



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Greg Hotchkiss

Cell: (412) 491-5296

E-Mail: hotch1ga@cmich.edu

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN FOOTBALL SIGNS NO. 1 RECRUITING CLASS IN THE MAC
CMU's recruiting class is ranked No. 1 in the MAC by 247sports.com; Head Coach Jim
McElwain calls the 25-member Class of 2023 the "best recruiting class in the history of the
school"; 10 members of the Class of 2023 will enroll at CMU for the spring semester;**

MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich.—Central Michigan Head Football Coach Jim McElwain announced his 25-member 2023 signing class on Wednesday evening. According to 247sports.com's league rankings, Central Michigan's 25-member class was ranked No. 1 in the Mid-American Conference.

"This is the best recruiting class in the history of our school," McElwain said. "This class is a direct result of all the hard work by our coaching staff, along with all of the people that really care here at Central Michigan. We tried to focus on the state of Michigan and the surrounding areas and that effort is reflected in who we signed. We are looking forward to welcoming these players to campus and acclimating them to our school and football program. Ten of these signees are planning to enroll at CMU next semester and before spring practice. Having those athletes on campus will help in educating our players on what it means to be a Chippewa Football player. Our goal as a program is to get our team back to understanding the responsibility of being a Chippewa football player."

"In addition, we already have a great jump on our 2024 and 2025 classes."

Wednesday, December 21 marked National Signing Day for NCAA Division I football programs. Complete details on the class, bios, highlight videos and more information can be viewed on Central Michigan's National Signing Day Central at [this link](#).

Central Michigan's 2023 signing class consists of 15 All-State honorees, eight student-athletes who guided their high school teams to either a state title or state finals appearance, 21 who led their teams to a state playoff appearance, four team captains, 22 multi-sport athletes, 25 players who earned all-conference and all-district honors, and nine four-year high school football lettermen.

On offense, CMU added one quarterback, two running backs, four wide receivers, three tight ends, and five offensive linemen. On defense, CMU added four defensive linemen, two linebackers, and two defensive backs. The Chippewas also added one specialist (punter).

The majority of the 25-member class are Michigan natives as 12 hail from the Great Lakes State. Overall, Central Michigan's Class of 2023 is comprised of student-athletes from 11 different states, including three players from Florida and one player each from Arizona, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Georgia, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Texas.

Central Michigan is slated to begin spring football practice in March.

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2023 CENTRAL MICHIGAN FOOTBALL SIGNEES ROSTER

Player	Pos.	HT	WT	Cl.	Hometown/Last School/High School
Jamari Allen	DB	5-11	160	FR	Detroit, Mich./Warren De La Salle H.S.
Jeremiah Alston-Jackson	LB	6-0	195	FR	Detroit, Mich./Redford Union H.S.
Ryan Blum	OL	6-3	295	FR	Chandler, Ariz./Basha H.S.
Jacob Booth	OL	6-5	290	FR	Swartz Creek, Mich./Swartz Creek H.S.
Evan Boyd	WR	6-3	195	FR	East Lansing, Mich./East Lansing H.S.
Stephan Bracey, Jr.	WR	5-10	185	JR	Grand Rapids, Mich./Wisconsin/East Kentwood H.S.
Deonte Bryant	DL	6-5	240	JR	Minneapolis, Minn./Iowa Central/Hopkins H.S.
John Burke	OL	6-4	305	FR	Sault Ste. Marie, Mich./Sault Area H.S.
Jakivion Calip	RB	5-11	190	FR	Lewis Center, Ohio/Olentangy Orange H.S.

