

# ***The Gryphons' Lair***

Issue 8 - September 2017

## ***What Happened in August?***

### **2017 FOGF Golf Tournament**

In the end, the golf didn't really matter that much.

When former and current players and coaching staff and others with an interest in the Gryphons football program gathered for the annual Friends of Gryphon Football golf tournament at the Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club, it was more about getting together and reminiscing with old friends than burning up the golf course.

Read the rest of the article from gryphonfootball.com by [clicking here](#).

### **Gryphon Players as Coaches**

The off-season didn't mean time away from football for the Gryphons' players and coaches.

A lot of present and former Gryphon players decide to give back to the sport by trying to pass on their knowledge to the next crop of football players.

Read the rest of the article from gryphonfootball.com by [clicking here](#).

### **Best Foot Forward – Gryphon Kickers**

Training camp must have felt crowded for veteran kicker Gabe Ferraro this summer. When training camp opened, there were twice as many kickers on the field than there were last year.

Read the rest of the article from gryphonfootball.com by [clicking here](#).

### **Edwards is Locking it Down**

Defensive back Orion Edwards is grateful to be back on the field for his fifth and final year of eligibility with the Gryphons.

"It feels awesome to be back here," said Edwards, following the second on-field session of training camp. Edwards, who took on the role of Team Chaplain last season while

recovering from an injury feels very blessed to be back on the gridiron. “I’m thankful for every single day that I step on the field and just can't wait to go out there and putt all that hard work into practice. Hopefully it’s going to translate right into the game.”

Read the rest of the article from gryphonfootball.com by [clicking here](#).



### **Augustine With a New Focus**

Johnny Augustine is hoping to become even more involved on the field in his fifth and final year with the Gryphons.

With 2,052 yards and 19 touchdowns on 361 carries in his first four OUA regular seasons, Augustine is looking for a lot more catches to improve on his record – and he'll be doing it all from a new position this year.

Read the rest of the article from gryphonfootball.com by [clicking here](#).

### **Big Man Swan Returns**

Offensive lineman Spencer Swan is back and couldn't be happier about it.

“It feels great,” Swan said after a training camp workout. “It’s tough, but this is all the kind of stuff that I miss -- and it’s worth it in the end, all the hard work you put in.”

Read the rest of the article from gryphonfootball.com by [clicking here](#).

### **Reinebold Impressed by Gryphons**

One thing that's pretty noticeable about the Guelph Gryphons is the number of professional coaches who just seem to show up at training camp or at practice.

Last weekend, former Toronto Argonauts Head Coach and General Manager Jim Barker dropped by. A few days later it was Jeff Reinebold, former Defensive Coordinator for the Ticats, who stopped in.

Read the rest of the article from [gryphonfootball.com](http://gryphonfootball.com) by [clicking here](#).

### **Terrio on the Wright Path**

Second-year receiver Jordan Terrio downplays his performance in the pre-season Summer Challenge at Antigonish, N.S.

"I just wanted to be consistent with no drops or anything like that so that was what I was focusing on and knowing the plays," he said. "The plays were there to make and I made them. We had perfect throws by both quarterbacks, Theo (Landers) and James (Roberts). I was just there in the right spot."

Read the rest of the article from [gryphonfootball.com](http://gryphonfootball.com) by [clicking here](#).



### **Off-Season Focus Will Pay Off**

Enough hitting teammates, the Gryphons are ready to hit an opponent in a game that counts.

“We’re super ready,” linebacker Luke Korol said. “Camp’s been going great. The energy’s unreal out here and we’re excited to come out this new season and just show everyone the team we are this year. We’re going to go pretty far.”

Read the rest of the article from gryphonfootball.com by [clicking here](#).

### **Pickett Excited For Season**

It could be that the Gryphon most relieved to be back on the field when the team begins its OUA season Sunday will be offensive lineman Andrew Pickett.

“Words can’t describe how excited I am to get back out there and play again,” he said following a Gryphon practice this week. “I’m just excited for that.”

Read the rest of the article from gryphonfootball.com by [clicking here](#).



***Pickett is ranked No. 13 on CFL Scouting Bureau List***

***#NextGryphon***

The Gryphons are excited to welcome rookie Defensive Back Kosi Onyeka! Despite showing interest in Carleton, Ottawa and Windsor, he ultimately chose Guelph and we couldn't be happier that he did.

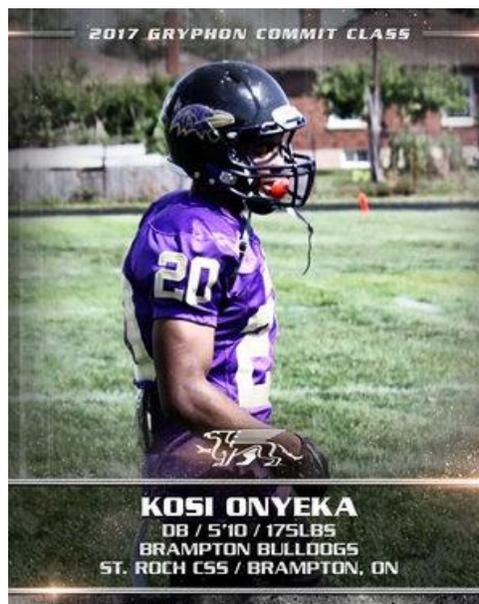
"I committed to the University of Guelph due to its winning ways and the program's drive to be perfect. The persistence attracted me," Onyeka said. "The coaches at Guelph are amazing. They have a drive to win."

"Through the lifestyle and academic lens, the city of Guelph is very beautiful and warming. I feel at home when I'm around." With regards to the Gryphons coaches, he added: "They are warm and treat everybody like family."

