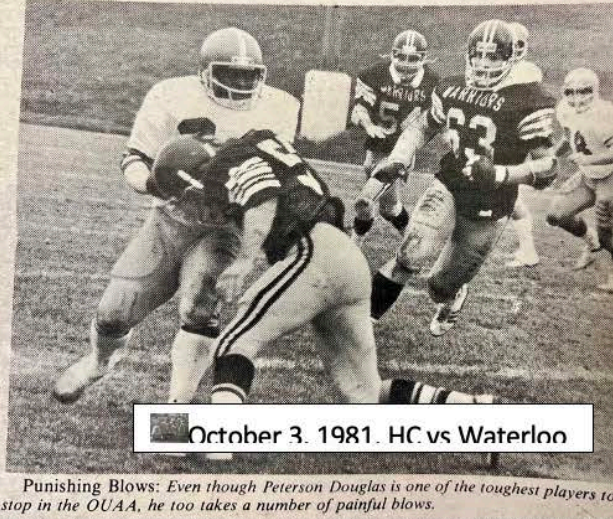


# Still Undefeated!



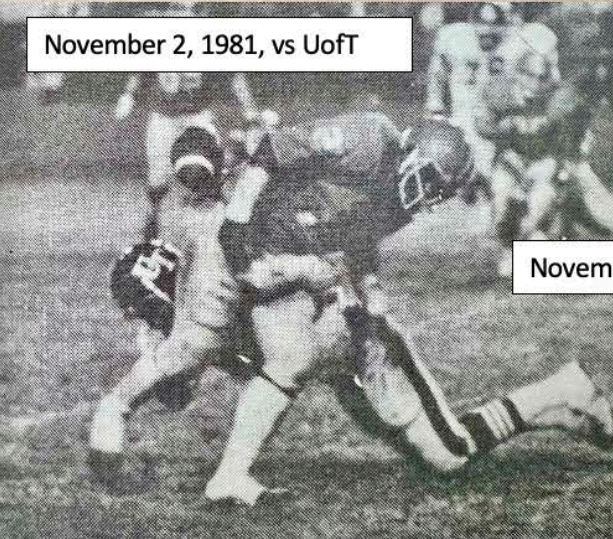
*tion: No. 33 Donald Williams (above) runs the ball for Guelph against the McMaster defence. conglomeration of bodies, it appears as if players from both sides are getting a belly-down view of t).*

October 3, 1981. HC vs Waterloo

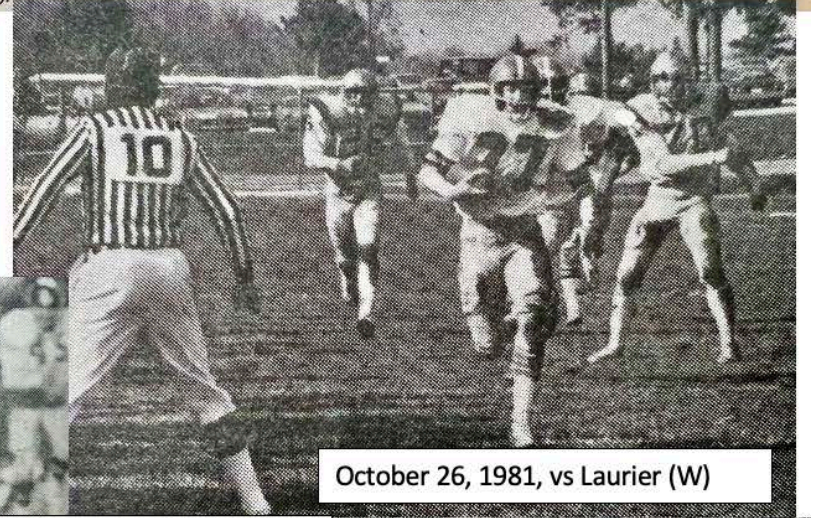


*Punishing Blows: Even though Peterson Douglas is one of the toughest players to stop in the OUA, he too takes a number of painful blows.*