Rory Callahan	TE	6-4	225	FR	New Boston, Mich./Huron H.S.
Joe Enick	OL	6-4	295	FR	Jeannette, Pa./Penn-Trafford H.S.
Mark-Allen Gay, Jr.	DB	6-0	180	FR	Miami, Fla./Miami Central H.S.
Keshawn Hayden	DL	6-3	230	FR	St. Louis, Mo./East St. Louis H.S.
Shatavious Hogan	WR	6-3	205	FR	Milledgeville, Ga./Miami Jackson H.S. (Fla.)
Brent Hoppe	DL	6-4	235	FR	Beloit, Wis./Turner H.S.
Tyler Jefferson	QB	6-2	240	FR	High Springs, Fla./Columbia H.S.
Mekhi Jenkins	RB	5-10	185	FR	Detroit, Mich./Royal Oak H.S.
Matthew Nehf	OL	6-4	275	FR	DeWitt, Mich./DeWitt H.S.
Brady Neu	DL	6-3	280	FR	Greenwood, Ind./Roncalli H.S.
Cade Riddle	LB	6-3	230	FR	Brighton, Mich./Brighton H.S.
Jesiah Stevens-Silva	TE	6-3	230	FR	Colorado Springs, Colo./Fountain Fort Carson H.S.
Nathan VanTimmeren	TE	6-5	220	FR	Grand Rapids, Mich./Grand Rapids Catholic Central H.S.
Jake Walrath	P	6-4	200	SR	Salado, Texas/Tarleton State/Utah State/Salado H.S.
Troy Wertman	ATH	6-1	200	FR	Pewamo, Mich./Pewamo-Westphalia H.S.
Javorian Wimberly	WR	6-2	180	FR	Belle Glade, Fla./Palm Beach Central H.S.

2022 CENTRAL MICHIGAN FOOTBALL SIGNEES

JAMARI ALLEN

Defensive Back | 5-11 | 160 | Detroit, Mich./Warren De La Salle H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate from De La Salle Collegiate High School in Warren, Mich. in May 2023, where he played two years of varsity football for Head Coach Dan Rohn ... Named a Division 2 MHSAA First Team All-State selection at defensive back ... Earned Macomb County All-Star Tier 2 team honors ... Also earned All-Region, All-League, All-East, All-Academic honors ... Played wide receiver, safety, and cornerback ... Led the Pilots to back-to-back state titles ... Intercepted three passes and returned the ball 80 yards, had five pass breakups, made 17 tackles (seven solo) with one sack and a forced fumble as a senior ... Also scored two touchdowns on the year, one on an interception return and the other on a fumble return ... Guided the Pilots to a 13-1 overall record, 2-1 league record, league championship, and second straight Division 2 state championship as a senior in 2022 ... The Pilots defeated Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central 52-13 in the 2022 state title game ... Finished with 10 tackles, an interception, and scored a touchdown as a junior ... Helped propel the Pilots to a perfect 13-0 record and Division 2 state title as a junior in 2021 ... The Pilots defeated Traverse City Central 41-14 in the 2021 state championship game ... Intercepted a pass in the state title game ... Rated among the top-50 Michigan high school football recruits ... Ranked a three-star recruit by On3db.com ... Rated a two-star recruit by Rivals.com and 247sports.com ... Also competed in basketball and competed in track and field ... Personal-bests include an 11.66 in the 100-meter dash, 24.21 in the 200-meter dash, and registered a 5-3 in the high jump ... Also competed in the sprint relays ... Registered a 3.5 grade point average ... Awarded with the prestigious Cracchiolo-DeMars Endowed Scholarship ... National Honor Society member ... Involved in a variety of community service activities including Warren CleanUp and tutoring ... Earned National African-American recognition in 2022.

PERSONAL

Born Jamari Allen on February 5, 2005 ... Son of Marc Armstrong and Lagonia Rogers ... One of five siblings: Jordan, Joshua, Alexandria, and Aspen ... Nickname is Mari ... Brother played football at Albion ... Parents both attended Michigan State ... Hobbies and interests include video games and social media ... Role model is both of his parents because they are hard workers ... Chose Central Michigan after his official visit after receiving an offer ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 20, 2022 ... Selected Central Michigan over offers from Illinois State, Grand Valley State, Wayne State, and Wheeling Jesuit ... Also visited Georgia Tech and Miami, Fla. ... Intends to major in Health Science.

