

# Thirteen Seniors Vie For Fourth Title Game

Three consecutive championship game appearances, 19 straight wins in the MIAA and a 17-game home win streak – the bar at Northwest Missouri State has reached a new height.

The Bearcats' 13 seniors enter their final campaign with a chance to join North Dakota State's 1986 senior class as teammates to play in four Division II championship games. Northwest's seniors are 37-7 overall, 24-2 in the MIAA and 10-3 in the postseason. The rest of the team has never lost to an MIAA opponent and never lost at home.

"It's unique to coach a squad with this amount of success and it's a tribute to what our staff and our athletes have done," said Northwest head coach Mel Tjeerdsma, who begins his 15th year with the program. "Our standards are high and our work ethic during the offseason is astounding. Those two things have been the key to our success."

Ten of Northwest's 13 seniors were full-time starters a year ago. That list doesn't include all-conference tight end Josh Gannan, who technically served as backup to All-American Mike Peterson. It also omits Cody Lanus who will resume his long-snapping duties. Tyler Northway finished with three sacks in nine games after missing the first five contests due to injury.

"All 13 seniors are going to be major contributors," said Tjeerdsma. "It's probably the most balanced class we've had."



**Senior Joel Osborn played in all 14 games and started the final six for the Bearcats. Osborn threw for more than 200 yards five times and finished with the highest completion percentage in program history at 67.9 percent.**



**Four seniors return to the offensive line in 2008. Jeremy Davis (60), Matt Nelson (65) and Reid Kirby (71) make up half the squads' six captains. Davis and Kirby were 2007 All-Americans.**

Seven senior starters return on offense including quarterback Joel Osborn, fullback Brant Gregg, wide receiver Kendall Wright and four offensive linemen. Senior cornerbacks Brandon Clayton and Chris LeFlore return to the defensive lineup along with juniors Sean Paddock on the line, safety Myles Burnside and linebacker Evan Wilmes. Kicker Tommy Frevert returns on special teams.

Joining the veterans on the field will be a group of players that has waited for starting roles to open.

Talents like Ryan Jones, Ike Urum-Eke, Aldwin Foster-Rettig, Sheldon Cook and LaRon Council, have all flashed images of brilliance. Jones was the team's sixth-leading tackler in 2007, Foster-Rettig's interception and return gave Northwest its lead in last year's championship game and Cook rushed for 172 yards on 13 carries in the 2006 version of the Fall Classic at Arrowhead. Each will be applying for full-time positions in 2008.

"We have an exciting team filled with playmakers," said Tjeerdsma. "They're focused and have worked harder than any team we've ever had."

That's saying something for a coach entering his 25th season at the helm of a college program. Tjeerdsma has won nine MIAA championships in the last 12 years while his Bearcats have averaged 11.5 wins a season in that span.

Northwest has appeared in half of the national championship games played in the last 10 years. A return trip to Alabama this season and

the Bearcats will duplicate the 1983-86 Bison as the only Division II programs to appear in four consecutive title games.

**The following is a look at the 2008 Northwest Bearcats by position:**

## Quarterback

Osborn played himself into a two-quarterback system after Josh Mathews was injured early in 2007 and emerged as the full-time starter in the second half of the season. He played in all 14 games and threw for more than 200 yards in five of his seven starts. His most memorable moments were his touchdown pass to Kendall Wright to beat Washburn and his 20-for-25, 238-yard performance against Grand Valley State.

"Joel's leadership as the season progressed meant a lot to our team," said Tjeerdsma. "His teammates believed in him and his play improved each week leading up to our run through the playoffs."

Osborn, a 2008 team captain, passed for 1,982 yards and 11 touchdowns last season. He turned in the highest completion percentage in program history at 67.9 percent.

Sophomore Blake Bolles passed for 131 yards and a score in five games in 2007. He also ran for a touchdown and served as Osborn's backup in the playoffs.

"Blake is going to be a very good player for us," said Tjeerdsma. "He's more than adequate to be the No. 2 guy. If something were to happen

to Joel, Blake could lead this team and we could go into every game feeling like we have a chance to win."

## Running Back

Juniors Council and Cook, along with Gregg at fullback, are expected to receive the majority of the handoffs this season. Cook was the Bearcats' leading kick returner in 2007 and second-leading rusher. Council was the starting fullback for four games before an injury kept him out until the playoffs. He's averaged nearly six yards a carry in limited action the past two seasons.

"LaRon's a talented back and I'm anxious for him to get on the field and play for an extended period of time," said Tjeerdsma. "Anytime he's been healthy, he's been effective.

"Sheldon has already proven he can be effective when given the chance and will again be an integral part of our football team. Brant is an intelligent football player, an excellent blocker and a great receiver out of the backfield."

Redshirt freshman Previn Perry will also be included in the discussion at running back. Perry saw a majority of the snaps in the spring season due to the limited action of Cook and Council.

## Wide Receiver

Osborn and the Northwest passing game will have plenty of weapons at their disposal in 2008. At the top of the list is Wright, a former All-American who continues his climb up the Northwest record books. Wright led the



**Senior Kendall Wright has 179 catches for 2,453 yards and 16 touchdowns in his three-year career. He ranks in the top seven all-time in all three categories among Northwest receivers.**

Bearcats with 57 catches, 784 yards and six touchdowns a year ago. He caught 83 passes for 1,151 yards in 2006 and is currently the sixth-leading receiver in program history.

"Kendall's had two great seasons and we expect another as he reaches the peak of an outstanding career," said Tjeerdsma. "People see the plays he makes in the open field, but don't realize how valuable a blocker he is for our running game and how much pride he takes in getting the job done."

Juniors Abe Qaoud, Sydney Brisbane and Raphael Robinson will continue to compliment Wright at the position. Qaoud recovered from serious burn injuries sustained eight months prior to the start of last season to catch 28 passes for 334 yards. Robinson was granted a medical hardship after missing practically all of last season due to injury.

## RETURNING STARTERS

QB	Joel Osborn, 6-2, 220, Sr.
FB	Brant Gregg, 5-8, 220, Sr.
WR	Kendall Wright, 5-11, 175, Sr.
WR	Raphael Robinson, 6-2, 205, Jr.
LT	Reid Kirby, 6-4, 300, Sr. (All-American)
LG	Tom Pestock, 6-6, 300, Sr.
C	Matt Nelson, 6-0, 280, Sr.
RG	Jeremy Davis, 6-3, 300, Sr. (All-American)

DE	Sean Paddock, 6-2, 255, Jr.
LB	Evan Wilmes, 5-11, 215, Jr.
CB	Chris LeFlore, 5-10, 190, Sr.
CB	Brandon Clayton, 5-9, 180, Sr.
FS	Myles Burnside, 5-11, 195, Jr. (All-MIAA)
PK	Tommy Frevert, 6-0, 210, Sr. (All-MIAA)
P	Michael Stadler, 6-1, 220, So.

"I don't think we'll ever understand how big a loss Raphael was to our football team last year because it happened in the first game and it was like we never had him," said Tjeerdsma. "He has a lot of ability and I'm looking forward to having him back.

"What Abe accomplished last year after what he went through just to get to last season was nothing short of amazing. A full year of preparation and recovery is going to make him that much better."

Redshirt freshman Jake Soy is a player Tjeerdsma has raved about since he stepped foot on campus last fall. At 6-feet-3-inches, Soy is expected to make an immediate impact in his first season.

## Tight End

Northwest was stacked with both All-MIAA tight ends in 2007 and Gannan returns to the lineup for 2008. Gannan hauled in 28 passes for 348 yards and scored two touchdowns a year ago. He also served as an extension to a veteran offensive line, assisting successfully in run blocking and pass protection.



**Junior Sean Paddock anchors a defensive line that's led the MIAA in total sacks the past two seasons. Paddock had six sacks a year ago and has 13.5 in his two seasons.**

Junior Greg Applegate saw significant time a year ago and played alongside Osborn at Harlan Community High School. The two hooked up for a score early last season against Missouri Western. It was one of two touchdown receptions for Applegate on the year.

"Greg really developed last year and had a terrific spring season," said Tjeerdsma. "His development will go a long ways this season. Kyle Kreifels came out of nowhere and can provide some depth to the position. Chris Owens redshirted last year and has the possibility of being a very good player."

