

# ***The Gryphons' Lair***



*Issue 6 - July 2017*

## ***What Happened in June?***

### **Gryphons in the CFL**

With the Canadian Football League having kicked off their 2017 regular season, we thought we would take a moment to highlight the former Gryphon football players who put their talents to use in the CFL. Whether on the roster, the sidelines, or in the front office, listed below are 14 individuals who have successfully carried their Gryphon Pride into the CFL ranks.

#### Former Gryphons Currently Playing in the CFL (10):

Rob Maver (Calgary Stampeders)  
Cam Thorn (Calgary Stampeders)  
Jake Reinhart (Toronto Argonauts)  
Cam Walker (Toronto Argonauts)  
Curtis Newton (Toronto Argonauts)  
Jeff Finley (Toronto Argonauts)  
Ryan Bomben (Hamilton Tiger-Cats)  
Jacob Scarfone (Hamilton Tiger-Cats)  
Alex Charette (Montreal Alouettes)  
John Rush (Winnipeg Blue Bombers)

#### Former Gryphons Currently Working in the CFL (4):

Kyle Walters (General Manager - Winnipeg Blue Bombers)  
Mike O'Shea (Head Coach - Winnipeg Blue Bombers)  
Jarryd Baines (Offensive Assistant - Hamilton Tiger-Cats)  
Marcello Simmons (Special Teams Coordinator – B.C. Lions)

Get more information on each of these former Gryphons by [clicking here](#).

## #NextGryphon

The Gryphons are excited to welcome Wide Receiver, Zeke Margaritis, to our family. Zeke will be joining us from Canisius High School in New York State, but is originally from Hamilton, ON. Zeke has said that Guelph has felt like home since the first time he came up to watch a game when he was in grade nine.

Zeke was very successful throughout his three years in Buffalo. He was a 2016 New York State champion, he made the All-Catholic first team and was his school's wide receiver of the year. When he played with the Westdale Warriors in Hamilton, he was a two-time City Champion. He was also named offensive MVP from 2013-2015 with Westdale and the Hamilton Ironmen (OVFL).

Original article from [Canada Football Chat](#).



## *From the Parents of Players*

Volunteering, as a member of the POP Committee, has given me many opportunities to support Gryphon Football.

I am happily retired and although I am not required to spend time at a work place my "free" time is valuable. I believe in my son, the choice he made to become a Gryphon, the young men he refers to as brothers, the support staff, the coaches that lead these young men and the University they represent. The most meaningful way I can support him, and everyone and everything that is Gryphon Football, is to give my time. I am proud to support our Gryphons on game day and at numerous events throughout the year. I am proud to be part of the Gryphon family!

- Dale Roberts, Mom of 4th year Gryphon James Roberts

## *Gryphons in the Community*

Some of our Gryphons had a great time working on leadership training with Grade 7 students from John Galt Public School. Pictured below are Gryphons Jordan Terrio and Nicholas Mirijello working with Guelph's future leaders.



# Celebration

Curtis Rukavina, a former Gryphon who played from 2010 to 2013, recently got hired by the Buffalo Bills as their Pro Scout. Congratulations Curtis, we know you worked extremely hard for this position, and we can't wait to see what your future holds.



# Save the Date

Golf Tournament – July 28



**CLICK TO REGISTER**  
\$150/Per Goller  
Early Bird \$100 ticket  
expires June 15th

**F.O.G.F.**  
**GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
ESTABLISHED 1997

**JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 | REGISTRATION: 11:00AM | SHOTGUN: 1:00PM | GUELPH LAKES GOLF CLUB**  
Includes: BBQ Lunch, Scramble Format, Cart, Golf, Prizes, Steak Dinner, Silent Auction

For more information on Hole Sponsorship (\$250) and Registration:  
Randy Dimitroff 416-804-7400

## Decades Dinner – September 19

Our Decades dinner will take place on September 19 at the brand new Pavilion, and will be a chance to honour all past Team of the Decade members. Invitations will go out shortly to all Team of the Decade members.



Recruiting efforts in Quebec have been a big focus this off-season. Twenty prospective CEGEP student-athletes had the opportunity to visit the University of Guelph and see first-hand the exceptional program Gryphon Football has to offer. Students from five different schools (Champlain-Lennoxville Cougars, John Abbott College, CEGEP de l'Outaouais, Campus Notre-Dame-de-Foy, and Collège André-Grasset) were included in the official and non-official visits. Our goal with this recruiting strategy is to raise awareness of how great the University of Guelph is and what an amazing opportunity it provides for those who want to learn and study in English.

The feedback from these visits has been incredible and I would not be surprised to see a few more CEGEP players wearing our Gryphon colours in 2018!



Jeff Volpe, class of 1987, was inducted into the Gryphon Athletics Hall of Fame in 1994. He received varsity letters in 1983, 1984, and 1985, and was a First Team OUAA All-Star in those same years. Jeff became the OUAA Interception Champion in 1983, and was a part of the 1984 Vanier Cup Championship team. Jeff holds numerous honours with the Gryphons, including Gryphon Rookie of the Year (1983), Team Leader in Punt Returns (1984), Team Co-Captain (1985), Team Leader in Interceptions (1985), Holds Gryphon Career Record for Most Interceptions in a Season with 6 (1983), Ranks in the top 10 in 5 Defensive Categories, and was named to the Gryphon Football 1980's Team of the Decade.

Jeff was drafted by the Edmonton Eskimos in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round in 1985 and had a 100-yard punt return for a touchdown vs the B.C. Lions. He was chosen as Special Teams Player of the Game five times, and started 11 games in 1986 for the Eskimos, including the Grey Cup game vs. the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

After his CFL career, Jeff began an extremely successful marketing career in the high tech industry, which resulted in a move to California for him and his family. Jeff is currently the President of ViewSonic and worked his way up to that after beginning in 1996 as the Canadian Regional Sales Manager responsible for the sales and customer management of computer

printer products. Gryphon Football will be partnering with ViewSonic in order to outfit the Pavilion with the best televisions and electronics.



## *Did You Know?*

Current Gryphon Kicking Coach Daniel Ferraro holds the U-Sports (CIS) record for most Field Goals made in a season with 26.