ARTICLES

[Jamari Allen: De La Salle CB/S/WR class of 2023 - The D Zone Football](#)

JEREMIAH ALSTON-JACKSON

Linebacker | 6-0 | 195 | Detroit, Mich./Redford Union H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate from Redford Union High School in June 2023, where he played three years of varsity football for Head Coach Ian Iler ... Named a Division 4 MHSAA First Team All-State player at linebacker ... First-ever Redford Union player in school history to earn Dream Team honors ... Two-time First Team All-Region honoree ... Two-time Western Wayne All-Conference team selection ... Named to the Anvil Award Top-Ten List as a linebacker ... Played linebacker, wide receiver, and safety ... Finished with 72 tackles and 12 sacks as a senior linebacker ... Led Redford Union to a 9-1 overall record, 7-0 league record and Western Wayne Conference championship, and a state playoff appearance as a senior ... Rated a three-star recruit by 247sports.com ... Rated a two-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Played for the Detroit Burgandy 7-on-7 team ... Also plays basketball and competed on the track and field team ... Ran personal-bests of 11.48 in the 100-meter dash, 24.88 in the 200-meter dash and also competed in the 4x100 and 4x200 in the sprint relays ...

PERSONAL

Born Jeremiah Alston-Jackson ... Son of Michelle Alston ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 21, 2022 ... Central Michigan was the first school to offer him a scholarship ... Chose Central Michigan over offers from Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Michigan State, Iowa, Eastern Michigan, Northwood, and Siena Heights.

ARTICLES

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BnjRI_LuWRo

RYAN BLUM

Offensive Lineman | 6-3 | 295 | Chandler, Ariz./Basha H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate from Basha High School in December 2022, where he played two years of varsity football for Head Coach Chris McDonald ... Earned honorable mention honors on the 2021 All-CUSD team ... Named to the Sports360 Arizona All-Academic Football Team ... Played center and guard ... Helped lead Basha to a national top-25 ranking in 2022 ... Led the Bears to a 11-1 overall record and first place finish with a 4-0 record in the Class 6A Premier League ... The Bears won six straight games ... Helped Basha to a 28-21 victory over Saguaro in the Class 6A state championship game ... Guided Basha to a 10-0 undefeated regular season as a junior ... Rated the No. 5 center in the United States by ESPN.com ... Attended and played football at Hamilton High School in 2019 and 2020 ... Rated a three-star recruit by ESPN.com and 247sports.com ... Rated a two-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Rated the nation's No. 7 ranked center ... Attended Under Armour Next Camp ... Also competes in track and field ... Recorded a 41.75 in the shot put and 103-10 in the discus as a sophomore ... Registered a 4.2 grade point average.

PERSONAL

Born Ryan Blum on August 15, 2004 ... Son of Robert and Nicole Blum ... Has two younger sisters Alice and Emily ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 12, 2022 ... Chose Central Michigan over offers from Air Force, Northern Arizona, Georgetown, Columbia, San Diego, Northern Colorado, and New Mexico State ... Intends to major in Business/Finance.

JACOB BOOTH

Offensive Lineman | 6-5 | 290 | Swartz Creek, Mich./Swartz Creek H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in June 2023 from Swartz Creek High School, where he played four years of varsity football for Joe Spencer ... Two-time All-State selection as a blocking tight end ... Two-time All-Regional honoree as a tight end ... Nominated for the Genesee County Senior Player of the Year Award ... Named the Genesee County Offensive Lineman of the Year ... Four-time All-Flint Metro League offensive lineman ... Played tight end and offensive line ... Four-year varsity starter ... Registered over 325 career pancake blocks ... Averaged over nine pancakes in his 36 career games ... Graded out with an 83 percent as a senior ... Led the Dragons to a 7-3 overall record, 4-1 league record, and state playoff appearance as a senior in 2022 ... Led the Dragons to a 5-5 season, four straight wins and a state playoff appearance as a junior ... Invited to play in the NUC All-American Game, Dec. 27-30 in Savannah, Ga. ... Invited to compete at the O-D Bowl All-American Game in Orlando, Fla. in February 2-5, 2022 ... Rated a three-star recruit by 247sports.com and Rivals.com ... Ranked the No. 2 offensive tackle in Michigan and the No. 23 player in the state ... Named one of MLive's top-50 recruits in the Class of 2023 ... Also played basketball and was recruited to play basketball ... Also competes in track and field ... Throws the shot put.