## Offensive Line

The strength of Northwest's championship run a year ago was its ability to run the football and to protect the quarterback. Four members of an offensive line that started each and every game, opened holes for the nation's leading rusher and allowed 12 sacks in 14 games return.

All-Americans Reid Kirby and Jeremy Davis are included amongst the group. Those two, along with center Matt Nelson comprise of half the Bearcats' six captains in 2008. Tom Pestock at left guard completes the quartet.

"It's unique to have three offensive linemen be named captains, but they're all very deserving," said Tjeerdsma. "This group has been in the trenches for a few years and just about everyone knows how valuable they've been. They're good leaders, good role models and good teachers."

The competition to complete this year's quintet is headed by sophomores Jason Wiseman and Dane Wardenburg. Both are proven individuals who shined in Tjeerdsma's eye in the spring. Sophomore Ryan Lessman and redshirt freshman Cody Johnson will add to the unit's depth.

## Defensive Line

Northwest ranked ninth nationally against the run a year ago and led the league with 39 sacks. Paddock, who has 85 tackles and 13.5 sacks in two seasons, heads the list of returners.

"Paddock will be our leader on the line," said Tjeerdsma. "He had surgery in the offseason, but I think he'll be 100-percent. He's been a great player for us and he'll continue to make plays."

Northway will be asked to fill the shoes of All-American Dallas Flynn at the other end position. Junior Tyler Roach, sophomores Kyle Sunderman and Shayne Shade and redshirt freshmen Josh Lorenson and Aaron Terry also will get their opportunity to campaign for playing time.

"The inside line positions are really up in the air," said Tjeerdsma. "A lot depends on the development of our young players and who emerges as leaders at the position."

## Linebacker

Wilmes is the returning starter to the unit, but names like Urum-Eke and fellow juniors Bill Baudler and Troy Matthews will be familiar to Northwest fans.

Wilmes started all 14 games and made 45 tackles from his weak side position. Urum-Eke was the "extra backer" a year ago and really turned it on in the postseason, where he had 2.5 sacks, an interception, two fumble recoveries and a forced fumble in four playoff games.

Sophomores Willie Horn and Adam Vondrak and junior Jayson Bates, a transfer from Northeast Oklahoma A&M College will also factor into the position.

"We had so many young, talented players that didn't get a chance to play the position because Jared (Erspamer) and Matt (Robertson) had so much success," said Tjeerdsma. "Mathews is a solid player and I think he's ready to step up and be a starter. I'm excited to see how these young players settle into the position."

## Defensive Back

Northwest's secondary is loaded with experience and talent. Burnsides at safety is the unit's quarterback and earned first-team All-MIAA honors after finishing third on the team with 85 tackles (63 solo) and tying for the team lead with two interceptions.

Veterans LeFlore and Clayton man the corner positions. LeFlore was fourth on the team with 69 stops and a pick. Clayton had two interceptions and 33 tackles in 11 games before suffering a season-ending injury against West Texas A&M.

Burnsides and Clayton join Osborn, Kirby, Nelson and Davis as team captains.

## RECORDS IN THE 2000s

### Most Victories

1. Grand Valley State	98
2. Valdosta State	89
3. NW Missouri State	86
4. North Dakota	81
5. Pittsburg State	79

### Highest Win Percentage

1. Grand Valley State	.907 (98-10)
2. Valdosta State	.873 (89-13)
3. Tuskegee	.846 (77-14)
4. NW Missouri State	.827 (86-18)
5. Carson-Newman	.809 (72-17)

"You have to have so much respect for Brandon and what he's been through," said Tjeerdsma. "Starting as a walk-on, deciding not to play the following year, coming back and becoming a starter and having an ACL injury and then having another great year and hurting his knee again.

"To see him come back now is a real inspiration to our whole team."

Clayton tried to go during practice in the week leading up to the championship game, but another tweak ended his comeback bid.

Filling in around the trio are young players full of athleticism. Jones had 53 tackles from the secondary, two interceptions and a 72-yard fumble recovery in Northwest's regular season finale against Missouri Southern.

In addition to his two interceptions, Foster-Rettig had 20 tackles, including 2.5 for loss. Marcus Martin had 15 stops in his first-year campaign.

"Jones is one of the most athletic football players we've ever had," said Tjeerdsma. "The things he did last year in terms of testing are

remarkable. The sky's the limit for him. Martin is one of the best physically gifted athletes we've had."

Sophomore Justin Welch, who played in 13 games a year ago, and redshirt freshman Kevin Okonta sure up the secondary's depth.

## Special Teams

Frevort enters his final season in a tie for second place on Northwest's all-time field goals made list. Though it's unlikely he'll boot 20 this year to reach David Purnell's mark of 52, Frevort will still go down as one of the top Bearcat kickers of all-time. He earned first-team All-MIAA honors last season mainly for his strong leg on kickoffs. Even though the NCAA backed him up five yards last season, he still managed 12 touchbacks.

Sophomore Michael Stadler, the Northwest walk-on of the year in 2007, looks to continue as the Bearcats' punter. Stadler averaged 41 yards per boot last season for the second-highest average in program history. He had 20 punts marked inside the opponent's 20-yard line and 10 marked inside the 10. Northwest ranked third in the nation last year in net punting (37.0).

Pushing Stadler will be redshirt freshman David Gray, who performed well during the spring season.

"Mike really came through and had a solid year for us," said Tjeerdsma. "David struggled to make the adjustment to college football, but he punted extremely well this spring. If he has a good summer, he'll challenge Mike and that will make us better."

Lanus will continue in his snapping duties on both punt and kick teams. Cook returns at kick returner and Wright at punt returner. Wright's 10.1 yards per return last season ranked second in the MIAA.



Assistant Coach Richard Wright's special team's units have blocked 30 kicks in his four seasons on staff. The Bearcats also ranked third nationally in net punting a year ago.

## Q&A with Coach Mel Tjeerdsma

Before the season gets underway, head coach Mel Tjeerdsma answers several key questions about the 2008 Bearcats.

**Q: Coaches aren't allowed to reminisce often, but what moments of the 2007 season stand out for you?**

A: Going undefeated in the MIAA for the second year in a row was a major accomplishment considering how tough our league is.

I thought the last regular season game and the first three playoff contests were one of the best four-game spans we've had since I've been here. The consistency of our play and the physicalness we displayed couldn't have been better. Everyone knew they had to stop (Xavier) Omon and no one could. That was fun to see.

**Q: To what do you attribute the success of three national championship game runs?**

A: A short memory. We've been able to get over the disappointment of getting there and not winning to start fresh each season. We get so much leadership from our seniors and they know that their legacy depends on what happens in their final year.

Other than that is the fact that our teams have been there and know what it takes to get there. That's a tremendous advantage.

**Q: What have you learned about your team since last December?**

A: We're probably as athletic as we've ever been overall, but that takes into consideration a lot of young kids who haven't played many downs in the MIAA. We have a team that should be really exciting that's filled with playmakers.



Northwest has played on an ESPN affiliate six times in the last three seasons.



The Northwest Board of Regents approved the naming of the newly renovated playing surface at Bearcat Stadium in summer 2007 and the dedication of Mel Tjeerdsma Field was held prior to Northwest's home opener against Arkansas Tech.

**Q: How has the new FieldTurf affected your program?**

A: We've done a lot of things here to improve facilities, but the new FieldTurf is probably as critical to the efficiency of our program than anything we've ever done. Last year we had one day where we didn't go outside and that's never happened before. I don't mind going out in the rain, but if you're on grass and it's wet, you tear it up and lose it the rest of the year. We didn't have great weather last season, but the turf allowed us to keep a consistent practice routine.

**Q: How has the national coverage of Division II football helped your program and the community in recent years?**

A: You can't put a value on how the national coverage of our games has aided us in terms of recruiting. We've played six games on ESPN in the last three years. We're 3-3, but each game has been entertaining and the two games played at home have been unbelievable.

We don't recruit nationwide, but ESPN has provided nationwide exposure. The athletes from the four-state area we do recruit hard in have all seen us play on TV and been impressed by the performance.

Televised home games are a reward to our community. It gives the people who have sup-

ported us throughout the season a sense of pride to see Maryville at the center of attention. The crowds we've had have been amazing.

**Q: Talk about the excitement generated by the season opener with Abilene Christian**

A: I always prefer to play a tough, non-conference game in the opener. It sets the tone for the rest of the season, and last year it gave us time to recover.

