

Let's go for it!!

The new season is upon us and we are ready to go! Our 2011 schedule is a full slate of 10 games as we enter our final year in the Empire Eight. We play four games at home and six on the road. The home games include Family Weekend on 9/17 against Husson and Homecoming on 10/15 against Ithaca. If you can make a home game please stop by and say hello. The 2011 schedule is going to be a challenge as the 2010 team left the standards pretty high.

Our staff once again is led by Jack Holik (Defensive Coordinator) and Mike Cerasuolo (Offensive Coordinator). Their efforts continue to lead and develop our young graduate assistant staff. This year's staff has a lot of Springfield alums with returners Jameson Croall and Tom Caporale. First year GA's include John Ward, Ken Goodwin, Tim Brady, Todd Pelletier, Mike Mestieri, Travis Parisi, and Andy Byron. Tom Adams came to us from Mt. Ida College and the U.S. Marine Corps. We continue to have success placing our GA's after they complete their two years of graduate study. A large part of the placement is the support we receive from our alums in the coaching ranks.

We return twelve starters on offense and defense. The team is led by captains Sean Meagher (Cape Elizabeth, Me.) and Mark Safer (St. Johns, Fla.) on offense. The defense is led by Jim Kikel (Glendale, N.Y.) and Matt Ramos (Milford, Conn.). We are fortunate to have two experienced quarterbacks in Josh Carter and Austin Bateman as well as several experienced running backs. Matt Dugan (Methuen, Mass.), Mike MacDonald (N. Dighton, Mass.) and Sean Meagher return on the offensive line. The defensive front has returners Rob Ruggerio (Acton, Mass.) and Paul Freeman (W. Bridgewater, Mass.) as well as Scott Christy (Monroe, Conn.) and Kevin Shields (Melville, N.Y.) at the linebacker positions. Kikel and Ramos lead an experienced secondary with Will Turner (Milford, Conn.), Niall Murphy (Boston, Mass.) and Phil Davis (Windsor, Conn) all returning.

Our alumni and friends continue to support our football program with their generosity. Our June reunion and the "Old Shoe" golf outing had over 130 people return for a weekend of fun. The tornado that hit campus almost sidelined us, but we were able to continue the golf outing with some adjustments to the game plan. Everyone had a great time. President Flynn's foursome won the event with Vice President John Mailhot and class of '74 alums Buzzy Ernst and Chris Brown in the foursome. We look forward to this event each year and hope to continue to have more of you back next June. A number of former players that could not make it back were very generous with their donations to the "Old Shoe" club. We look forward to seeing you at one of the games this fall and hope you can join the family atmosphere of the football program in the tailgating lot.

One of our biggest needs is a new scoreboard at Stagg Field. The current scoreboard is over 30 years old and easily the oldest at any of our athletics facilities. Recently, we had a very generous – and anonymous – donor offer to match all gifts up to \$30,000 toward the purchase of a new, state-of-the-art scoreboard. If we meet this challenge, we will have raised \$60,000 toward the total cost of \$62,464. A number of former players have already responded to the challenge of raising funds for the other half of the scoreboard. Every alum that donates over

\$100 will receive a full size replica of the helmet they wore when they were a player at Springfield. We will send those out when the project is completed.

We also will have a website listed on the football homepage where you can order Springfield College football apparel if you wish. This is a new process and it should help you replace some of those old travel shirts you wore back in the day!

We are excited to get to the first kickoff. All the players are tired of practice and game time is closing in on us. I hope to see you this season.

Pride forever!!

Coach D

2011 Schedule

9/10	Frostburg	Home (Family Weekend)
9/17	Husson	Home
9/24	Alfred	Away
10/01	Kings Point	Away
10/08	Salisbury	Away
10/15	Ithaca	Home (Homecoming)
10/22	St John Fisher	Home
10/29	Hartwick	Away
11/05	Utica	Away
11/12	Union	Away
11/19	NCAA playoffs!!	