PERSONAL

Born Jacob Booth on June 14, 2004 ... Son of Jason Booth and Amelia Booth ... One of four siblings: Trevor, Fabie, and Andrew ... Selected Central Michigan over offers from Kansas, Arizona State, Army, Illinois State, Kent State, Ferris State, and Eastern Michigan, and also recruited by Michigan State, Tennessee, Wisconsin, South Carolina, Purdue, Navy, and Cincinnati.

EVAN BOYD

Wide Receiver | 6-3 | 195 | East Lansing, Mich./East Lansing H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in June 2023 from East Lansing High School, where he earned three varsity letters in football for Head Coach Bill Feraco ... Named a Division 2 MHSAA First Team All-State wide receiver ... Earned All-Star honors as a junior ... Two-time MHSAA Division 2 All-Region selection as a wide receiver ... Named to the SBLive Michigan All-53 man roster team ... Helped the Trojans reach the state playoffs in three consecutive seasons ... Also played on defense ... Scored a total of 40 points, caught 61 receptions for 994 yards (16.3 yards per catch) and six touchdowns and made 33 tackles and intercepted two passes in 12 games of his senior year ... Helped guide the Trojans to an 8-4 overall record 4-2 conference record and state playoff appearance as a senior... Finished with three 100-yard receiving games ... Caught nine passes for 92 yards in state playoff game vs. Forest Hills Central ... Caught five passes for 97 yards and a touchdown vs. Grand Ledge ... Caught four passes for 105 yards and a touchdown vs. Waverly ... Scored two touchdowns, caught a season-high 11 passes for 180 yards with touchdown receptions of 67 and 58 yards vs. DeWitt ... Racked up 121 receiving yards and a touchdown on four catches vs. Fenton ... Caught 27 passes for 375 yards and three touchdowns despite missing five games with an injury as a junior ... Guided the Trojans to a 7-4 record and state playoff appearance as a junior in 2021 ... As a sophomore, helped lead the Trojans to an 8-1 overall record and state playoff appearance in 2020 ... Ranked a three-star recruit

by 247sports.com ... Rated a two-star recruit by 247sports.com ... Rated among the top receiver recruits in the state of Michigan ... Also plays basketball ... Selected for the WILX High School Play of the Week with two dunks vs. Grand Ledge.

PERSONAL

Born Evan Boyd on November 15, 2004 ... Son of Sherri Boyd ... Has an older brother Ethan ... Brother Ethan is a 6-foot-7-inch, 315-pound offensive lineman at Michigan State ... Growing up, he was always one of the shorter kids but hit his growth spurt when his family moved to East Lansing ... Became interested in CMU while attending football camp during the summer ... Selected Central Michigan because of his relationship with the coaches and the fact that he felt comfortable on campus immediately, and the in-state proximity ... Committed to Central Michigan on May 2, 2022 ... Chose Central Michigan over offers from Eastern Michigan and Navy ... Plans to major in social work.

ARTICLES

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STEPHAN BRACEY, JR.

Wide Receiver | 5-10 | 185 | Grand Rapids, Mich./Wisconsin/East Kentwood H.S.

CAREER

Will enter his junior year at Central Michigan ... Transferred to Central Michigan after considering offers from Western Michigan, Eastern Michigan, and Kentucky ... Played a total of five games at Wisconsin due to injuries ... Saw action as a kickoff returner ... Finished his two-year career with 307 kickoff return yards on 12 attempts (25.6 yards per return) and one reception for 11 yards.

2022 AT WISCONSIN

During his junior season, announced his intent to transfer in October.