It helps that we were able to announce the game in February so our team knows we have a tough challenge right off the bat. Playing it at home will have the campus excited. It will likely be the season's first matchup of top 10-ranked teams.

**Q: How does the new regional alignment affect the MIAA and its playoff opportunities?**

A: The new region includes the MIAA, Lone Star Conference and then 4-5 independent schools like Central Washington and Western Oregon and I think it gives our league a better chance to get three teams into the postseason.

The addition of Nebraska-Omaha will certainly add to the depth, the strength and the quality of play in our league. Any discussion about the top conferences in the nation would certainly have to start with the MIAA.

# 2008 Opponent Information

## Abilene Christian

Aug. 30 • 6 p.m.

Maryville, Mo. • Bearcat Stadium (6,500)

### General Information

Location: Abilene, Texas 79699  
 Founded: 1906  
 Enrollment: 4,800  
 Nickname: Wildcats  
 Colors: Purple and White  
 Home Field: Shotwell Stadium (15,000)  
 Surface: SafePlay Turf  
 Conference: Lone Star (South Division)  
 President: Dr. Royce Money  
 Athletic Director: Jared Mosley



### Media Relations

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Coach Thomsen

### Head Coach

Name: Chris Thomsen  
 Office: 325-674-2042  
 Record at School: 22-12 (entering 4th season)  
 Career Record: same

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 48  
 Starters Returning: Offense - 7; Defense - 8; Specialty - 2

### Series Information

Overall: 0-0-1 (last met Oct. 19, 1985)

## Southwest Baptist

Sept. 6 • 6 p.m.

Maryville, Mo. • Bearcat Stadium (6,500)

### General Information

Location: Bolivar, Mo. 65613  
 Founded: 1878  
 Enrollment: 3,500  
 Nickname: Bearcats  
 Colors: Purple and White  
 Home Field: Plaster Stadium (3,000)  
 Surface: Natural Grass  
 Conference: MIAA (Independent in football)  
 President: Dr. C. Pat Taylor  
 Athletic Director: Brent Good



### Media Relations

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Coach Allen

### Head Coach

Name: Keith Allen  
 Office: 417-328-1796  
 Record at School: 0-11 (entering 2nd season)  
 Career Record: same

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 34  
 Starters Returning: Offense - 6; Defense - 9; Specialty - 1

### Series Information

Overall: Northwest leads 17-3 (won last 13)

### 2007 Results (10-3, 8-1 • 2nd, LSC South)

### 2008 Schedule

S 1 at Central Oklahoma	L, 17-27	A 30 at NW Missouri State	6 p.m.
S 8 at Texas State	W, 45-27	S 13 Texas A&M Commerce	6 p.m.
S 15 SE Oklahoma State	W, 41-3	S 20 at SE Oklahoma State	6 p.m.
S 22 at SW Oklahoma State	W, 50-14	S 27 at Eastern New Mexico	7 p.m.
S 29 Eastern New Mexico	W, 45-20	O 4 East Central	6 p.m.
O 6 Northeastern State	W, 58-7	O 11 Angelo State	7 p.m.
O 13 at Angelo State	W, 52-28	O 18 at West Texas A&M	6 p.m.
O 20 West Texas A&M	L, 31-41	O 25 Tarleton State	2 p.m.
O 27 at Tarleton State	W, 70-63	N 1 at Texas A&M-Kingsville	7 p.m.
N 3 Texas A&M Kingsville	W, 59-31	N 8 Midwestern State	2 p.m.
N 10 at Midwestern State	W, 42-41		
N 17 Mesa State^	W, 56-12		
N 24 at Chadron State^	L, 76-73 (3ot)		

^ - NCAA Playoffs

### 2007 Results (0-11, 0-9 • 10th MIAA)

### 2008 Schedule

A 30 at Harding	L, 40-43	A 28 at SE Missouri State	6 p.m.
S 8 at SE Missouri State	L, 17-38	S 6 at NW Missouri State	6 p.m.
S 15 at Emporia State	L, 28-35	S 13 Harding	6 p.m.
S 22 Missouri Southern	L, 16-17	S 20 Bethany (Kan.)	1:30 p.m.
S 29 at NW Missouri State	L, 13-86	S 27 at Kentucky Wesleyan	4:30 p.m.
O 6 Truman	L, 31-55	O 4 Central Oklahoma	1:30 p.m.
O 13 at Missouri Western	L, 14-49	O 11 Grand View (Iowa)	2 p.m.
O 20 Pittsburg State	L, 23-42	O 18 at Northeastern State	2 p.m.
O 27 Central Missouri	L, 14-56	O 25 Ouachita Baptist	1:30 p.m.
N 3 at Fort Hays State	L, 30-36	N 1 St. Joseph's (Ind.)	1:30 p.m.
N 10 Washburn	L, 14-37	N 8 at Missouri S&T	1 p.m.

## Missouri Western

Sept. 13 • 1 p.m.  
Maryville, Mo. • Bearcat Stadium (6,500)

### General Information

Location: St. Joseph, Mo. 64507  
Founded: 1969  
Enrollment: 5,200  
Nickname: Griffons  
Colors: Black and Gold  
Home Field: Spratt Stadium (6,000)  
Surface: Turf  
Conference: MIAA  
President: Dr. Robert A. Vartabedian  
Athletic Director: Dave Williams



### Media Relations

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**Coach Partridge**

### Head Coach

Name: Jerry Partridge  
Office: 816-271-4499  
Record at School: 80-46 (entering 12th season)  
Career Record: same

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 39  
Starters Returning: Offense - 9; Defense - 6; Specialty - 3

### Series Information

Overall: Northwest leads 17-10 (won last four)

#### 2007 Results (8-3, 6-3 • t-3rd MIAA)

A 30	Baker	W, 42-24
S 8	at Minnesota-Duluth	W, 45-27
S 15	NW Missouri State	L, 20-44
S 22	at Pittsburg State	W, 39-32
S 29	Washburn	L, 24-31
O 6	at Fort Hays State	W, 37-9
O 13	Southwest Baptist	W, 49-14
O 20	at Emporia State	W, 52-21
O 27	Missouri Southern	W, 30-14
N 3	Central Missouri	W, 42-28
N 10	at Truman	L, 28-37
D 1	vs. Wayne State (Neb.) <sup>^</sup>	W, 20-13

#### 2008 Schedule

A 28	at Northern State	6 p.m.
S 6	Minnesota-Duluth	6 p.m.
S 13	at NW Missouri State	1 p.m.
S 20	Pittsburg State	6 p.m.
S 27	at Washburn	1 p.m.
O 4	Fort Hays State	1:30 p.m.
O 11	at Nebraska-Omaha	1 p.m.
O 18	Emporia State	1:30 p.m.
O 25	at Missouri Southern	2 p.m.
N 1	at Central Missouri	1:30 p.m.
N 8	Truman	1:30 p.m.

<sup>^</sup> - Mineral Water Bowl

## Truman

Sept. 20 • 7 p.m.  
Kirksville, Mo. • Stokes Stadium (4,000)

### General Information

Location: Kirksville, Mo. 63501  
Founded: 1867  
Enrollment: 5,800  
Nickname: Bulldogs  
Colors: Purple and White  
Home Field: Stokes Stadium (4,000)  
Surface: Astro Turf GameDay Grass 3D  
Conference: MIAA  
President: Dr. Barbara Dixon  
Athletic Director: Jerry Wollmering



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**Coach Courier**

### Head Coach

Name: Shannon Courier  
Office: 660-785-4252  
Record at School: 16-28 (entering 5th season)  
Career Record: 48-40 (entering 9th season)

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 44  
Starters Returning: Offense - 8; Defense - 10; Specialty - 2

### Series Information

Overall: Truman leads 54-29-4 (lost last six)

#### 2007 Results (6-5, 4-5 • t-6th MIAA)

A 25	at Missouri-Rolla	W, 38-31
S 8	Upper Iowa	W, 55-31
S 14	at Central Missouri	L, 7-27
S 22	at NW Missouri State	L, 6-53
S 29	Fort Hays State	W, 26-11
O 6	at Southwest Baptist	W, 55-31
O 13	Pittsburg State	L, 0-40
O 20	at Washburn	L, 35-71
O 27	Emporia State	W, 33-30 (ot)
N 3	at Missouri Southern	L, 24-55
N 10	Missouri Western	W, 37-28

#### 2008 Schedule

A 28	Missouri S&T	7:30 p.m.
S 6	Southern Arkansas	Noon
S 13	Central Missouri	7 p.m.
S 20	NW Missouri State	7 p.m.
S 27	at Fort Hays State	2 p.m.
O 4	Nebraska-Omaha	2 p.m.
O 11	at Pittsburg State	2 p.m.
O 18	Washburn	2 p.m.
O 25	at Emporia State	1 p.m.
N 1	Missouri Southern	2 p.m.
N 8	at Missouri Western	1:30 p.m.

