

Depth Will Boost Grid Fortunes

With nearly 20 years of playing and coaching football on the college level, Mark Kreydt knows what it takes to succeed on the gridiron: experience, depth, physical size and skill, and leadership from the upperclass.

As he heads into the 2003 campaign this afternoon vs. Johns Hopkins, Kreydt sees solid leadership from the triumvirate of captains: Sam Snowden, Kassim Howell, and Justin Galloway.

He also sees improvement in all the other areas from a year ago. "We're much more experienced," Kreydt says. "Our depth is better across the board and physically, we're better. We're ahead of last year."

There are 15 offensive linemen in camp and that's made for very competitive practice sessions as players compete for time. All five starters are back from a year ago (left to right): Galloway at tackle, Mike Tomidy at guard, Pat McIntyre at center, Frank Ciampa at guard, and George Gozauskas at tackle. Ryan Gilroy (tackle) and Jon Field (guard) have starting experience.

A pair of freshmen – Nick Zappia and Andy Peters – enjoyed a good pre-season.

It has a Section V slant to it: Galloway is a Webster alum, Tomidy and Field are Greece Arcadia grads; McIntyre and Zappia hail from Canandaigua, Ciampa from Fairport, Peters from Spencerport.

The tight ends are junior Dave Sanok, sophomore Kevin Burns, a transfer from Penn, senior Dann Gwyn, and freshman Matt Koren.

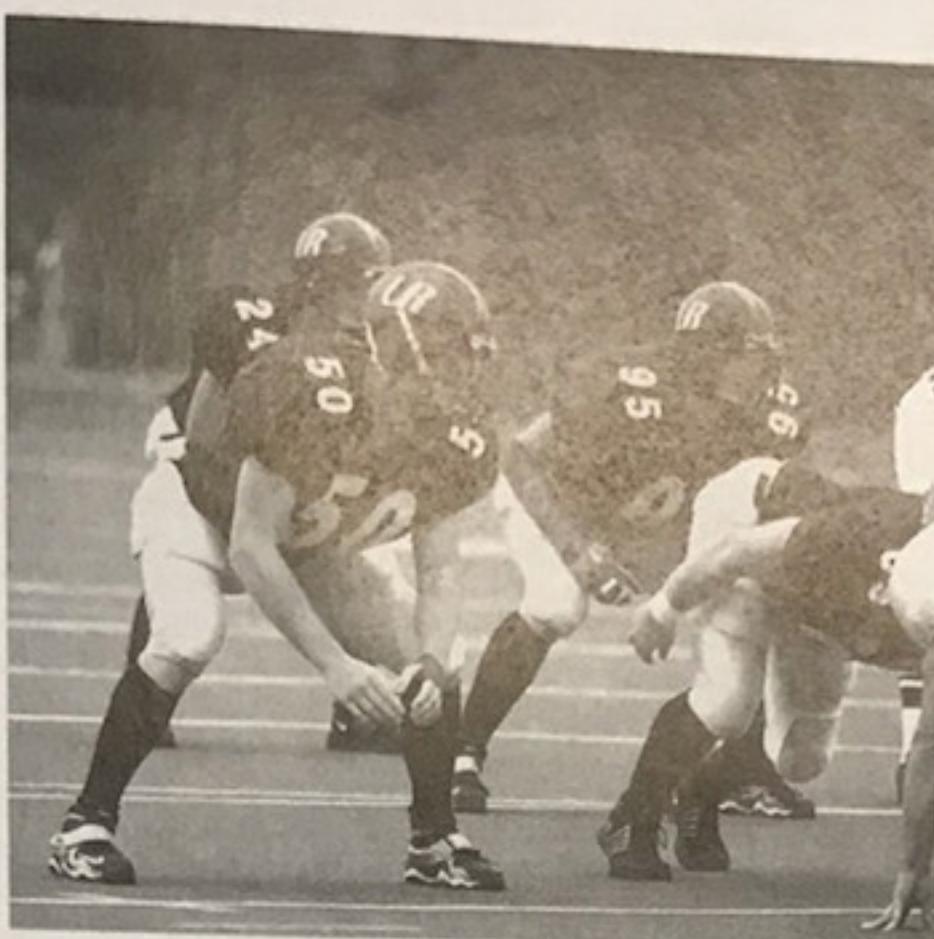
The passing game will involve four veterans. Senior Brian Ferris is joined by sophomore brother David, senior Patrick Roman, and sophomore Nathan Gibbons, of Batavia.

The man behind center is sophomore Patrick Manuel who was the UCAA Rookie of the Year last season after throwing for more than 1,900 yards and 15 TDs. Sophomore Aaron Molisani, senior Patrick Fitzsimmons, and sophomore John Jimenez are looking for time behind center as well.