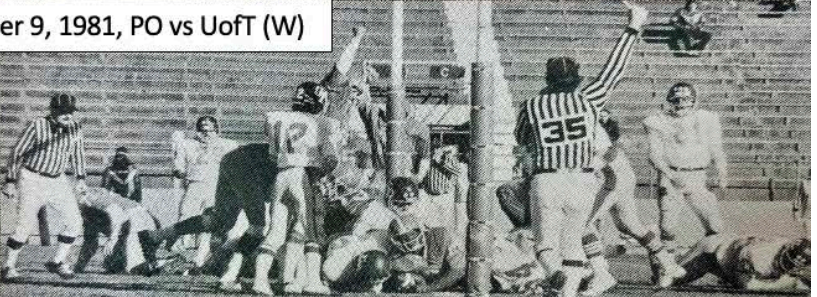
November 2, 1981, vs UofT



October 26, 1981, vs Laurier (W)

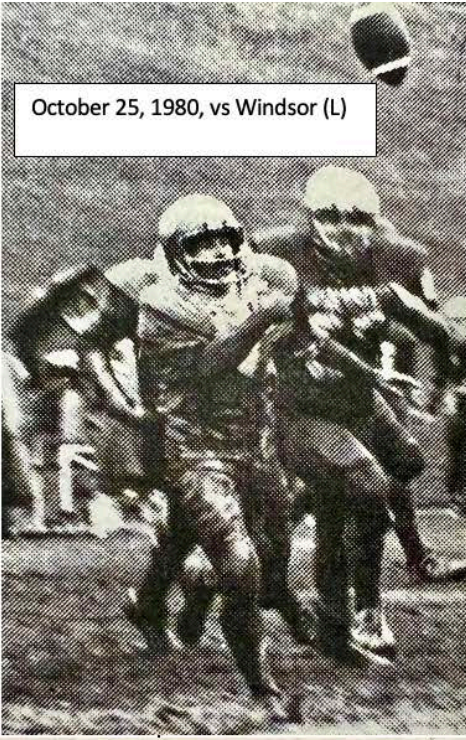


November 9, 1981, PO vs UofT (W)





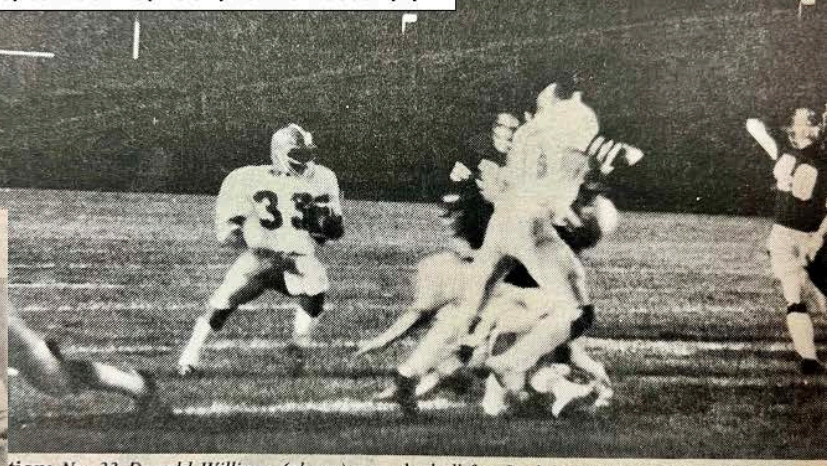
October 25, 1980, vs Windsor (L)



September 19, 1981, vs McMaster (T)