2021 AT WISCONSIN

As a sophomore, played in two games as a wide receiver and kick returner ... returned six kickoffs for 193 yards ... returned the opening kickoff 91 yards for a touchdown in win over Nebraska ... had two other returns in that game for a combined 47 yards.

2020 AT WISCONSIN

As a redshirt freshman, played in three games as a wide receiver and kick returner ... caught one pass for 11 yards (at Northwestern), had one rush for yards (at Michigan) and totaled six kickoff returns for 114 yards.

2019 AT WISCONSIN

Redshirted his first season at Wisconsin.

HIGH SCHOOL

A 2019 graduate of East Kentwood High School, where he played four years of varsity football for Head Coach Tony Kimbrough ... Four-time All-OK Conference selection ... Two-year team captain ... Four-year All-Academic team selection ... Caught 40 passes for 893 yards and 14 total touchdowns as a senior ... Led the Falcons to a 9-2 overall record, eight straight wins, the OK Conference championship, and a state playoff appearance as a senior ... Had 525 receiving yards and 393 rushing yards as a junior, scoring nine total touchdowns ... Rated a three-star recruit by 247 Sports, ESPN and Rivals ... Also competed in track, helping East Kentwood to back-to-back state titles as a sophomore and junior ... Owns five top-five finishes at state meet, including championship in 4x200 relay as a sophomore.

PERSONAL

Born Stephan Bracey, Jr. on January 4, 2001 ... Son of Stephen and Yamaka Bracey ... Sister Sekayi Bracey competes in track and field at Purdue ... Originally chose Wisconsin over offers from Bowling Green, Eastern Michigan, Northern Illinois, Toledo, and Western Michigan ... Personal Finance major.

DEONTE BRYANT

Defensive Lineman | 6-5 | 240 | Minneapolis, Minn./Iowa Central/Hopkins H.S.

CAREER

Totaled 88 tackles (41 solo), 19 sacks for 129 yards, 39.5 tackles for loss for 201 yards, forced four fumbles, and recovered two fumbles, broke up two passes and blocked two kicks in three-year, 29-game career.

2020-22 AT IOWA CENTRAL

Played three seasons at Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge, Iowa for Head Coach Jesse Montalto ... First Team ICCAC All-Conference selection as a sophomore ... Ranked second in the ICCAC in sacks ... As a sophomore, finished with 45 tackles (17 solo) with 9.5 sacks for 67 yards, 20.5 tackles for loss for 106 yards, and recovered a fumble ... Guided the Tritons to a 7-4 overall record and a 31-14 Game One Bowl victory over Trinity Valley ... Made 27 tackles (14 solo) with 4.5 sacks, 11.5 tackles for loss, recovered a fumble and broke up a pass as a freshman ... Registered 16 tackles (10 solo) with five sacks and 7.5 tackles for loss with three forced fumbles ... Rated the No. 1 defensive end in Junior College Football by 247sports.com ... Rated among the ESPN Top-50 JUCO recruits.

HIGH SCHOOL

A 2020 graduate of Hopkins High School in Minnetonka, Minn., where he played four years of varsity football ... Played both outside linebacker, defensive end on defense and wide receiver on offense ... Finished with 33 tackles (49 solo) with 6.0 sacks and 11 tackles for loss as a junior in 2018 ... Earned Minnesota Football Hub Player of the Week honors after a four-sack, 10-tackle performance vs. Coon Rapids ... Also wrestled.

PERSONAL

Born Deonte Bryant on September 14, 2001 ... Chose Central Michigan over offers from Toledo, New Mexico, Buffalo, Jacksonville State, Lincoln, Northern Iowa, and Missouri State.

