

EDITION 2 ISSUE 4

SEPTEMBER 13 2019

## INSIDE THE HUDDLE

#### WITH COACH CURRIER



It's a great week to be a Golden Bear! I was very proud of the way our team opened up the season as we beat a team that CSP has not beaten in the NCAA DII era. Against Sioux Falls, we held a 1-12 record coming into the game (the lone win came in 1971 while both teams were affiliated with the NAIA). Sloux Falls has had 25 straight winning seasons and was picked to finish 3rd in the 16 team NSIC.

Our guys made some big plays that changed the game Thursday night. Our team blocked two punts and forced two turnovers. We were turnover free and our special teams units played extremely well. Because of the turnovers and special teams play, the average starting field position for our offense was the 40 yard line compared to Sioux Falls starting on their own 20 yard line on average.

With a nice crowd in attendance, our team was energized and played with a lot of enthusiasm. Our word of the week was "respond." We needed to respond to every situation in a way that would give ourselves the best chance at success for the following play. Each game there is adversity each team has to respond to and I believed our team responded to a variety of adverse situations extremely well. First we allowed a touchdown on their first possession but our offense responded with 27 unanswered points. The most impressive response was after Sioux Falls gained momentum by scoring 10 unanswered points to start the second half which cut the lead to 27-17. Our team closed the game with 14 straight points in the 4th quarter to secure the 41-17 win.

This week we travel to Fayette, IA to play the Peacocks of Upper Iowa University (0-1), who hold a 3-2 record over CSP in their home stadium. The game is a 6:05 kickoff Saturday night! If you are unable to make the trip to Fayette, you can tune into the CSP athletic website to watch the live stream of the game.

We are taking an inside look at the CSP Athletic Department this week and I am highlighting some of the key people that work closely with the football program. Last week we discussed at length our new strength and conditioning coach, Eric Overland. Therefore, he is excluded in this issue.



It's easy for all to see how coaches and players contribute to the team. However, there are many other people that play critical roles long before game day arrives. In regards to our program's growth, our program could not function without the outstanding people and unwavering support from our administration and athletics department.

We have a highly motivated and caring group that have their heart aligned with serving our student-athletes.

#### Go Bears!

#### Coach C









# **CSP ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT**

#### **REGAN MCATHIE- DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS**



This past winter Regan McAthie became our Director of Athletics. She has been outstanding leading our department and has been instrumental in helping us create positive change within athletics since her promotion last winter. She is supportive, organized and willing to find ways that will enhance our student-athletes experiences and improve each program within our athletics department.

In her short time she has led a variety of hiring committees that have onboarded key positions. In addition to Regan hiring our first Women's Swim & Dive Coach Matt Bos, she hired our first E-Sports Coach, Logan Hermes.

**Fun fact about Regan:** She loves to hike and camp. Her junior year of college she spent a month backpacking through Peru and hiked the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu.

#### ALLISON MEADOWS- COMPLIANCE OFFICER



Allison has been the best Compliance Officer I have been around. Her caring personality and willingness to help in any way make her exemplary at her job. Even though she is willing to help our student-athletes in any way, she is also teaching them to be accountable and helping them stay on top of their business (FAFSA, classes, eligibility issues, credit loads, registration, etc.)

She develops procedures and policies that monitor and ensure our program is compliant with all NCAA and NSIC rules and regulations.

Fun fact about Allison: She read over 200 books last year!

#### TYLER LEONHARD - ASSISTANT STRENGTH & CONDITIONING COACH



Eric has a dependable assistant in Tyler, who is the brother of James Leonhard, the Defensive Coordinator of the Wisconsin Badgers. Prior of Tyler becoming a Graduate Assistant at CSP, he started his collegiate football career at Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison then transferred to University of Wisconsin-La Crosse to complete his football career. He completed his education and earned his degree in Kinesiology from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Tyler has done an outstanding job in his role of assisting our Head Strength & Conditioning Coach. This past summer, Tyler oversaw the training program until Coach Overland arrived in July.

**Fun fact about Tyler:** During his time at UW-Madison as a freshman football player he intercepted a pass from Russell Wilson.

#### TJ MCDANIEL - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS



Most recently Regan hired our new Asst. Director for External Relations, TJ McDaniel. TJ will be instrumental in helping us build our brand and increase sponsor relationships. He recently began his position and hit the ground running with an impressive start.

We will work very closely with Tyler to fundraise, incorporate marketing activities, engage our fans, and promote gameday atmosphere to name a few of his roles. I am excited to work with him as we keep making improvements to these areas.