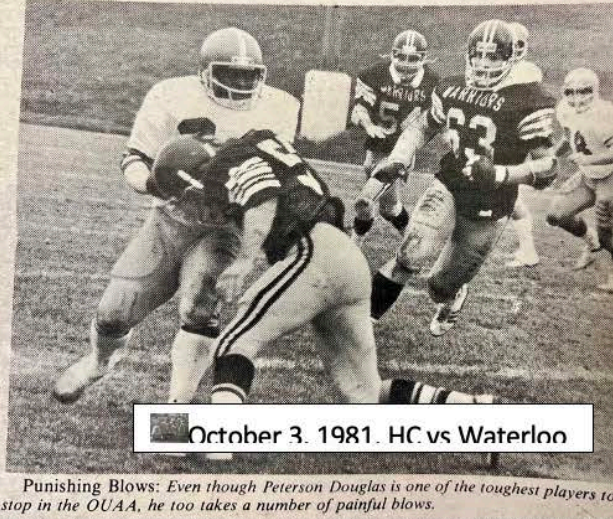


# Still Undefeated!



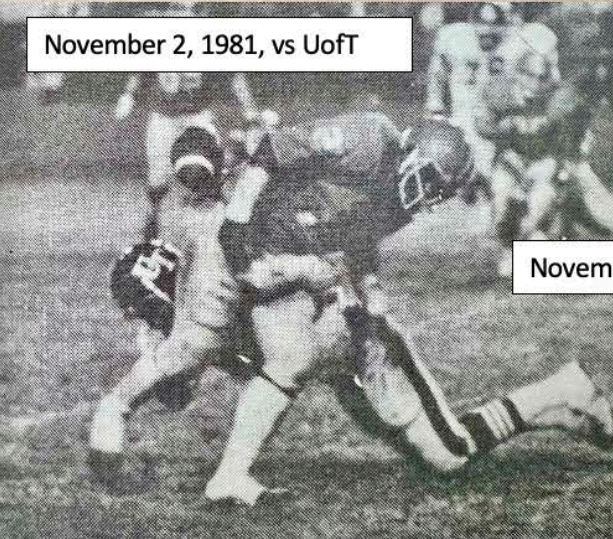
*tion: No. 33 Donald Williams (above) runs the ball for Guelph against the McMaster defence. conglomeration of bodies, it appears as if players from both sides are getting a belly-down view of t).*

October 3, 1981. HC vs Waterloo

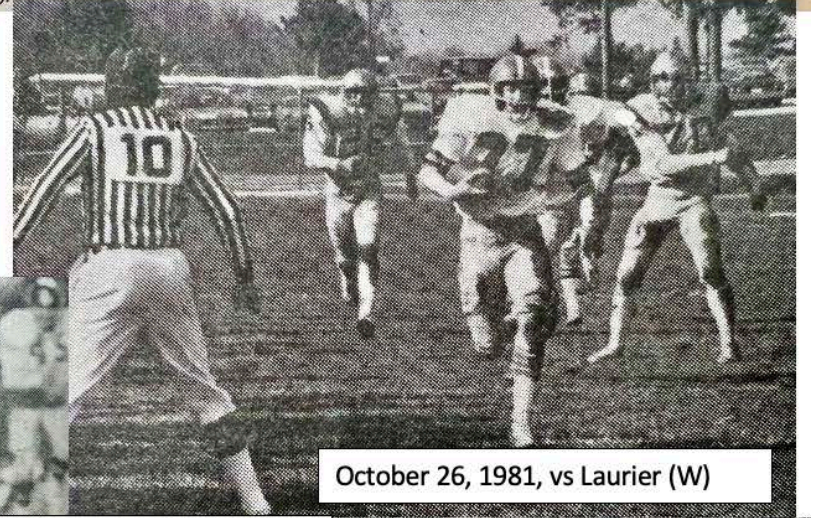


*Punishing Blows: Even though Peterson Douglas is one of the toughest players to stop in the OUA, he too takes a number of painful blows.*