JOHN BURKE

Offensive Lineman | 6-4 | 305 | Sault Sainte Marie, Mich./Sault Area H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in December 2022 from Sault Area High School in Sault Sainte Marie, Mich., where he played three years of varsity football for Head Coach Scott Menard ... Named a Division 3 MHSAA First Team All-State offensive lineman as a senior ... Named a three-time All-Upper Peninsula First Team selection and Dream Team member by the UP sportscasters and sportswriters... Three-time First Team All-Area selection ... Three-time First Team All-Northern Michigan Football Conference selection ... Named the Mitchell Snyder UP Lineman of the Year following his senior season ... Named to the SBLive Michigan All-53 man roster team ... Academic All-State honoree ... Earned his team's co-Lineman of the Year award ... Played both offensive tackle and defensive end ... In his 27-game varsity career, made 51 total tackles, 1.0 sack, 1.0 tackle for loss, recovered two fumbles and registered a safety on defense ... Started all nine games on the offensive line, made 14 tackles and one sack on defense as a senior ... Guided the Blue Devils to a 6-3 overall record and 4-3 league record as a senior ... Started all nine games on the offensive line, made 25 total tackles, recovered two fumbles, and registered a safety as a junior ... Guided the Blue Devils to a 6-3 record and 3-3 league record as a junior ... Made 14 total tackles as a sophomore ... Helped guide the Blue Devils to a 6-3 record, 3-1 league record and second place finish in the conference, and second place sectional finish as a sophomore ... Rated a three-star recruit by On3.com ... Rated at two-star recruit by 247sports.com and Rivals.com ... Also competed in basketball, powerlifting and track and field ... In powerlifting, placed first at Regionals and was a top-10 finisher at the state meet as a junior ... Accumulated a 3.9 grade point average ... Enrolled in a variety of Advanced Placement classes ... Honor Roll student ... National Honor Society member ... Member of Students United ... Involved in a variety of community service activities as he logged over 100 hours of volunteer activities.

PERSONAL

Born John William Burke on March 21, 2005 in Sault Sainte Marie, Mich. ... Son of John and Stephanie Burke ... Has an older sister Allyson, who attends Central Michigan ... Hobbies and interests include weightlifting and video games ... Worked as auto detailer at Soo Motors Ford dealership ... Role model is his father because he worked hard to help get him to where he is today ... Favorite sports figure: Ndamukong Suh ... Favorite part about playing football is the team aspect and the special bond between teammates that can't be found in any other setting ... Attended Central Michigan's football camp, received an offer and committed the next day ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 8, 2022 ... Chose Central Michigan to attend a great school to receive his degree at while playing football at a high level ... Intends to major in Engineering with plans of becoming an engineer after he earns his Master's degree.

JAKIVION CALIP

Running Back | 5-11 | 190 | Lewis Center, Ohio/Olentangy Orange H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in May 2023 from Olentangy Orange High School in Lewis Center, Ohio, where he played one year of varsity football for Head Coach Zepp Schroeder ... Two-time Ohio All-State selection ... Third Team All-State running back ... Two-time First Team All-Central District honoree ... Two-time First Team All-OC Conference as a junior ... Two-time First Team Division I All-Central District honoree as a senior ... Two-time All-Metro honoree ... Two-time First Team All-Delaware County team selection ... Transferred to Olentangy Orange High School for his senior year in 2022 ... Totaled 1,495 all-purpose yards, 764 rushing yards, 407 kickoff return yards, 324 receiving yards on 40 catches and 10 total touchdowns as a senior ... Rushed for 1,209 yards and 15 touchdowns, amassed 1,783 all-purpose yards, 81 receiving yards, and 498 kickoff return yards as a junior at Worthington Kilbourne High School in 2021 ... Named a First Team All-District running back ... Rated a three-star recruit by both Rivals.com and 247sports.com ... Rated the nation's No. 66 running back by ESPN.com ... Ranked the No. 26 player in Ohio ... Rated the No. 83 player in the Eastern Region by ESPN.com ... Compiled a 3.87 grade point average in high school.

PERSONAL

Born Jakivion Calip on March 13, 2005 ... Guardian is his grandmother Mattie Chawinga ... Grandmother saved him from some difficult situations while growing up in Cleveland, Ohio ... Nickname is JJ ... Always had a goal of playing college football despite challenges and setbacks growing up in Ohio ... Became the first player to commit to Central Michigan in the Class of 2023 ... Committed to Central Michigan on April 4, 2022 ... Chose Central Michigan because of the family atmosphere ... Selected Central Michigan over offers from Pitt, Cincinnati, Toledo, Coastal Carolina, Akron, Bowling Green, Western Michigan, Connecticut, and Duquesne.