## Nebraska-Omaha

Sept. 27 • 6 p.m.

Omaha, Neb. • Caniglia Field (9,500)

### General Information

Location: Omaha, Neb. 68182  
 Founded: 1908  
 Enrollment: 14,000  
 Nickname: Mavericks  
 Colors: Crimson and Black  
 Home Field: Caniglia Field (9,500)  
 Surface: FieldTurf  
 Conference: MIAA (new in 2008)  
 Chancellor: John Christensen  
 Athletic Director: David Miller



### Media Relations

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Coach Behrns

### Head Coach

Name: Pat Behrns  
 Office: 402-554-3394  
 Record at School: 105-53 (entering 15th season)  
 Career Record: 141-80 (entering 21st season)

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 34  
 Starters Returning: Offense - 6; Defense - 7; Specialty - 1

### Series Information

Overall: Nebraska-Omaha leads 11-8-1 (won last meeting)

#### 2007 Results

(10-1, 8-0 • 1st, NCC)

#### 2008 Schedule

S 1 at Nebraska-Kearney	W, 41-24	S 6 Nebraska-Kearney	6 p.m.
S 8 NW Missouri State	W, 25-21	S 13 Emporia State	6 p.m.
S 15 Western Washington	W, 45-10	S 20 at Missouri Southern	6 p.m.
S 22 at Augustana (S.D.)	W, 36-23	S 27 NW Missouri State	6 p.m.
S 29 Minnesota State	W, 45-15	O 4 at Truman	2 p.m.
O 13 at North Dakota	W, 28-17	O 11 Missouri Western	1 p.m.
O 20 Minnesota-Duluth	W, 42-17	O 18 at Pittsburg State	2 p.m.
O 27 at St. Cloud State	W, 13-3	O 25 at Central Missouri	1:30 p.m.
N 1 South Dakota	W, 41-14	N 1 Fort Hays State	1 p.m.
N 10 at Central Washington	W, 59-21	N 8 at Washburn	1 p.m.
N 24 Central Washington^	L, 17-20		

^ - NCAA Playoffs

## Pittsburg State

Oct. 4 • 5 p.m.

Kansas City, Mo. • Arrowhead Stadium (79,400)

### General Information

Location: Pittsburg, Kan. 66762  
 Founded: 1903  
 Enrollment: 7,000  
 Nickname: Gorillas  
 Colors: Crimson and Gold  
 Home Field: Smith Stadium (8,343)  
 Surface: FieldTurf  
 Conference: MIAA  
 President: Dr. Tom Bryant  
 Athletic Director: Chuck Broyles



### Media Relations

Football SID: Dan Wilkes  
 Office: 620-235-4147  
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 Fax: 620-235-4149  
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 Web site: www.pittstategorillas.com



Coach Broyles

### Head Coach

Name: Chuck Broyles  
 Office: 620-235-4389  
 Record at School: 182-39-2 (entering 19th season)  
 Career Record: same

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 37  
 Starters Returning: Offense - 7; Defense - 7; Specialty - 1

### Series Information

Overall: Pittsburg State leads 21-18 (lost last three)

#### 2007 Results

(8-3, 6-3 • t-3rd MIAA)

#### 2008 Schedule

A 25 Texas A&M-Commerce	W, 28-14	A 30 at Central Oklahoma	6 p.m.
S 1 East Central	W, 41-15	S 6 at Chadron State	1 p.m.
S 15 at Missouri Southern	W, 31-28	S 13 Missouri Southern	6 p.m.
S 22 Missouri Western	L, 32-39	S 20 at Missouri Western	6 p.m.
S 29 at Central Missouri	W, 38-31 (2ot)	S 27 Central Missouri	2 p.m.
O 6 v. NW Missouri State	L, 34-37 (ot)	O 4 v. NW Missouri State	5 p.m.
O 13 at Truman	W, 40-0	O 11 Truman	2 p.m.
O 20 at Southwest Baptist	W, 42-23	O 18 Nebraska-Omaha	2 p.m.
O 27 Fort Hays State	W, 35-0	O 25 at Fort Hays State	2 p.m.
N 3 at Washburn	L, 28-35	N 1 Washburn	2 p.m.
N 10 Emporia State	W, 62-0	N 8 at Emporia State	1 p.m.

## Central Missouri

Oct. 11 • 1:30 p.m.

Warrensburg, Mo. • Walton Stadium (12,000)

### General Information

Location: Warrensburg, Mo. 64093  
 Founded: 1871  
 Enrollment: 11,000  
 Nickname: Mules  
 Colors: Cardinal and Black  
 Home Field: Walton Stadium (12,000)  
 Surface: Sprinurf  
 Conference: MIAA  
 Chancellor: Dr. Aaron Podolefsky  
 Athletic Director: Jerry Hughes



### Media Relations

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Coach Fritz

### Head Coach

Name: Willie Fritz  
 Office: 660-543-8297  
 Record at School: 82-40 (entering 12th season)  
 Career Record: 121-45-1 (entering 16th season)

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 49  
 Starters Returning: Offense - 7; Defense - 8; Specialty - 1

### Series Information

Overall: Northwest leads 50-34-2 (won last four)

#### 2007 Results (7-4, 6-3 • t-3rd MIAA)

A 23	at MSU-Mankato	L, 14-23
S 8	Concordia-St. Paul	W, 56-24
S 15	Truman	W, 27-7
S 22	at Washburn	W, 28-14
S 29	Pittsburg State	L, 31-38 (2ot)
O 6	at Emporia State	W, 38-7
O 13	at NW Missouri State	L, 26-28
O 20	Missouri Southern	W, 24-23
O 27	at Southwest Baptist	W, 56-14
N 3	at Missouri Western	L, 28-42
N 10	Fort Hays State	W, 31-10

#### 2008 Schedule

A 28	Minnesota State	7 p.m.
S 4	Arkansas Tech	7 p.m.
S 13	at Truman	7 p.m.
S 20	Washburn	1:30 p.m.
S 27	at Pittsburg State	2 p.m.
O 4	Emporia State	1:30 p.m.
O 11	NW Missouri State	1:30 p.m.
O 18	at Missouri Southern	2 p.m.
O 25	Nebraska-Omaha	1:30 p.m.
N 1	Missouri Western	1:30 p.m.
N 8	at Fort Hays State	2 p.m.

## Fort Hays State

Oct. 18 • 1:30 p.m.

Maryville, Mo. • Bearcat Stadium (6,500)

### General Information

Location: Hays, Kan. 67601  
 Founded: 1902  
 Enrollment: 9,000  
 Nickname: Tigers  
 Colors: Black and Gold  
 Home Field: Lewis Field Stadium (6,362)  
 Surface: Sportexe  
 Conference: MIAA  
 Chancellor: Dr. Edward Hammond  
 Athletic Director: Curtis Hammeke



### Media Relations

Football SID: Ryan Prickett  
 Office: 785-628-5903  
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Coach Verdugo

### Head Coach

Name: Kevin Verdugo  
 Office: 660-785-4252  
 Record at School: 7-25 (entering 4th season)  
 Career Record: same

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 35  
 Starters Returning: Offense - 4; Defense - 7; Specialty - 3

### Series Information

Overall: Fort Hays State leads 12-10-1 (lost last four)

#### 2007 Results (4-7, 2-7 • 8th MIAA)

A 25	Western State	W, 55-3
S 8	Colorado Mines	W, 34-10
S 15	at Washburn	L, 10-28
S 22	Emporia State	W, 26-12
S 29	at Truman	L, 11-26
O 6	Missouri Western	L, 9-37
O 13	at Missouri Southern	L, 0-6
O 20	NW Missouri State	L, 10-17
O 27	at Pittsburg State	L, 0-35
N 3	Southwest Baptist	W, 36-30
N 10	at Central Missouri	L, 10-31

#### 2008 Schedule

A 28	New Mexico Highlands	7 p.m.
S 6	at Colorado Mines	1 p.m.
S 13	Washburn	7 p.m.
S 20	at Emporia State	1 p.m.
S 27	Truman	2 p.m.
O 4	at Missouri Western	1:30 p.m.
O 11	Missouri Southern	2 p.m.
O 18	at NW Missouri State	1:30 p.m.
O 25	Pittsburg State	2 p.m.
N 1	at Nebraska-Omaha	1 p.m.
N 8	Central Missouri	2 p.m.