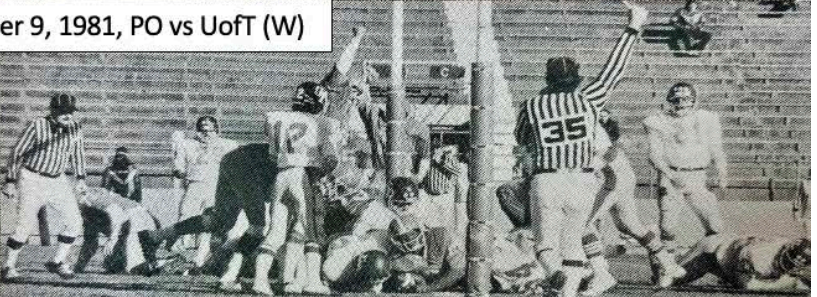
November 2, 1981, vs UofT



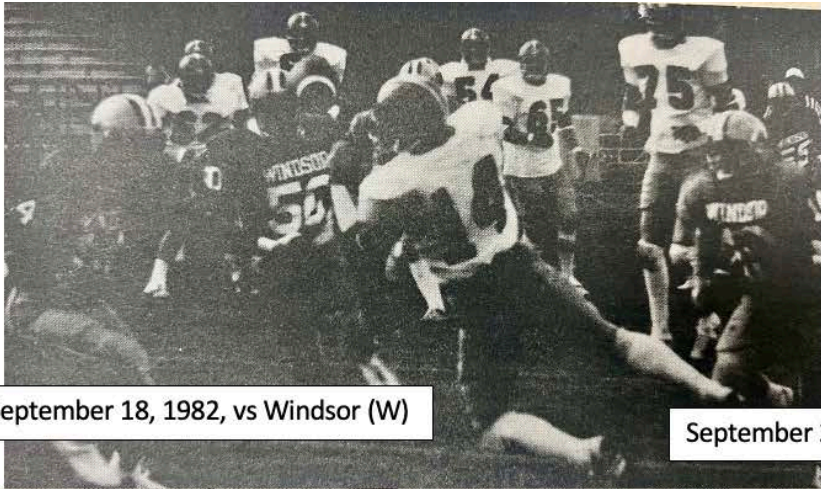
October 26, 1981, vs Laurier (W)



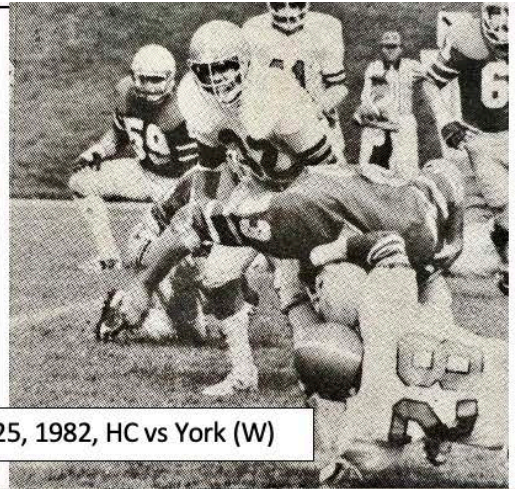
November 9, 1981, PO vs UofT (W)







September 18, 1982, vs Windsor (W)



September 25, 1982, HC vs York (W)



October 2nd, 1982, vs Waterloo (W)



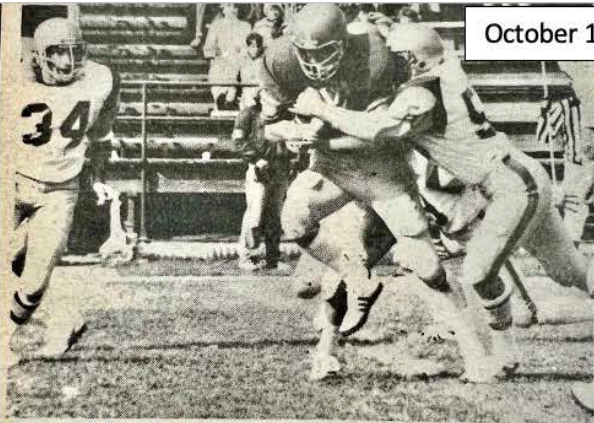
Photo by Burkhard Eibich



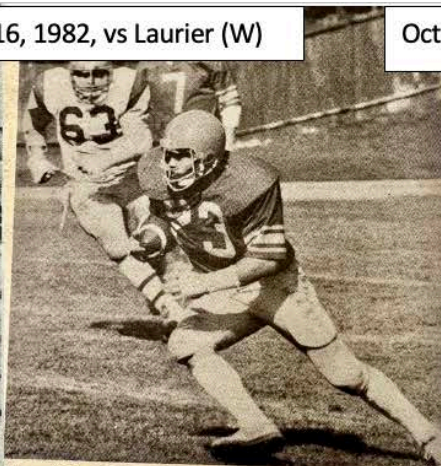
October 9, 1982, vs Western (W)

**Ramblin' kinda guy:** Mike Hudson, shown here bowling over a hapless Western peon, was the offensive player of the game as he snared 6 passes including 1 TD. Guelph's 32-18 thrashing of the Mustangs was the Gryphon's first ever victory over Western in 11 years of head-to-head battle.





