

Tiger's Lair

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Tiger prepares to defend Ivy League title

Offense seeking new leadership

By Dave Rackovan
Offensive Coordinator

The good news is that the 2007 edition of the Princeton Tiger offense will have a number of familiar faces. The bad news is that one of the faces that we will have to replace, Jeff Terrell '07, was the Bushnell Cup winner and helped win 16 out of the past 20 games.

Vince Lombardi once said that the quarterback is the only position in football that can totally dominate a game. The challenge for our staff is not to replicate Jeff Terrell, but to maintain his productivity. We have a number of options, but game experience will be the ultimate evaluator.

Going into the fall Bill Foran '08 (Dallas, Texas) is the heir apparent. He has the ability to beat teams with his feet. As member of our 4x100 relay team he has shown great speed. He needs to continue to improve in all the phases of the pass game and his decision



Photo by Frank Wojciechowski
Head Coach Roger Hughes works with his quarterbacks at a recent Princeton Stadium practice session.

making.

He will be backed up by Greg Mroz '08 (Greensburg, Pa.). Greg is a strong-armed performer who needs to develop more consistency. Don't be surprised to see both in the

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Defense returns seven starters

By Steve Verbit
Defensive Coordinator

The 2007 Tiger defense returns seven starters from a year ago, led by defensive lineman Tom Methvin '09, Matt Koch '09 and Peter Buchignani '09, linebackers Doori Song '08, Tim Boardman '08 and co-captain Jon Stem '08, and defensive back Kevin Kelleher '08.

The defensive line has three players that started all 10 games in 2006, but will need to replace Jake Marshall '07 and Mike Meehan '07, two veterans that were part of the rotation for the previous three seasons. Defensive end Buchignani (Bloomington, Ill.) has started 15 straight games, and is our only all-league performer returning. Peter's size (6-3, 270), strength (440-pound bench press), and experience, should allow him to be one of the Ivy League's top down

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From the President

How great it is to be starting another Princeton Football season, especially as defending Ivy League Champions!

We Princeton Football Association members wish the student-athletes, coaches and the rest of the staff good luck in continuing the tradition of winning football that has been established in the last few years. They have worked so hard in the off-season and pre-season and are now used to coming up big in crunch time. While it is never easy repeating a 9-1 season, we have every confidence that this year's Tiger team will once again prove the media prognosticators wrong (picked us fourth!).

As for the state of the PFA, we had another unprecedent-

ed campaign during '06-'07, and we are off to a great start again in '07-'08, thanks to the leadership of some terrific younger alumni who once again continued the great support they began last year.

While we plan to send a complete financial update to all of you soon, here are some things to keep in mind. The PFA is now responsible for raising close to \$500,000 annually to keep the football program going at its current level. While recent gifts have lifted our endowment income, we still need the help of all of you to meet our expenses. Some of you will be hearing from me directly soon, as the PFA has committed to pay for a new

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Offense

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game at the same time. Brian Anderson '09 (Jacksonville, Ill.) has shown he can effectively run the team and will provide quality depth. He has grasped the intricacies of the offense and has worked extremely hard to put himself in the position to compete. It will be an interesting season at this position.

The great news is we have a bevy of talented receivers. This group is led by first-team all-Ivy performer co-captain Brendan Circle '08 (Villa Park, Calif.). Brendan is a fearless competitor who has consistently made the clutch reception. Adam Berry '09 (Bel Air, Md.) is a tireless worker who has made himself into confident player.

The player with great potential who had a breakout spring and has continued to improve this fall is Will Thanheiser '09 (Houston, Texas). This trio should be among the best in the league. Adding depth to this group is speedster Ray Simnick '08 (Lake Zurich, Ill.) and Jeb Heavenrich '10 (Cambria, Calif.). Jeb has all the tools, but needs some seasoning. Chris Stem '10 (Greensburg, Pa.) and Austin Gill '10 (Englewood, Colo.), had promising freshman years but both are coming off injuries.

We are as optimistic at the running back position as we are at wide receiver. Led by the versatile Rob Toresco '08 (Flemington, N.J.), this group returns with proven experience. Rob can hurt you receiving as well as running and has an unparalleled work ethic.

R.C. Lagomarsino '09 (Sellersville, Pa.), has shown glimpses of being a special back. He needs to continue to get better and have a break out year. Pete Ploszek '09 (St. Charles, Ill.) has gotten better each year. We are looking for more consistency to challenge R.C. for the starting position.

The surprise of the spring was the switch of Kenny Gunter '10 (Arlington, Wash.) from quarterback to running back. He is a physical runner with good speed and has continued to impress us this fall. Look for Evan O'Reilly

'08 (San Luis Obispo, Calif.) to be a valuable backup at full back. Both Jordan Culbreath '10 (Falls Church, Va.) and Ryan Smith '10 (Chesapeake, Va.) played well at the JV level and will add valuable depth to their position.