## Washburn

Oct. 25 • 1 p.m.

Topeka, Kan. • Yager Stadium (7,200)

### General Information

Location: Topeka, Kan. 66621  
 Founded: 1865  
 Enrollment: 7,500  
 Nickname: Ichabods  
 Colors: Yale Blue and White  
 Home Field: Yager Stadium (7,200)  
 Surface: Sportex  
 Conference: MIAA  
 President: Dr. Jerry Farley  
 Athletic Director: Loren Ferre'



### Media Relations

Football SID: Gene Cassell  
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 Press Box: 785-670-1563  
 Web site: www.wusports.com



**Coach Schurig**

### Head Coach

Name: Craig Schurig  
 Office: 785-670-1340  
 Record at School: 40-29 (entering 7th season)  
 Career Record: same

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 43  
 Starters Returning: Offense - 6; Defense - 6; Specialty - 1

### Series Information

Overall: Northwest leads 21-6 (won last three)

#### 2007 Results (8-4, 7-2 • 2nd MIAA)

#### 2008 Schedule

A 25 Chadron State	L, 24-34	A 28 Colorado Mines	7 p.m.
S 1 at Colorado Mines	W, 27-7	S 4 at Missouri State	7 p.m.
S 15 Fort Hays State	W, 28-10	S 13 at Fort Hays State	7 p.m.
S 22 Central Missouri	L, 14-28	S 20 at Central Missouri	1:30 p.m.
S 29 at Missouri Western	W, 31-24	S 27 Missouri Western	1 p.m.
O 6 Missouri Southern	W, 26-20	O 4 at Missouri Southern	2 p.m.
O 13 at Emporia State	W, 31-21	O 11 Emporia State	1 p.m.
O 20 Truman	W, 71-35	O 18 at Truman	2 p.m.
O 27 at NW Missouri State	L, 27-28	O 25 NW Missouri State	1 p.m.
N 3 Pittsburg State	W, 35-28	N 1 at Pittsburg State	2 p.m.
N 10 at Southwest Baptist	W, 37-14	N 8 Nebraska-Omaha	1 p.m.
N 17 at West Texas A&M^	L, 39-40		

^ - NCAA Playoffs

## Emporia State

Nov. 1 • 1 p.m.

Maryville, Mo. • Bearcat Stadium (6,500)

### General Information

Location: Emporia, Kan. 66801  
 Founded: 1863  
 Enrollment: 6,528  
 Nickname: Hornets  
 Colors: Old Black and Gold  
 Home Field: Welch Stadium (7,000)  
 Surface: Super Turf  
 Conference: MIAA  
 President: Dr. Michael Lane  
 Athletic Director: Kent Weiser



### Media Relations

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 Web site: www.emporia.edu/athletics



**Coach Higgins**

### Head Coach

Name: Garin Higgins  
 Office: 620-341-5504  
 Record at School: 3-8 (entering 2nd season)  
 Career Record: 54-17 (entering 7th season)

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 36  
 Starters Returning: Offense - 6; Defense - 6; Specialty - 1

### Series Information

Overall: Northwest leads 22-2 (won last 13)

#### 2007 Results (3-8, 1-8 • 9th MIAA)

#### 2008 Schedule

S 1 at Western State	W, 7-3	A 30 Western State	7 p.m.
S 8 at Central Oklahoma	W, 17-7	S 6 Augustana (S.D.)	1 p.m.
S 15 Southwest Baptist	W, 35-28	S 13 at Nebraska-Omaha	6 p.m.
S 22 at Fort Hays State	L, 12-26	S 20 Fort Hays State	1 p.m.
S 29 at Missouri Southern	L, 19-42	S 27 Missouri Southern	1 p.m.
O 6 Central Missouri	L, 7-38	O 4 at Central Missouri	1:30 p.m.
O 13 Washburn	L, 21-31	O 11 at Washburn	1 p.m.
O 20 Missouri Western	L, 21-52	O 18 at Missouri Western	1:30 p.m.
O 27 at Truman	L, 30-33 (ot)	O 25 Truman	1 p.m.
N 3 NW Missouri State	L, 7-24	N 1 at NW Missouri State	1 p.m.
N 10 at Pittsburg State	L, 0-62	N 8 Pittsburg State	1 p.m.

## Missouri Southern

Nov. 8 • 2 p.m.  
Joplin, Mo. • Hughes Stadium (7,000)

### General Information

Location: Joplin, Mo. 64801  
Founded: 1937  
Enrollment: 5,740  
Nickname: Lions  
Colors: Green and Gold  
Home Field: Hughes Stadium (7,000)  
Surface: Sprinturf  
Conference: MIAA  
Interim President: Dr. Bruce W. Speck  
Athletic Director: Sallie Beard



### Media Relations

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Coach Tatum

### Head Coach

Name: Bart Tatum  
Office: 417-625-9317  
Record at School: 11-11 (entering 3rd season)  
Career Record: same

### Team Information

Letterwinners Returning: 46  
Starters Returning: Offense - 8; Defense - 9; Specialty - 2

### Series Information

Overall: Northwest leads 15-4 (won last 13)

### 2007 Results (6-5, 4-5 • t-6th MIAA)

A 30	at Haskell	W, 51-0
S 8	Harding	W, 48-20
S 15	Pittsburg State	L, 28-31
S 22	at Southwest Baptist	W, 17-16
S 29	Emporia State	W, 42-19
O 6	at Washburn	L, 20-26
O 13	Fort Hays State	W, 6-0
O 20	at Central Missouri	L, 23-24
O 27	at Missouri Western	L, 14-30
N 3	Truman	W, 55-24
N 10	at NW Missouri State	L, 14-49

### 2008 Schedule

A 30	Harding	6 p.m.
S 4	Haskell	6 p.m.
S 13	at Pittsburg State	6 p.m.
S 20	Nebraska-Omaha	6 p.m.
S 27	at Emporia State	1 p.m.
O 4	Washburn	2 p.m.
O 11	at Fort Hays State	2 p.m.
O 18	Central Missouri	2 p.m.
O 25	Missouri Western	2 p.m.
N 1	at Truman	2 p.m.
N 8	NW Missouri State	2 p.m.

## 2008 Schedule Notes

**Abilene Christian:** Northwest will play its season-opener at 6 p.m. Aug. 30 at Bearcat Stadium against Abilene Christian of the Lone Star Conference. The Wildcats finished second in their league, beat Mesa State in the opening round of the playoffs and blew a 22-point, fourth-quarter lead in a 76-73 triple overtime loss to Chadron State the following week.

Abilene Christian returns All-American running back Bernard Scott, the runner-up for Division II's Player of the Year award. Scott led the nation with 39 touchdowns, one more than Xavier Omon. He was the nation's second-leading rusher behind Omon with 2,165 yards. Scott will be a senior in his second season at Abilene Christian.

Northwest and Abilene Christian tied 24-24 in their only meeting back in 1985 in Abilene, Texas. The two teams will play in Texas to kickoff the 2009 schedule Aug. 29.

**Southwest Baptist:** The Battle of the Bearcats takes place in week two as Northwest hosts Southwest Baptist at 6 p.m. Sept. 6. Southwest Baptist is an independent in 2008, but will continue to play non-conference games against MIAA opponents. The green Bearcats have won 13 in a row by an average of 39.3 points. Northwest won 86-13 in 2007.

**Missouri Western:** Northwest opens MIAA play at 1 p.m. Sept. 13 against Missouri Western on Family Weekend at Bearcat Stadium. The Bearcats won their conference-opener 44-20 against the Griffons this past year in St. Joseph, Mo. Northwest scored touchdowns on its first four possessions and led 28-0 in the second quarter. The Bearcats have won four in a row against the Griffons.