October 16, 1982, vs Laurier (W)



October 23, 1982 vs UofT (W)

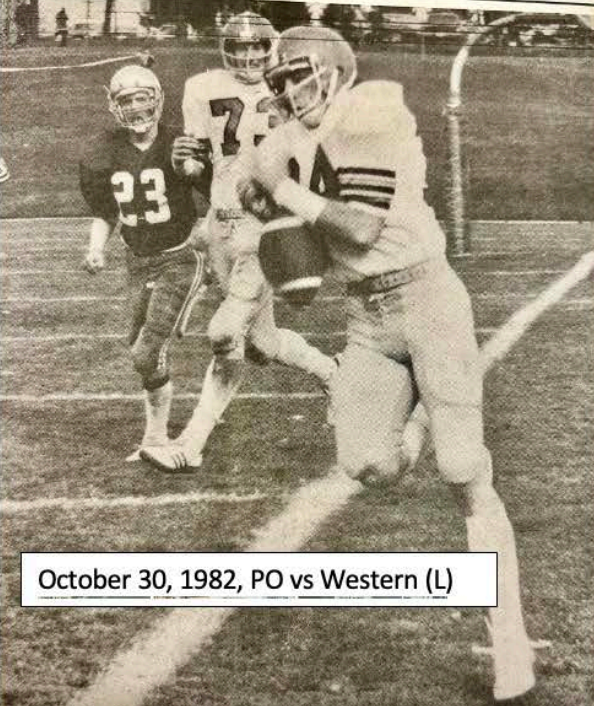
Get off: Mike Hudson was selected as OUA A Football Player of the Week for setting this season's single game high for yards receiving.

photos by Terry McDonald

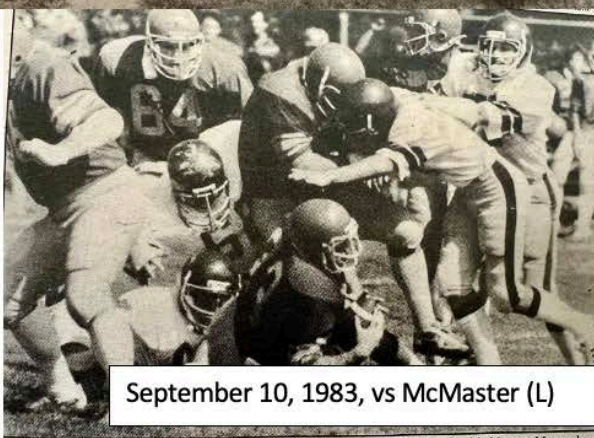
Move it, Uncle Jed: Jed Tommy had a fine day, as did the rest of the Gryphons last Saturday when they dumped Laurier 22-1.

Pull that mask!: Oh, well, you can't always play by the rules. U. of T. quarterback found that out on Saturday as it stomped the Blues 24-8.

**1983 Gryphon Roster**



October 30, 1982, PO vs Western (L)



September 10, 1983, vs McMaster (L)