ARTICLES

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<https://headtopics.com/us/jakivion-calip-bobby-ogles-become-dynamic-duo-in-olentangy-orange-backfield-30214440>
[Senior year!! - Jakivion Calip highlights - Hudl](#)

RORY CALLAHAN

Tight End | 6-4 | 225 | New Boston, Mich./Huron H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in May 2023 from Huron High School in New Boston, Mich., where he played four years of varsity football for coaches Chad Smith and Tom Hoover ... Two-time Monroe All-Region selection ... Two-time All-District honoree ... Two-time News Herald First Team All-Area and Dream Team selection ... Three-time First Team All-Huron League team selection ... Named to the Detroit News All-West Team as a junior ... Two-time Monroe All-Region Watch List ... Played tight end and defensive end ... Two-year team captain ... Led the Chiefs to three straight playoff appearances as a sophomore, junior and senior ... Caught 21 passes for 505 yards and five touchdowns on offense and made 46 tackles, 16 tackles for loss and 12 sacks on defense as a senior all this despite teams running away from him ... Finished with 100 yards receiving vs. Crestwood ... Registered a career-high four sacks vs. Grosse Ile ... Caught 13 passes for 215 yards (16.5 average) with two touchdowns and a long of 52 yards and made 37 tackles with 12 tackles for loss and six sacks during junior season ... Finished with 25 tackles, 11.0 tackles for loss and 6.0 sacks as a sophomore defensive lineman and had seven receptions for 67 yards as a tight end ... Rated a two-star recruit by ESPN.com, On3.com, Rivals.com, and 247sports.com ... Listed among the top-50 2023 high school recruits in Michigan by MLive.com ... Rated the nation's No. 42 ranked tight end by ESPN.com ... Earned a total of 12 varsity letters ... Also played basketball and baseball ... Played basketball for Bob Blosser and Ted Tackett ... Played center in basketball ... Two-time All-Huron League team selection ... Two-time Monroe All-Region Watch List player ... Two-year basketball team captain ... Played baseball (outfield) for Phil Yancey ... Monroe All-Region baseball player ... Named to the News Herald Second Team as a junior ... Ranked among the top-10 in the region in batting average as a sophomore and junior ... Led the Chiefs to four straight district and regional championships and earned a state final four appearance as a sophomore ... Played travel baseball for the Nationals and Reds and hit .380 ... National Honor Society student ... Involved with a variety of volunteer activities including working with basketball, baseball and football camps, working with students with disabilities and serving as a PBJ volunteer with the homeless in Detroit.

PERSONAL

Born Rory Patrick Callahan on July 9, 2004 in Dearborn, Mich. ... Son of Pat and Linda Callahan ... Has two sisters Summer and Faith ... Sister Faith attends CMU and is a softball player for the Chippewas ... Sister Summer played softball at Michigan State, then played softball and graduated from Bowling Green in 2021 ... Both of his parents attended Wayne State ... Father played football at Wayne State for two years ... Hobbies and interests include fishing, hunting, riding quads, and video games ... Family loves spending time outdoors as his family owns a cottage on Houghton Lake ... Father is role model because he is the toughest guy he knows ... Selected Central Michigan because it felt like home to him and feels like the right place to be ... Has always dreamed about attending Central Michigan ... Became interested in CMU during his sister's recruitment process as he fell in love with the campus and facilities on her visit ... While attending a football game, he told his parents he would play on CMU's field someday ... Chose Central Michigan over Northern Illinois, Grand Valley State, Ferris State, Davenport, Wayne State, Eastern Michigan, Ohio, Michigan Tech, and Lawrence Tech ... Intends to major in Kinesiology ... Has a dream to coach football at the collegiate level and possibly attend chiropractic school.