**Truman:** It will be Sept. 20 before Northwest plays its first road game. The Bearcats take on Truman in Kirksville, Mo., for the Battle of the Old Hickory Stick, the oldest traveling trophy in Division II. Northwest has kept possession of the trophy for the last six years. The Bearcats won last year's contest 53-6 in Maryville.

**Nebraska-Omaha:** Nebraska-Omaha is competing in the MIAA for the first time and will welcome the Bearcats back to Omaha Sept. 27. The Mavericks beat the Bearcats in Northwest's season-opener 25-21 this past season after erasing a 21-6 fourth-quarter deficit. Quarterback Zach Miller and running back Brian McNeill, now seniors, are back to run the option for the Mavericks.

Nebraska-Omaha was 11-0 and named the top seed of the Northwest Region, but lost to Central Washington 20-17 at home in the second round of the playoffs. UNO had beat the Wildcats 59-21 on the road two weeks prior.

The Bearcats and Mavericks have squared off eight times in the last 10 years (4-4). The home team has won every time.

**Pittsburg State:** The seventh installment of the Fall Classic at Arrowhead takes place at 2 p.m. Oct. 4. Northwest has won four of the six games, including a 37-34 overtime victory this past season.

**Central Missouri:** The second half of the schedule begins in Warrensburg, Mo., Oct. 11 as the Bearcats take on Central Missouri. Northwest stopped a two-point conversion and recovered an onside kick late in the fourth quarter to seal a 28-26 win this past season in Maryville. The Bearcats have won the last four meetings.

**Fort Hays State:** Homecoming takes place at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 18 against Fort Hays State, the Bearcats' first home game in five weeks. No longer the newcomer of the league, the Bearcats and Tigers have met twice since FHSU joined the MIAA in 2006. Fort Hays has scored 10 points in its last eight quarters against the Bearcats. Northwest has won 12 of its last 13 homecoming games, winning by an average of 32 points per game. The Bearcats beat the Tigers 59-0 on homecoming of 2006.

**Washburn:** Northwest and Washburn meet in Topeka, Kan., Oct. 25. A missed Ichabod extra point was the difference in this past season's 28-27 Northwest victory in Maryville. The Bearcats scored on 4th-and-8 in the final minute to earn their third straight win against Washburn.

**Emporia State:** Emporia State will be the opponent when Northwest honors its seniors Nov. 1 in Maryville. Kickoff is 1 p.m. Northwest has won 13 straight against the Hornets dating back to 1995 and leads the all-time series 22-2. The Bearcats won 24-7 in Emporia, Kan., last season.

**Missouri Southern:** The regular season ends as it did in 2007 with Missouri Southern. The game will take place Nov. 8 in Joplin, Mo. The Bearcats have beaten the Lions 13 straight times and lead the all-time series 15-4. Northwest won 49-14 last season in Maryville.

# Alphabetical/Numerical Rosters

	No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
	1	Chris LeFlore	CB	5-10	190	Sr.	Omaha, Neb. (Univ. of Nebraska)
31	2	Nick Rhodes	WR	6-4	190	Jr.-TR	Stockton, Calif. (San Joaquin Delta C.C.)
82	3	Ryan Jones	CB	5-11	175	So.	Liberty, Mo. (Liberty HS)
	4	Kendall Wright	WR	5-11	175	Sr.	Sulphur Springs, Texas (Sulphur Springs HS)
28	5	Raphael Robinson	WR	6-2	205	Jr.	Kansas City, Kan. (Turner HS)
	6	Paris Elam	WR	5-8	180	Jr.	Kansas City, Mo. (Hampton (Va.) Univ.)
44	7	Justin Welch	DB	5-10	185	So.	Belton, Mo. (Belton HS)
37	8	Aldwin Foster-Rettig	S	6-1	185	So.	Balch Springs, Texas (West Mesquite HS)
40	9	Brandon Clayton	CB	5-9	180	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo. (Hazelwood Central HS)
11	10	Abe Qaoud	WR	6-0	190	Jr.	St. Louis, Mo. (Hazelwood Central HS)
24	11	Blake Bolles	QB	6-4	210	So.	Lincoln, Neb. (Lincoln Southwest HS)
15	12	Joel Osborn	QB	6-2	220	Sr.	Harlan, Iowa (Harlan HS)
64	13	Caleb Decius	QB	6-2	175	Fr.-TR	Lake Park, Fla. (Upper Iowa Univ.)
14	14	Blake Christopher	QB	6-2	190	Fr.-RS	Kearney, Mo. (Kearney HS)
9	15	Myles Burnsidess	SS	5-11	195	Jr.	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville HS)
36	16	Jesse Pierce	QB	6-1	190	So.	Wentzville, Mo. (Wentzville Holt HS)
27	17	Tyler Herl	QB	6-2	210	Fr.-RS	Topeka, Kan. (Shawnee Heights HS)
	18	Michael Stadler	P	6-1	220	So.	Harrisonville, Mo. (Harrisonville HS)
	19	John "Cam" Wierson	FS	6-0	190	Jr.-TR	Tucson, Ariz. (Pima C.C.)
74	20	Derrick Hightower	DB	6-0	190	Fr.-RS	Belton, Mo. (Belton HS)
60	21	Kevin Okonta	S	5-10	180	Fr.-RS	Liberty, Mo. (Liberty HS)
	22	Ikechukwu "Ike" Urum-Eke	SS	5-11	205	Jr.	Lee's Summit, Mo. (Lee's Summit HS)
	23	E.J. Hawkins	CB	5-9	170	Jr.	Austin, Texas (Lexington HS)
13	24	Sydney Brisbane	WR	5-11	180	Jr.	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville HS)
	25	Previn Perry	RB	5-10	200	Fr.-RS	St. Louis, Mo. (Lutheran North HS)
93	26	David Gray	P	6-1	190	Fr.-RS	Tremont, Ill. (Tremont HS)
92	27	LaRon Council	RB	5-10	210	Jr.	Kansas City, Mo. (Center HS)
78	28	Kelvin Austin	RB	5-6	190	So.-RS	St. Louis, Mo. (Mesabi Range (Minn.) CTC)
6	29	Brant Gregg	RB	5-8	220	Sr.	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville HS)
	30	Marcus Martin	FS	6-1	200	So.	Holden, Mo. (Holden HS)
8	31	Alex Anderson	FS	6-2	190	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Skutt Catholic HS)
43	32	Evan Wilmes	LB	5-11	215	Jr.	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville, Mo.)
84	33	Ben Langston	SS	6-0	185	Fr.-RS	Overland Park, Kan. (Blue Valley Northwest HS)
	34	Clint Moore	RB	5-10	185	So.	Princeton, Mo. (Princeton HS)
26	35	Marciele Surrell	SS	5-10	185	So.-TR	Terrell, Texas (SW Oklahoma State Univ.)
29	36	Sheldon Cook	RB	5-10	190	Jr.	Gladstone, Mo. (Park Hill South HS)
70	37	Bill Baudler	LB	6-2	220	Jr.	Fontanelle, Iowa (Nodaway Valley HS)
	38	Joe Schroeder	PK	6-0	195	Jr.	Washington, Mo. (St. Francis Borgia HS)
	39	Brian Shannon	WR	5-10	185	So.	Council Bluffs, Iowa (Lincoln HS)
	40	Joe Bedard	LB	6-2	200	Fr.-RS	Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Xavier)
62	41	Kyle Nixdorf	FB	6-1	240	Fr.-RS	Odessa, Mo. (Wellington/Napoleon HS)
23	42	Cody Lanus	DE/LS	6-2	235	Sr.	Liberty, Mo. (Liberty HS)
17	43	Tommy Frevert	PK	6-0	210	Sr.	Lee's Summit, Mo. (Lee's Summit North HS)
	44	Jayson Bates	LB	6-1	235	Jr.	Alva, Okla. (Northeastern Oklahoma A&M)
20	45	Tommy Warren	WR	5-11	180	Fr.-RS	Omaha, Neb. (North HS)
	46	Nathan Roach	QB	6-2	200	Fr.-RS	Pleasant Hill, Mo. (Pleasant Hill HS)
52	47	Adam Martensen	LB	6-1	190	Fr.-RS	North Liberty, Iowa (Regina HS)
81	48	Dylan Rosier	LB	5-11	210	Fr.-RS	Mound City, Mo. (Mount City HS)
76	52	Willie Horn	LB	6-1	235	So.	Lee's Summit, Mo. (Blue Springs South HS)
3	54	Aaron Terry	DL	5-11	280	Fr.-RS	Omaha, Neb. (North H.S.)
	55	Harry McCoy	DL	6-1	250	Fr.-RS	Kincheloe, Mich. (Sault Area HS)
	56	Adam Vondrak	LB	6-1	225	So.	Sioux City, Iowa (Bishop Heelan Catholic HS)
85	57	Troy Matthews	LB	5-11	210	Jr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard South HS)
71	60	Jeremy Davis	OL	6-3	300	Sr.	Port Neches, Texas (Univ. of Houston)
	61	Adam McElderry	OL	6-3	275	Fr.-RS	West Des Moines, Iowa (Valley HS)
87	62	Ross Hastert	OL	6-2	270	Jr.	Harlan, Iowa (Harlan Community HS)
	64	Zach Busch	OL	6-1	285	Fr.-TR	Kearney, Mo. (Bemidji State Univ.)
	65	Matt Nelson	OL	6-0	280	Sr.	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville HS)
33	70	Brett Grozinger	OL	6-3	275	Jr.	Chillicothe, Mo. (Chillicothe HS)
42	71	Reid Kirby	OL	6-4	300	Sr.	Gladstone, Mo. (Kansas Univ.)
	72	Ryan Lessman	OL	6-2	290	So.	Sioux City, Iowa (Sioux City East HS)
	73	Jason Wiseman	OL	6-5	265	So.	Garden City, Mo. (Harrisonville HS)
1	74	Lawrence "Moe" Dampeer	DL	6-4	375	So.-TR	Decatur, Ill. (Univ. of Oklahoma)
72	75	Tom Pestock	OL	6-6	300	Sr.	Lenexa, Kan. (Shawnee Mission North HS)
99		Josh Lorenson					