No.	Name	Position		
7	Dan Welton	D.B.	52	BBrian Burr L.B
10	Brent Marshall	Q.B.	53	Alan Driver O.L
11	Randy Dimitroff	Q.B.	54	Blaine Schmidt D.L
12	Steve Roberts	W.R.	55	Tom Harvey O.L
14	Chris Balson	W.R.	57	Brian Cluff D.L
17	Randy Walters	Q.B.	60	Mike Calzonetti L.F
19	Jeff Volpe	D.B.	61	Eric Hamblen D.L
20	Mike Knighton	Q.B.	62	John Lush D.L
22	Steve Darley	D.B.	63	Louie Gody O.L
23	Jed Tommy	R.B.	64	Peter Simpson O.L
24	Steve Witt	R.B.	65	Scot Campbell O.L
25	Dave McDonald	R.B.	66	Matt Vine O.L
26	Steve Sweeney	D.B.	68	Joe Lindley D.L
27	Rory Radford	L.B.	69	Grant Goodrich D.L
28	Pat Spence	D.B.	70	Parri Ceci W.F
29	Pat Tracey	D.B.	71	Brian O'Connell W.F
30	John Leport	W.R.	72	Mark Lindsay W.F
31	John O'Brien	T.E.	73	Tony Reis L.F
32	Jeff Yanchus	L.B.	74	Scott Lecky W.F
33	John Godry	R.B.	75	Dan Runge T.F
34	Sam Benincasa	L.B.	76	Mark Austin T.F
35	Rick Kohler	R.B.	77	Steve Jackson W.F
				Alex Ramsay D.L
39	Dave Moore	D.B.		Mark Smith
40	Dave Gera	D.B.		Kevin Schooley
41	Steve Muit	D.L.		Mark Hoffman D.F
42	Rob Pavan	L.B.		Graham Balson
43	Mimo Dimuzio	L.B.		Mark Yanchus L.F
44	Rob McClellan	R.B.		Greg Montgomery
50	Ron Aimola	O.L.		David Blackmore
51	Rodger Dutra	D.B.		Tony Arone D.L

**OUAA scores**

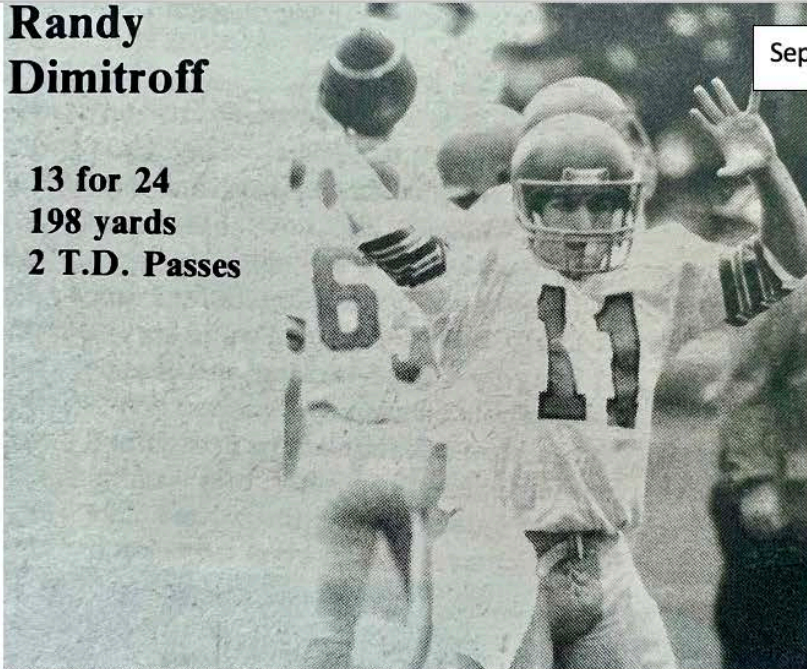
Guelph 22 York 14  
Toronto 21 Western 11



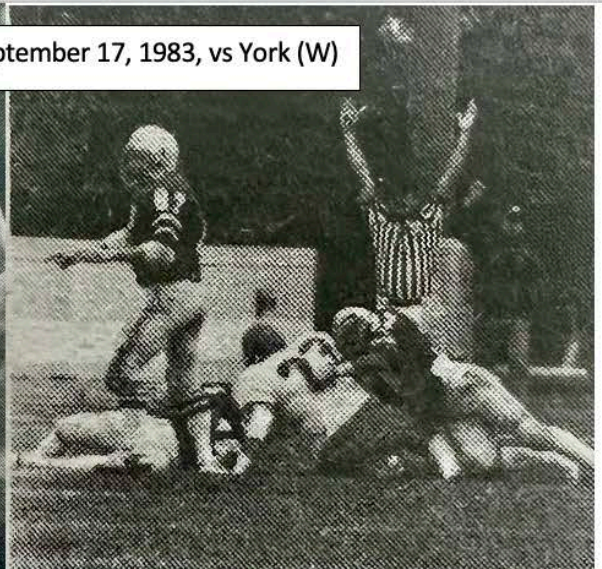


# Randy Dimitroff

13 for 24  
198 yards  
2 T.D. Passes



September 17, 1983, vs York (W)