The offensive line is not as much of a question mark as it was last season. With the return of three starters and a good recruiting class, it should continue to progress. Brendan Swisher '08 (Walnut Creek, Calif.) made the successful transfer from tight end and should anchor the left side of the line.

Mark Paski '10 (Chester, N.J.), the only freshman offensive lineman in Princeton history to start in 10 straight games, will anchor the right side. J.P. Makrai '10 (Cleveland, Ohio) started six games as a freshman and barring a nagging injury could develop into a dominating lineman.

Another frosh that saw some experience was Andrew Hauser '10 (Cincinnati, Ohio). He is a physical player and should be ready to assert himself. In another Swisher-like experiment, Chris Denson '10 (Douglasville, Ga.) was moved from tight end and had an impressive spring. He has been a little hampered with injuries this fall but is expected to return.

Matt Reynolds '09 (Morris Township, N.J.), Robert Bruesewitz '08 (Litchfield, Minn.), Marc Daou '10 (Inverness, Ill.), Adam Flynn '08 (Yuma Ariz.), Andrew Gor-

don '10 (Hernando, Miss.), Nick Morgan '09 (Eden Prairie, Minn.) and Greg Chambers '10 (Braselton, Ga.) all are competing to be in the five starting come opening day.

One of the surprises of last year's team was the development of Jake Staser '08 (Anchorage, Alk.) at tight end. He is a punishing blocker and is developing into a threat as a receiver.

Another player that is continually improving is Billy Mitchell '09 (Langhorne, Pa.). Billy, along with Joe Magro '09 (Little Ferry, N.J.), and Zach Kranz '09 (Tulsa, Okla.) will make this a strong position from a depth standpoint.

The special teams pose a different set of problems. The place kicking was dealt a setback when Connor Loudon '09 (Vienna, W.Va.) underwent surgery and is still recovering. He had the only significant experience. The slack will have to be taken up by Matt Lichtenstein '10 (Monroeville, Pa.) who handled the kickoff duties last year. He will be pushed by David Korn '08 (Jacksonville, Fla.).

The other issue is the replacement of four-time all-Ivy punter Colin McDonough '07. Ryan Coyle '09 (Princeton, N.J.) has worked extremely hard to put himself in this position. He also had some valuable experience filling in for Colin in the Colgate game.

Two coaches join Princeton football staff

Head Coach Roger Hughes welcomes two new staff members this season.

E.J. Henderson, formerly the wide receivers coach and special teams coordinator at Wayne State, will coach the defensive backs this season at Princeton. A 1996 graduate of Central Washington, Henderson has also served an internship with the Detroit Lions and has coached at Division III power Mt. Union.

He also was a graduate assistant at Lou-

isville where he earned a master's degree in education in 2002.

Adam Hollis, a 1990 graduate of the University at Albany, will coach the tight ends at Princeton.

Hollis comes to Princeton from Dartmouth where he coached tight ends and running backs and coordinated recruiting activities. He has also coached at Rhode Island, the University of Chicago and Concordia University.

President

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\$500,000 digital electronic scoreboard to enhance our game-day experience. The scoreboard is up and will be ready as we open the season this Saturday night against Lehigh.

As I have repeatedly stated in the past, I truly believe the support you all have shown has helped our student athletes sustain the excellence we all wish for the program.

We once again had some great off-season fundraising events including the President's Dinner in New York and our annual golf outing, again held at beautiful Echo Lake Country Club and run by our host Steve Simcox '83.

We have more great plans for this season. Please look for important dates and events in Tiger's Lair and on our Web site:

www.princeton.edu/football. Contact me for anything regarding the PFA anytime at fjvuno@16wmarketing.com.

I'd like to thank my fellow board members for their time and efforts, and all of you who make this Princeton Football brotherhood so special. I am honored to serve you. I look forward to seeing more and more of you at the upcoming games. You will not be disappointed, as this team has built quite a following. I was never more thrilled than last year to cheer and celebrate our Tiger victories, and I look forward to a repeat performance this season. Go Tigers!

Frank J. Vuono '78
President/CEO



Honorees were John Schultheis '83, above, and Vic Ruterbusch '83.



Winners of the senior competition were Arthur Abrahamsen, Bob Palmieri, Paul Gora and Peter Colgan K86.



Peter Kelly '05 is thumbs up.

**2007
Golf Classic
July 30
Echo Lake Golf Club
Westfield, N.J.**



Golf Classic winners were Frank Vuono '78, Barry Schrager, Gene Mancino '78 and Neil O'Donnell.

Defense

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lineman. Two other 10-game starters from a year ago, defensive end Methvin (Newark, Del.), and nose tackle Koch (Ponte Vedra, Fla.), help make the Princeton line one of the most experienced in the league.

Methvin's size (6-3, 270), speed (4.8 40), and aggressiveness, provides linebacker-type attributes to the defensive line. He led the front in tackles (33), and sacks (4) in 2006.