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
76	Cody Johnson	OL	6-3	270	Fr.-RS	Jasper, Mo. (Webb City HS)
77	Dane Wardenburg	OL	6-7	275	So.	Creston, Iowa (Creston HS)
78	Ben Ehret	OL	6-3	295	Fr.-RS	Stilwell, Kan. (Blue Valley HS)
79	Eric Rickert	OL	6-5	280	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard West HS)
80	Tyler Northway	DE	6-3	250	Sr.	Lee's Summit, Mo. (North HS)
81	Brock Houston	TE	6-5	200	So.	Helena, Mo. (Savannah HS)
82	Greg Applegate	TE	6-2	230	Jr.	Harlan, Iowa (Harlan Community HS)
83	Jake Soy	WR	6-3	205	Fr.-RS	Durant, Iowa (Durant HS)
84	Josh Gannan	TE	6-2	240	Sr.	Chillicothe, Mo. (Chillicothe HS)
85	Kyle Kilgore	TE	6-5	210	Fr.-RS	Orrick, Mo. (Excelsior Springs HS)
86	Chris Owens	TE	6-3	230	Fr.-RS	St. Louis, Mo. (Hazelwood Central HS)
87	Kyle Kreifels	TE	6-2	210	Jr.	Syracuse, Neb. (Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca HS)
88	Taylor Pierce	WR	6-2	185	Fr.-RS	Wentzville, Mo. (Wentzville Holt HS)
91	Tyler Roach	DT	6-3	275	Jr.	Elkhorn, Neb. (Elkhorn HS)
92	Elliot Easley	DE	6-3	255	Jr.-RS	Dixon, Calif. (Solano (Calif.) CC)
93	John Dooley	LB	6-1	225	Fr.-RS	Omaha, Neb. (Skutt Catholic HS)
94	Kyle Sunderman	DE	6-4	260	So.	Papillion, Neb. (Papillion LaVista HS)
97	Sean Paddock	DE	6-2	255	Jr.	Bettendorf, Iowa (Pleasant Valley HS)
98	Shayne Shade	DT	6-2	285	So.	Des Moines, Iowa (Roosevelt HS)
99	Josh Lorenson	DL	6-3	255	Fr.-RS	Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Xavier HS)
	Cole Albright	DL	6-3	250	Fr.	Bronson, Iowa (Lawton Bronson HS)
	Ryan Arrington	DL	6-2	260	Fr.	Jacksonville, Texas (Jacksonville HS)
	Christian Barksdale	DB	6-0	175	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Westside HS)
	Billy Creason	RB	5-9	185	Fr.	Grain Valley, Mo. (Grain Valley HS)
	Cory Cronk	LB	6-2	190	Fr.	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville HS)
	Josh Davis	TE	6-2	200	Fr.	St. Joseph, Mo. (Lafayette HS)
	Collin DeBuysere	LB	6-4	210	Fr.	Geneseo, Ill. (Geneseo HS)
	Nate DeJong	S	6-3	215	Fr.	Rock Rapids, Iowa (Central Lyon HS)
	Gary Ewart	DE	6-2	215	Fr.	Bedford, Iowa (Bedford HS)
	Dane Goodman	WR	6-3	205	Fr.	Blue Springs, Mo. (South HS)
	Kyle Haake	K	6-2	185	Fr.	Harlan, Iowa (Harlan HS)
	Justin "Homer" Harper	DB	5-11	175	Fr.	Omaha, Neb.. (South HS)
	James Harris	WR	5-9	165	Fr.	Grandview, Mo. (Grandview HS)
	Ricky Hicks	RB	5-10	187	Fr.	Kansas City, Mo. (Central HS)
	John Hinchey	WR	6-2	200	Fr.	Kearney, Mo. (Kearney HS)
	Colby Kamm	TE	6-5	230	Fr.	Junction City, Kan. (Junction City)
	Chad Kilgore	LB	6-0	215	Fr.	Orrick, Mo. (Excelsior Springs HS)
	Kyle Kleeman	DL	6-2	225	Fr.	Lemont, Ill. (Joliet Catholic HS)
	Mike Kuhn	DB	5-9	190	Fr.	Des Moines, Iowa (Hoover HS)
	Luke Lancaster	DE	6-2	220	Fr.	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville HS)
	Chris Lee	OL	6-3	280	Fr.-TR	Kansas City, Mo. (Maple Woods CC)
	Charlie Lowe	DB	5-8	170	Fr.	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville HS)
	Matt Massey	LB	6-0	220	Fr.	Kearney, Mo. (Kearney HS)
	Matthew Meinert	LB	6-2	200	Fr.	Easton, Kan. (Pleasant Ridge HS)
	Ryan Meyer	DL	6-2	260	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard West HS)
	Tyler Oglesby	LB	5-10	205	Fr.	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville HS)
	Alex Olive	OL	6-4	270	Fr.	Springfield, Mo. (Glendale HS)
	John Petroff	OL	6-3	280	Fr.	Chesterfield, Mo. (Parkway Central HS)
	Benjamin Pritchett	RB	5-9	225	Fr.	Belton, Mo. (Belton HS)
	Billy Queisert	OL	6-6	240	Fr.	Kansas City, Mo. (Liberty HS)
	Tyler Shaw	WR	6-0	170	Fr.	St. Louis, Mo. (Lutheran North HS)
	Jordan Simmons	ATH	5-9	185	Fr.	Kansas City, Mo. (Lee's Summit North HS)
	Darian Skrenes	DL	6-2	275	Fr.	Hartland, Wis. (Arrowhead HS)
	Clark Snodgrass	DB	5-11	185	Fr.	Chesterfield, Mo. (Parkway Central HS)
	Jay Stanton	DE	6-1	225	Fr.	Rockport, Mo. (Rockport HS)
	Ethan Stark	TE	6-1	220	Fr.	Princeton, Mo. (Princeton HS)
	Robert Stough	OL	6-0	270	Fr.	Liberty, Mo. (Liberty HS)
	Jesse Ver Velde	QB	6-0	190	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard West HS)
	Rod Williams	DL	6-4	275	Fr.	Grandview, Mo. (Grandview HS)
	Zach Wilson	OL	6-5	320	Fr.	Lee's Summit, Mo. (Blue Springs South)
	Landan Zaputil	LB	5-11	220	Fr.	Denver, Iowa (Cedar Falls HS)