When the Yellowjackets run the ball, they will rely on their Irondequoit backfield – all three tailbacks went to Irondequoit HS: one vet from last season – Gerard Hopkins, a transfer from the University of Rhode Island (Jeff Arndt), and a player moved over from the secondary (Galen Williams). "We felt Galen could play tailback here when we were recruiting him," Kreydt said. "We moved him because we felt he could help us."

The short-yardage man will be sophomore Ian Haffer.

Defensively, the Yellowjackets will line up



Jeff Leslie (l.) and Matt Simon (r.) are part of a maturing defense.

in a three-man front: junior Matt Kelley in the middle, helped by sophomores Jordan Kirkling and Adam Shapiro; Snowden, freshman Ed Latimore, junior Benji Waller, and sophomore Ted Hardenstine at the tackles. Snowden is a pre-season Second Team All-America chosen by the *Football Gazette*. Colin Conine (Avon) moved to the line in camp.

As many as 10 people could play in the linebacking ranks. Sophomore Jeff Leslie and senior Craig Pipal (Greece Arcadia) start at the outside spots. Sophs Matt Simon and Jon Gorom (Oakfield-Alabama) plug the middle. Freshmen Jason Goeller and Peter Kum-Nji, both Pittsburgh, PA natives, are looking for time on the outside along with junior Brad DiPietro who doubles as the punter.

Sophomores Carmine Casale and Ray Finocchio (Gates-Chili) are joined by junior Matt Shackles inside.

Four returning starters populate the secondary. A mix of returnees and freshmen will contest for minutes as well. Seniors Howell (Aquinas) and Isaac Standish work the corners. Michael Dermody (Spencerport) and Buck Pederzoli are the safeties.

Sophomore Max Johnson, senior Chris Hargaves and three frosh – Ryan Circh (McQuaid), Jarrell Jenkins (Wilson Magnet), and Adam Wojdyla – are corner possibilities as well.

Sophomore Mitch Baseman is challenging Dermody for time at strong safety. Junior Eric Lord, sophomore Phil Smith, and Paul Kum-Nji, the twin brother of linebacker Peter, are trying for field time at free safety.

The specialists are DiPietro as the punter, senior Chris Johnston as the placekicker. Howell and Brian Ferris will be the kick returners. The punt return job could be earned by David Ferris.

Garnish Scholars To Be Honored at Halftime

Eight senior student-athletes, who have excelled in the classroom as well as on the playing field, will be honored in halftime ceremonies today. These eight have been chosen as winners of the Garnish Scholar Awards. The awards recognize academic achievement and athletic accomplishment through the junior year.

The awards are named in memory of Lysle "Spike" Garnish, a former trainer and manager at the University.

Awards will be presented by William Scott Green, Dean of The College, and George VanderZwaag, Director of Athletics.

The winners for 2003 are:

Jacob Budny (Biology and Cell Development Biology – double major) – an outstanding performer for the men's indoor and outdoor track and field team who was nominated for the Verizon Academic All-America team last year. Budny is a past New York State and ECAC Pentathlon and Decathlon Champion. He competed at the NCAA Championships in the Decathlon as a sophomore.

Tara Carrozza (Economics) – the captain of the women's basketball team which reached the NCAA Division III Final Four last season. Carrozza was selected to the UAA All-Academic Team.

Alison Collins (Religion) – a striker for the women's soccer team. Collins earned Verizon Academic All-District honors in soccer last season and was named to the UAA's All-Academic Team. She was a Third Team NSCAA All-American.

Andy Larkin (Economics) – strong front court player for the men's basketball team which reached the NCAA Division III Final Four in his sophomore season. Larkin broke a 50-year-old school record for field goal accuracy.

Kaitlin Poeth (Biology/Pre-Med) – outstanding scorer for the field hockey team. Poeth was named to the UCAA's All-Academic Team. She was a Mid-Atlantic Regional All-American in her sophomore and junior years.

Colin Ryan (Mathematics and Economics – double major) – a nationally-ranked player in singles and doubles for men's tennis. Ryan took part in the University's Study Abroad program in Europe last fall. He was nominated for the Verizon Academic All-America team and was named to the UAA All-Academic team. He competed at the NCAA Championships in both the team and individual competitions.

Erika Smith (Economics) – led the women's basketball team to the NCAA Division III Final Four last season. Named to the UAA All-Academic team. Named a WBCA/Kodak First Team All-American and ECAC Upstate New York Player of the Year.

Sam Snowden (Health & Society) – co-captain of the football team. Snowden was named All-UAA and All-UCAA last year and is a Pre-Season Second Team All-American this year.

Alumnus Honored As Well

Each year, the Garnish Awards Committee selects a winner of the Garnish Citation Award, given to an alumnus, benefactor, faculty, or staff member for contributions to the athletic program and betterment of the student-athlete.

The winner of the Garnish Citation Award for 2003 is **Edmund A. Hajim '58**, currently a Senior Trustee of the University. Mr. Hajim was chair of the Fund-Raising Committee for the Robert Goergen Athletic Center. The Alumni Gymnasium was renamed in his honor to recognize his accomplishments.