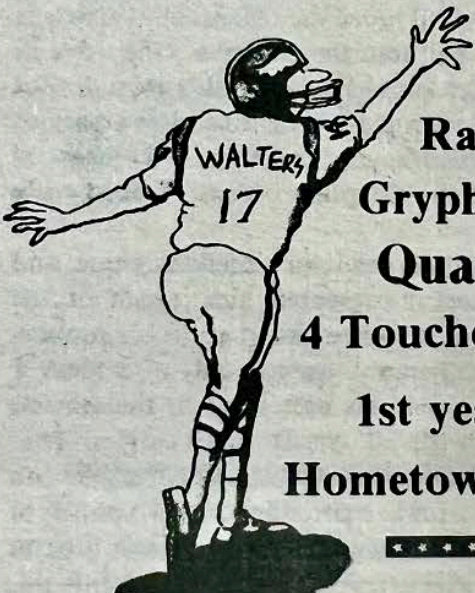


October 1st, 1983, HC vs UofT (L)



## Gryphon of the Week

October 15, 1983, vs Western (W)



\*\*\*\*\*

**Randy Walters**  
**Gryphon Football**  
**Quarterback**  
**4 Touchdown passes**  
**1st year Arts**  
**Hometown: Grimsby**

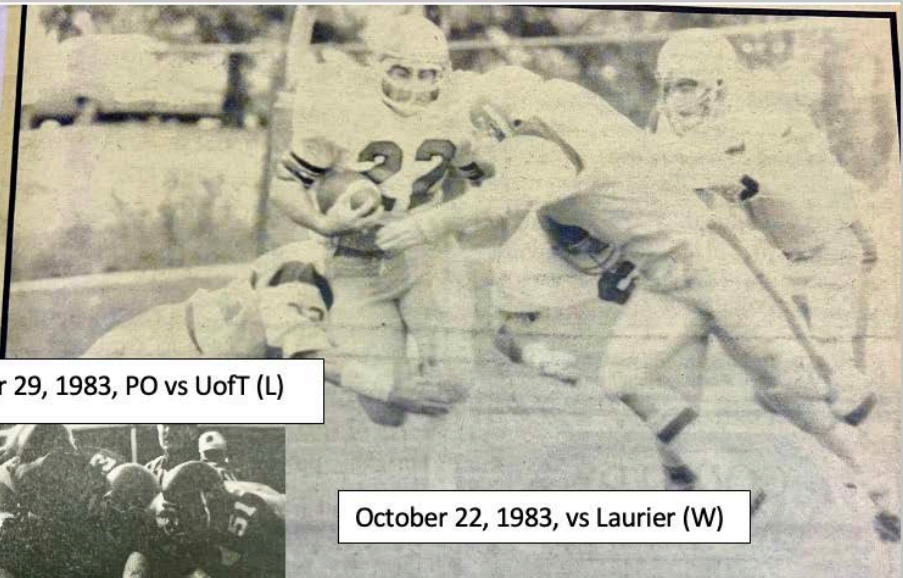
\*\*\*\*\*



## OCAA Scores

Guelph 36	Western 11
McMaster 25	York 13
Toronto 16	Waterloo 10
Laurier 37	Windsor 23

October 29, 1983, PO vs UofT (L)



October 22, 1983, vs Laurier (W)



## Football All-Stars

Despite tying Wilfred Laurier for the overall lead in offence for the 1983 season, the University of Guelph Gryphons failed to place any members on the first team squad, but did manage to swap a couple of spots on the defensive squad. Repeating as an all-star is fifth year man, Sam Benincasa, who made the team at the outside linebacker spot. Rookie defensive back, Jeff Volpe, was the other member of the Gryphs to secure a first team selection.