**Fun fact about TJ:** TJ is thrilled to be part of the CSP family and excited about building on the rock with CSP football

#### JOSH DEER - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNICATIONS



Josh Deer, our Asst. Athletic Director for Communications, is another exceptional cog in our administrative team. He has the reputation league wide as being the best Sports Information Director in the NSIC.

Josh and his staff are willing to do anything to promote our student-athletes or program. I really appreciate his support and enthusiasm for our student-athletes and football program..

**Fun fact about Josh:** He was the NSIC SID of the Year in 2018-19. Josh and his assistant, Patrick, won the NSIC Bags Championship at the 2016 NSIC Summer Meetings.

#### **BLAIR GRIFFITH - ATHLETICS GRADUATE ASSISTANT**



Blair Griffith, a former Golden Bear football player from the 2017 team, has been an Athletics Graduate Assistant since his undergraduate graduation, filling in wherever needed. Prior to this fall, our administrative team has not been full strength, so Blair has been a valuable member of the administration.

**Fun fact about Blair:** Blair is a former model who has watched every season of the show "Peaky Blinders" five times.

#### **TOMMY MAUER - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR FACILITIES**



Mainstay Tommy Mauer is our Assistant Athletic Director for Facilities. He ensures our game experience is top-notch. He and his staff set up our field for games and provide excellent game management (sets up officials, handles ticket list, keeps pregame procedures on time, etc.)

**Fun fact about Tommy:** Tommy is a professional womens' basketball official. He has also officiated two NCAA Division II Final Fours and five Division II National Championship basketball games. Surprisingly, he used to be a concert pianist.

#### TED TRZYNKA - HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER



We are blessed to have an outstanding training staff led by Ted Trzynka. Ted leads a team of four full time trainers.

They provide treatment throughout the day, connects them to our team doctor if needed, and do everything they can to help get the student-athlete back to full strength as quickly as possible.

Fun fact about Ted: This weekend will be Ted's 221st CSP football game worked.

#### JESSICA LUBY - ASSISTANT ATHLETIC TRAINER



Jessica is one of the four full-time trainers at CSP, and this is the first year that Jessica has been with Golden Bear football. She has been an outstanding addition as her and Ted make a wonderful team. Patient and approachable are two traits of Jessica that our players appreciate the most. She is very organized and communicates very effectively.

**Fun fact about Jessica:** She is a big University of Oklahoma football fan. She even named her dog Sam after the great Sooner quarterback and Heisman Trophy winner Sam Bradford.

# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

#### MIKE "MJ" WILLIAMS



Mike "MJ" Williams is from Orange County, California, and has two younger brothers, Kelby (11) and Kylun (7) in addition to his cat named Marley. MJ is a big Muhammad Ali fan as Ali has impacted Mike's confidence. Like Muhammed Ali, MJ has a big personality. His favorite quote is by Ali, "its lack of faith that makes people afraid of meeting challenges, and I believed in myself."

MJ is a Communications major. His future career aspiration is to become a professional athlete and he is determined to make it happen. MJ loves that Concordia is a small school in

a big city as most D2 programs are in the middle of nowhere (his words). MJ also appreciates the small classroom sizes at Concordia and one-on-one time with professors who really care about each student success!

MJ's favorite football memory thus far is from the last weeks game against Sioux Falls. He led the receiving corp with 5 catches for 61 yards, including a touchdown.

**Fun fact about MJ:** Williams can be seen carrying a video camera around the team facilities because he is putting together a documentary for the team that resembles HBO's "Hard Knocks" for the football team.

## CSP FOOTBALL ALUMNI-WHERE IS HE NOW?

#### **SCOTT ARNSTON**

Former Comet, Scott Arntson played for CSP from 1990-1994. Arntson was a three time, All Conference performer and the Team MVP in 1992. Scott's favorite moments were actually the funny things that happened between his teammates that they still talk about to this day.

While playing at CSP Scott learned that it was an absolute privilege to walk into the huddle and witness 10 guys playing their hearts out. He learned that the game wasn't about him, it was about having a common goal and always staying together as a team win or lose.

Scott is currently a Math Teacher and Head Football Coach, Track Coach and Math Team coach at Esko High School in Esko, Minnesota.

Scott is married to Amy "Cotton" (1995 CSP Grad) and they have 3 kids, Ashleigh 21 (Recent Minnesota State University Moorhead), Devan 20 (Current Student at CSP) and Isaiah (Currently attending Lake Superior College).