47	Charlie Lowe
30	Adam Martensen
	Marcus Martin
	Matt Massey
57	Troy Matthews
55	Harry McCoy
61	Adam McElderry
	Matthew Meinert
	Ryan Meyer
34	Clint Moore
65	Matt Nelson
41	Kyle Nixdorf
80	Tyler Northway
	Tyler Oglesby
21	Kevin Okonta
	Alex Olive
12	Joel Osborn
86	Chris Owens
97	Sean Paddock
25	Previn Perry
75	Tom Pestock
	John Petroff
16	Jesse Pierce
88	Taylor Pierce
	Benjamin Pritchett
10	Abe Qaoud
	Billy Queisert
2	Nick Rhodes
79	Eric Rickert
46	Nathan Roach
91	Tyler Roach
5	Rapael Robinson
48	Dylan Rosier
38	Joe Schroeder
98	Shayne Shade
39	Brian Shannon
	Tyler Shaw
	Jordan Simmons
	Darian Skrenes
	Clark Snodgrass
83	Jake Soy
18	Michael Stadler
	Jay Stanton
	Ethan Stark
	Robert Stough
94	Kyle Sunderman
35	Marciele Surrrell
54	Aaron Terry
22	Ike Urum-Eke
	Jesse Ver Velde
56	Adam Vondrak
77	Dane Wardenburg
45	Tommy Warren
7	Justin Welch
19	Cam Wierson
	Rod Williams
32	Evan Wilmes
	Zach Wilson
73	Jason Wiseman
4	Kendall Wright
	Landan Zaputil

# Class Breakdown

# State Breakdown

## Senior (13)

Brandon Clayton  
Jeremy Davis  
Tommy Frevrt  
Josh Gannan  
Brant Gregg  
Reid Kirby  
Cody Lanus  
Chris LeFlore  
Matt Nelson  
Tyler Northway  
Joel Osborn  
Tom Pestock  
Kendall Wright

Zach Busch  
Blake Christopher  
Caleb Decius  
John Dooley  
Ben Ehret  
David Gray  
Tyler Herl  
Derrick Hightower  
Cody Johnson  
Kyle Kilgore  
Ben Langston  
Josh Lorenson  
Adam Martensen  
Harry McCoy  
Adam McElderry  
Kyle Nixdorf  
Kevin Okonta  
Chris Owens  
Previn Perry  
Taylor Pierce  
Nathan Roach  
Dylan Rosier  
Jake Soy  
Aaron Terry  
Tommy Warren

## Junior (23)

Greg Applegate  
Jayson Bates  
Bill Baudler  
Sydney Brisbane  
Myles Burnsidess  
Sheldon Cook  
LaRon Council  
Elliot Easley  
Paris Elam  
Brett Grozinger  
Ross Hastert  
E.J. Hawkins  
Kyle Kreifels  
Troy Matthews  
Sean Paddock  
Abe Qaoud  
Nick Rhodes  
Tyler Roach  
Raphael Robinson  
Joe Schroeder  
Ike Urum-Eke  
Cam Wierson  
Evan Wilmes

## Freshmen (41)

Cole Albright  
Ryan Arrington  
Christian Barksdale  
Billy Creason  
Cory Cronk  
Josh Davis  
Collin DeBuysere  
Nate DeJong  
Gary Ewart  
Dane Goodman  
Kyle Haake  
Justin "Homer" Harper  
James Harris  
Ricky Hicks  
John Hinchey  
Colby Kamm  
Chad Kilgore  
Kyle Kleeman  
Mike Kuhn  
Luke Lancaster  
Chris Lee  
Charlie Lowe  
Matt Massey  
Matthew Meinert  
Ryan Meyer  
Tyler Oglesby  
Alex Olive  
John Petroff  
Benjamin Pritchett  
Billy Queisert  
Tyler Shaw  
Jordan Simmons  
Darian Skrenes  
Clark Snodgrass  
Jay Stanton  
Ethan Stark  
Robert Stough  
Jesse VerVelde  
Rod Williams  
Zach Wilson  
Landan Zaputil

## Sophomore (22)

Alex Anderson  
Kelvin Austin  
Blake Bolles  
Moe Dampeer  
Aldwin Foster-Rettig  
Willie Horn  
Brock Houston  
Ryan Jones  
Ryan Lessman  
Marcus Martin  
Clint Moore  
Jesse Pierce  
Eric Rickert  
Shayne Shade  
Brian Shannon  
Michael Stadler  
Kyle Sunderman  
Marciele Surrell  
Adam Vondrak  
Dane Wardenburg  
Justin Welch  
Jason Wiseman

## Redshirt Freshmen (26)

Joe Bedard



## Missouri (66)

Kelvin Austin  
Sydney Brisbane  
Myles Burnsidess  
Zach Busch  
Blake Christopher  
Brandon Clayton  
Sheldon Cook  
LaRon Council  
Billy Creason  
Cory Cronk  
Josh Davis  
Paris Elam  
Tommy Frevrt  
Josh Gannan  
Dane Goodman  
Brant Gregg  
Brett Grozinger  
James Harris  
Ricky Hicks  
Derrick Hightower  
John Hinchey  
Willie Horn  
Brock Houston  
Cody Johnson  
Ryan Jones  
Chad Kilgore  
Kyle Kilgore  
Reid Kirby  
Luke Lancaster  
Cody Lanus  
Chris Lee  
Charlie Lowe  
Marcus Martin  
Matt Massey  
Clint Moore  
Matt Nelson  
Kyle Nixdorf

## Tyler Northway

Tyler Oglesby  
Kevin Okonta  
Alex Olive  
Chris Owens  
Previn Perry  
John Petroff  
Jesse Pierce  
Taylor Pierce  
Benjamin Pritchett  
Abe Qaoud  
Billy Queisert  
Nathan Roach  
Dylan Rosier  
Joe Schroeder  
Tyler Shaw  
Jordan Simmons  
Clark Snodgrass  
Michael Stadler  
Jay Stanton  
Ethan Stark  
Robert Stough  
Ike Urum-Eke  
Justin Welch  
Rod Williams  
Evan Wilmes  
Zach Wilson  
Jason Wiseman

## Iowa (21)

Cole Albright  
Greg Applegate  
Bill Baudler  
Joe Bedard  
Nate DeJong  
Gary Ewart  
Kyle Haake  
Ross Hastert

## Mike Kuhn

Ryan Lessman  
Josh Lorenson  
Adam Martensen  
Adam McElderry  
Joel Osborn  
Sean Paddock  
Shayne Shade  
Brian Shannon  
Jake Soy  
Adam Vondrak  
Dane Wardenburg  
Landan Zaputil

## Nebraska (15)

Alex Anderson  
Christian Barksdale  
Blake Bolles  
John Dooley  
Homer Harper  
Kyle Kreifels  
Chris LeFlore  
Troy Matthews  
Ryan Meyer  
Eric Rickert  
Tyler Roach  
Kyle Sunderman  
Aaron Terry  
Jesse Ver Velde  
Tommy Warren

## Kansas (7)

Ben Ehret  
Tyler Herl  
Colby Kamm  
Ben Langston  
Matthew Meinert  
Tom Pestock  
Raphael Robinson

## Texas (6)

Ryan Arrington  
Jeremy Davis  
Aldwin Foster-Rettig  
E.J. Hawkins  
Marciele Surrell  
Kendall Wright

## Illinois (4)

Moe Dampeer  
Collin DeBuysere  
David Gray  
Kyle Kleeman

## California (2)

Elliot Easley  
Nick Rhodes

## Arizona (1)

Cam Wierson

## Michigan (1)

Harry McCoy

## Oklahoma (1)

Jayson Bates

## Wisconsin (1)

Darian Skrenes

## Florida (1)

Caleb Decius

## Pronunciation Guide

10 Abe \ˈkwäd\	35 \mār-sē-ˈeɪ\ Surrell	70 Brett \ˈgrō-zən-jər\
11 Blake \ˈbōlz\	38 Joe \ˈshrā-dər\	78 Ben \ˈvər-ət\
13 Caleb \ˈdɛ-sē-əs\	40 Joe \bə-ˈdārd\	79 Eric \ˈrɪk-ər\
22 Ike \ˈyūr-əm ˈē-kē\	42 Cody \ˈlān-əs\	87 Kyle \ˈkrɪ-fūls\
32 Evan \ˈwil-mis\	62 Ross \ˈhas-tər\	90 Alex \ˈtōms\