In his hometown of Brampton, Onyeka was named the Riverhawks' Defensive Player of the Year and MVP for the Bulldogs. He is looking to out pace his older brother, Nakas Onyeka, who played for the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks and now plays for the Toronto Argonauts.

Onyeka is also very passionate about social sciences and will be studying Criminal Justice and Public Policy while at Guelph.

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



*From the Parents of Players*

"Being part of POP is like being part of an extended family. It pulls together the football players, parents and friends and allows us to support our kids. More important it connects those parents who may not be able to make it to games due to distance or other circumstances. No other university connects and informs parents like our POP Group. It's a great team to be a part of."

- Terri Pickett, Mom of 4<sup>th</sup> year Gryphon, Andrew Pickett

## *Gryphons in the Community*

Mike Carney was awarded the BMO & Toronto Argos Community Coach Award this month. This honour is bestowed upon a minor league football coach with exceptional leadership, commitment, and mentorship towards their team. Carney coached the Jr. Bantam Gryphons this year.



## *Celebration*

This month at our home opener, we were able to celebrate the launch of our 13<sup>th</sup> Gryph campaign. The campaign is modelled after the Seahawks and their 12<sup>th</sup> Man campaign. The idea of the 13<sup>th</sup> Gryph is that, while there are only 12 Gryphons on the field at one time, the 13<sup>th</sup> Gryph is the fan. The 13<sup>th</sup> Gryph plays just as an important of

a role in the success of our team as any individual player, as they are the spirit of our season.

The campaign was launched at the home opener with our campus Residence Assistants (RA's), who are the perfect example of what a 13<sup>th</sup> Gryph should embody. Get your own 13<sup>th</sup> Gryph t-shirt at our pre-game event in P7 at each home game.

In addition to our 13<sup>th</sup> Gryph initiative, keep your eyes open for some new traditions that we will be starting this year including our touchdown cannon, pavilion flag and 'Be the Y'.



## **Additional Events**

Glory Bowl – September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9:30 am

Pavilion Grand Opening – October 2<sup>nd</sup>



In training camp, we worked on our skills and prepared for the upcoming season. We also had our own internal competition. Renowned coaches Gary Jefferies and Brian Towriss each took half our team in a Gryphon vs. Gryphon match-up. In the end, team Towriss emerged victorious, but it was a great opportunity for the Freshmen to experience a miniature gameday as Gryphons. We are very grateful for the opportunity to benefit from their expertise during training camp.

We had a really successful trip to Nova Scotia where we faced the St. FX X-Men and Mount Allison Mounties in a six-quarter, three-team Summer Showdown. It was a great experience for the team, especially because the players could get out their mistakes before the regular season begins. In the mini games that the Gryphons played, we were undefeated against St. FX and we lost to Mount Allison once (10-0) after having beat them 30-0. Overall, we are very satisfied with how the Gryphons played. It was great to see that the players really understood the value of the trip and how it brought the team closer. During the trip, we really connected as a team which will be important for this season and we look forward to planning another trip for next year.

Overall, we are very happy with how the team is coming together and we're looking forward to playing a positive season. We are very committed to working even harder this year to achieve all of our goals.

In August, we had our first game of the season against the Ottawa Gee Gees. We tried our best but lost 24-21. We will learn from our mistakes and continue to improve. We were quite impressed by Ottawa Player of the Week Luke Ffrench.

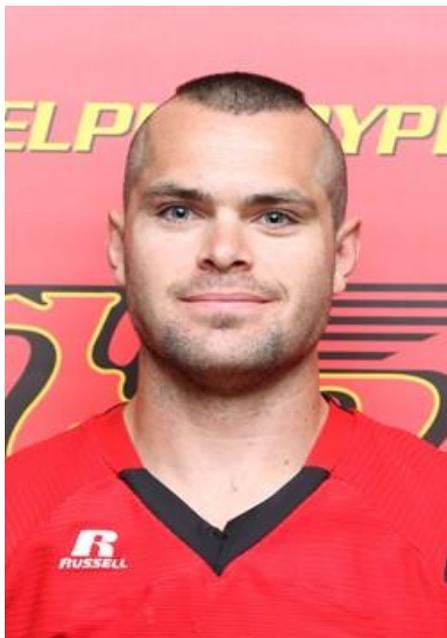
In addition, former Gryphon and Argonaut, Mike O'Shea will be inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Along with the other inductees, Kelvin Anderson, Geroy Simon, Stan Schwartz and Brian Towriss, Mike had a significant impact on Canadian Football. After graduating from the University of Guelph, O'Shea joined the Hamilton Tiger-Cats spent his professional football career back and forth between the Ti-Cats and the Argos. He is a 3-time Grey Cup Champion and has been named as the 1999 CFL Most Outstanding Canadian. He is currently the Head Coach of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. We are very proud to say that he is a Gryphon.

Finally, we welcomed a new Athletic Therapist to our team, Dave Wright. Dave is the former Head Athletic Therapist for the Toronto Argonauts and brings over 28 years of experience to our program. We are very excited to have him joining us.

## *Featured Alumni*

James Savoie from the Class of 2012 is a successful Guelph Alumnus. He currently works as a Project Manager for Frontiers Landscape Architecture Inc. As a former Captain of the Gryphons Football team, he gained invaluable skills which he has applied to his post-university career.

A CIS Academic All-Canadian and former Quarterback, Luke Nangle graduated in 2014. He is currently employed as a Business Manager for Steelcase while working to attain his MBA at the Rotman School of Management. Both Savoie and Nangle have made significant contributions to the landscaping and furniture in the brand new Football Pavilion.



## *Did You Know?*

There is the hair of a lion and the feather of an eagle buried at center field at Alumni Stadium. After these were placed, the Gryphons had a 22 home-game winning streak.