# PLAYERS OF THE GAME - CSP vs. USF

Each week the CSP coaching staff selects players of the game. The Players of the Game are selected based on film review, demonstrated excellence in play, their game performance evaluation and their impact on that particular game. As important are the Scout Players of the Week. These young men prepare our game day performers for the upcoming opponent, which is paramount to our team's success. The Hog of the Week and D-Line player of the week are highlighted because of their position's importance to winning football games. The Lifter of the Week is a young man that demonstrates his understanding of the importance of the off-field work necessary for one to be at their very best. Finally, the Rehab Player of the week is the player that works diligently with the training staff to rehab an injury to works towards getting healthy. Injuries are part of the game and it's important for our injured players to be committed to improving their health.



OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE GAME MAXON HUTTON- SR QB #3



DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE GAME
DALTON SMERCHEK- JR
LB #3



HOG OF THE GAME RICH KELLY- SR OL #70



D-LINE PLAYER OF THE GAME TJ DIALLO- SR DL #7



SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE GAME DANNY LAUDET- SR P / PK #89



LIFTER OF THE WEEK
CHANDLER DAHLQUIST R-FR
LB #40



OFFENSIVE SCOUT PLAYER
OF THE WEEK
JORDAN BROWN- FR
RB #35



DEFENSIVE SCOUT PLAYER OF THE WEEK CHANDLER DAHLQUIST R-FR LB #40



SPECIAL TEAMS SCOUT PLAYER OF THE WEEK BOBBY DAVIS- FR DB #32



REHAB PLAYER OF THE WEEK GABE STEED- SR WR #12

# GAME CAPTAINS- CSP VS. UPPER IOWA



DALTON SMERCHEK - JR. LB #32



CHRIS GARRETT - JR. DE #52



RICK KELLY- SR OLM #70



MAXON HUTTON- SR. QB #3

# **EXTRA POINTS**

#### YEAR END BANQUET

Mark your calendar! The year end banquet date is set for **December 6, 2019** at Midpointe Event Center.

#### LIVE AUCTION/SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED

This year, In lieu of a raffle, we are excited to announce we will be having a live auction prior to the year end banquet and a silent auction the night of. We are seeking donations of a variety of items (large or small) to be included in the auction(s). Large items will be auctioned off individually and smaller items may be packaged together. Some items we are hoping to receive; tickets to sporting events, gift cards (retail, restaurants, etc.), experiences, themed gift basket items, etc. The money raised will directly support our football program.

All donors will be recognized during the auction and at the year end banquet. In addition, donors will receive a special thank you gift. All donations are tax deductible!

#### Would you be interested in helping us make this a great success?

Our hope is to secure all auction items by October 18th.

If you would be willing to help in obtaining auction items or can provide an auction item, please email <a href="mailto:footballcsp@gmail.com">footballcsp@gmail.com</a> or Coach Currier at <a href="mailto:scurrier@csp.edu">scurrier@csp.edu</a>.

#### SHUTTERFLY

#### Upload your photos today!!!

A shutterfly account has been created to allow football parents to share photos that have been taken throughout the year. If you have pictures from any of the CSP football games, please feel free to share them.

#### www.shutterfly.com

User: cspfootballfriends@gmail.com

Password: Football17

#### **CSP FOOTBALL IN THE MEDIA**

#### **AM 1440 KYCR**

Following the high school football game of the week, Wally Langfellow of Minnesota Score will host a weekly show with Concordia-St. Paul head football coach Shannon Currier on AM 1440 KYCR locally in the Twin Cities media market.

For people outside the Twin Cities media market, the show can be played live online and will also be uploaded and available to listen anytime on the CSP Bears Podcast, which is available to subscribe on Apple iTunes, Spotify and Google Play Music.

The high school football game of the week will precede the Coach Currier show, which is expected to air during the 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. hour, and will last 30 minutes. The format will feature weekly player guests.

#### CONCORDIA-ST. PAUL SCOREBOARD ON WFNU RADIO - FROGTOWN RADIO

Get your weekly roundup of news and information about the CSP Football program. The interview with Coach Currier is available on Anchor and Spotify. More platforms to come in the near future.



# **2019 GAME SCHEDULE**

9-5	6 pm	VS	Sioux Falls	W 41-17	10-19	3 pm	at	Minot State
9-14	6pm	at	Upper Iowa		10-26	12pm	vs	Bemidji State
9-21	12pm	vs	Minnesota State	!	11-2	1pm	at	Augustana
9-28	6pm	at	Wayne State		11-9	12pm	vs	SMSU
10-5	1pm	at	St. Cloud State		11-16	1pm	vs	Winona
10-12	12pm	VS	MSU Moorhead					

# **TOUCHDOWN CLUB UPDATE**

GAME 1 5 TD'S