Depth will be the key to rounding out the front, as we like to utilize a five- or six-man rotation to keep everyone fresh throughout the game, and healthier throughout the season. Pat Gallagher '09 (Belle Mead, N.J.), Aaron Carter '08 (North Brunswick, N.J.), Joel Karacozoff '10 (Carmichael, Calif.) and Mark Ethridge '10 (Charlotte, N.C.) all played well in the spring, and are competing to become a part of the 2007 rotation.

A year ago, the linebacker position was our most inexperienced position on defense as only Brig Walker '07 was returning from the previous year. This year sees the Tiger defense returns three of its top seven tacklers in linebackers Song (Coshocton, Ohio), Stem Greensburg, Pa.) and Boardman (Staten Island, N.Y.). All three were a major reason why the Tiger defense was one of the best amongst the Ivies. Song's short-yardage stops versus Lehigh and Lafayette set a tone that the Tiger defense was strong once again, despite heavy graduation from the 2006 season.

Replacing Walker's speed and playmaking ability will be critical to the blitzing style we employ. Colin McCarthy '09 (San Jose, Calif.) and Jon Callahan '10 (Dallas, Texas) are our two fastest linebackers, and will count on them to come off the edge, and provide the Walker-type quickness needed by any defense.

Scott Britton '10 (Newtown, Pa.) played a role in the nickel package prior to season-ending knee surgery, and, if healthy, will be a major contributor. Britton's toughness and quickness will be a solid addition to the veteran linebacker unit. Jeremiah Miller '08

(Cheswick, Pa.), Ken Coggins '10 (Tusla, Okla.), Misha Cvetovic '08 (Melbourne, Fla.), Brad Stetler '10 (Powell, Ohio) and Peter Yorck '10 (San Diego, Calif.) are all reserve linebackers that are challenging for valuable special-team roles.

The secondary was the hardest hit unit due to graduation. Gone are all-league cover corner J.J. Artis '07 and free safety Tim Strickland '07.

Free safety Kelleher (Ann Arbor, Mich.) will be looked upon to provide the leadership needed in the young secondary. Kelleher led the team with four interceptions a year ago, and is well versed in understanding the assignments of each of the positions in the secondary.

Joe Cerreta '08 (Uniontown, Ohio) and Blake Williams '08 (Clarence, N.Y.) are veteran players that saw playing time in all 10 games last season, and provide leadership, toughness and experience at the safety position. Dan Kopolovich '10 (McKeesport, Pa.) and Tom Hurley '09 (Cincinnati, Ohio) saw significant playing time at the corner position a year ago, and will be looked upon to become major playmakers in the 2007 secondary. Both are quick and athletic, and have showed signs of being very good cover corners.

Cart Kelly '10 (Pittsburgh, Pa.), Carlos Roque '10 (Miami, Fla.), Barry Newell '09 (Mesquite, Texas), Wilson Cates '10 (Allons, Tenn.) and Evan Ayasso '09 (Monroeville, Pa.) are all newcomers that have shown good quickness, athletic ability and a competitive spirit that will allow all of them to contribute to the make-up of this years' secondary.

PFA CALENDAR

Nov. 9

**Captain's Dinner
Hyatt Regency Princeton
Honoring Bill Powers '80
and Princeton Football 1992**

Nov. 19

**Senior Banquet
Hyatt Regecy Princeton**

**Late February
President's Dinner
New York City**

**July 28
Golf Classic 2008**

F.Y.I.

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(609) 258-3538
- **Tiger SportsLine:**
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- **Football Office:**
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- **Radio Broadcasts:**
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- **Princeton Football Association web site:**
www.princeton.edu/football

Princeton Football Association

is an organization of former players, alumni, parents, students, faculty, administration and fans which is dedicated to the preservation and improvement of Princeton's long and distinguished football tradition. Through members' generous financial support and voluntary service, the **Princeton Football Association** provides supplementary and necessary assistance to keep the program viable and competitive and is the sole support for some of the highest priorities of Princeton Football. All are welcome to join.

Frank Vuono '78, President

Please send contributions to:

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TIGER'S LAIR

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2006 Results

		P	Opp.
September			
16	at Lehigh	14	10
23	Lafayette	26	14
30	at Columbia	19	6
October			
7	at Colgate	27	26 OT
13	Brown	17	3
21	Harvard	31	28
28	at Cornell	7	14
November			
4	Pennsylvania	31	30 2OT
11	at Yale	34	31
18	Dartmouth	27	17

2007 Schedule

September		
15	Lehigh	6 p.m.
22	at Lafayette	6 p.m.
29	Columbia	3:30 p.m.
October		
6	Hampton	3:30 p.m.
13	at Brown	12:30 p.m.
20	at Harvard	12:30 p.m.
27	Cornell	7 p.m.
November		
3	at Pennsylvania	12 p.m.
10	Yale	1 p.m.
18	at Dartmouth	12:30 p.m.

NEXT WEEK

Princeton
vs.
Lehigh

6 p.m.
Princeton Stadium