### Benincasa choice for President's Trophy

Members of the second team from Guelph are offensive guard Louie Godry and wide receiver Scott Lecky. Defensively, Mimo Dimuzio nailed down the inside linebacker position while Jeff Yanchus made the second team as an outside linebacker.

Coach Tom Dimitroff was named as the coach of the year in the OCAA after leading the third place Gryphons to a 5-2 record.

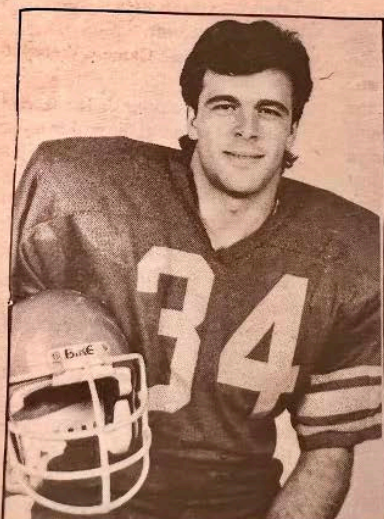
It is difficult to understand how we could only place six men on either team after the Guelph squad fielded the top offensive unit in the league as well as one of the best defences in the nation.



**Tom Dimitroff:**  
*OCAA coach of the year*

## President's Trophy

The OCAA's representative for defensive player of the year for the second year in a row is Guelph's Sam Benincasa, fifth year HABA major from Hamilton. Sam is one of four finalists across CIAU competing for the President's Trophy and winning this prestigious award would go a long way towards Sam solidifying an opportunity at cracking the CFL. Best of Luck.



I want to thank Patrick Sutherland for his time and contribution to this month's lesson. Patrick was gracious enough to allow me access to the Ontarion's archives. I am excited to be able to share 72 years of history with you with the help of Patrick and the staff of the Ontarion. I look forward to seeing you next time when we discuss all things Gryphon Football. Class is dismissed.





## GRYPHONS GONE PRO

This month's Gryphons Gone Pro is [Tavius Robinson](#), as we celebrate the news that he signed his rookie contract with the Baltimore Ravens!

We shared the news with our readers last month, that Tavius was the first University of Guelph athlete to be drafted to the NFL. Congratulations, Tavius!

Read the full story [here](#).



## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that season tickets for the 2023 Gryphon Football season are on sale now?

Purchase your tickets [here](#). Less than 100 days till our home-opener at Alumni Stadium!

*\*Single game tickets will be available for purchase on June 12<sup>th</sup>.*



**#NEXTGRYPHON**

Another few great additions to the Gryphon Family! Welcome to the team, Jordan and Jackson!

NAME	POSITION	HOMETOWN
<i>Jordan Buick</i>	<i>WR</i>	<i>Kingston, Ontario</i>
<i>Jackson Diebold</i>	<i>LB</i>	<i>London, Ontario</i>



**SAVE THE DATE**

FOGF Golf Tournament – July 21st, 2023 at Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club

- Purchase your tickets [here](#).
- FOGF Gold & Black Members: An email will be sent from Bill Brown with your redemption code





**SAVE THE DATE**

**FRIDAY JULY 21, 2023**

**GUELPH LAKES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**



**FOGF MEMBERSHIP**

Interested in becoming an FOGF Member? There are three different tiers to our memberships: Red, Black, and Gold. To find out more information about our memberships and what is involved in each level, please click [here](#). For questions about the membership, please contact Bill Brown at [brownw@uoguelph.ca](mailto:brownw@uoguelph.ca)

**INSPIRE  
ENGAGE  
SUSTAIN**

**FRIENDS OF  
GRYPHON FOOTBALL**

VISION: Identify through membership a proud and inspired community of alumni and friends of Gryphon Football, positively influencing the success of the football program.

**FOGF  
MEMBERSHIP**

**JOIN  
NOW**



**SHARE YOUR NEWS**

If you have any news or updates, we would be more than happy to share them in our upcoming newsletter. Please reach out to [brownw@uoguelph.ca](mailto:brownw@uoguelph.ca) for any celebrations, announcements, or bereavements that you would like us to share.