ARTICLES

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9JJpkhSVzP8>

JOE ENICK

Offensive Lineman | 6-4 | 295 | Jeannette, Pa./Penn-Trafford H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in May 2023 from Penn-Trafford High School in Harrison, Pa., where he earned three varsity letters in football for Head Coach John Ruane and assistant coaches David Ruby and Daniel Tarabrella ... Class 5A PIAA First Team All-State honoree as a junior ... Three-year Big 56 All-Area honoree on both offense and defense ... Named a finalist for the Bill Fralic Memorial Award as the top-two-way lineman in WPIAL football ... As a senior, earned Big 56 First Team Offense honors and Second Team Defense selection ... Played both center and nose guard ... Named a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review Football All-Star team and Penn Live All-Pennsylvania football preseason honoree in 2022 ... Served as a team captain during his senior season ... Led the Warriors to a 6-5 record and third place finish in the Big East as a senior ... Made 26 tackles with 2.5 sacks on defense and led a blocking unit that produced two 1,000-yard rushers as a junior ... As a junior, helped guide the Warriors to the Class 5A PIAA state championship, WPIAL title, and Big East Conference Championship ... Led Penn-Trafford to a 17-14 overtime win over Imhotep Charter in the state final ... Helped guide the

Warriors to the 2020 Big East title as a sophomore ... Rated a three-star recruit by ESPN.com and two-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Rated the nation's No. 101 offensive guard by ESPN.com ... Earned a total of six varsity letters ... Also competed in wrestling for coaches Travis McKillop and Larry Hohman ... Served as team wrestling captain as a senior in 2022-23 ... Advanced to the state heavyweight final as a junior ... Finished in third place in the county tournament as a junior ... Took third place in the county championship in 2019.

PERSONAL

Born Joseph Baptista Enick on October 21, 2004 in Jeannette, Pa. ... Son of Michael and Tera Enick ... Has a younger sister Gianna ... Father attended West Virginia and mother attended Pitt ... Father played football on the offensive line (center) at West Virginia from 1996-2000 ... Hobbies and interests include hunting, fishing, trail riding ... Worked summer jobs as a landscaper and tree cutter ... Role model is his grandfather and father because of the hard work and sacrifice they have taught him ... Favorite sports memory was defeating Pine-Richland in the state semifinals ... Fell in love with the Mid-Michigan area because of the hunting and fishing options ... Selected Central Michigan to play football, get a good education and pursue a future career ... Also selected Central Michigan because he loved the people and coaches and it feels like a big family and home away from home ... Committed to CMU on June 6, 2022 ... Selected Central Michigan over offers from Buffalo, Miami, Ohio, Eastern Michigan, St. Francis (Pa.), The Citadel, Georgetown, Lehigh, Bucknell, Youngstown State, Albany, Duquesne, Maine, and Monmouth ... Future plan is to become a state police officer.

ARTICLES

<https://tribhssn.triblive.com/p-t-lineman-joe-enick-verbally-commits-to-central-michigan/>

<https://www.post-gazette.com/sports/high-school-football/2022/08/19/2022-blue-chip-chat-penn-trafford-joe-enick-mullet-wpial-piaa-champions/stories/202208190034>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A72yPwDOzYc>

<https://tribhssn.triblive.com/2022-trib-hssn-preseason-football-all-star-team-penn-traffords-joe-enick/>

<https://www.yahoo.com/now/penn-traffords-enick-refocuses-goals-045900626.html>

MARK-ALLEN GAY, JR.

Defensive Back | 6-0 | 180 | Miami, Fla./Miami Central H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate from Central High School in December 2022 in Miami, Fla., where he played one year for Head Coach Jube Joseph ... Played free safety, strong safety, and in the nickel package ... Made seven tackles (five solo) with 1.0 sack, and a pass deflection before suffering an injury during senior season ... Led the Rockets to an undefeated 12-0 record, 4-0 league record, first place finish in the 2M District 13 standings as a senior ... Attended and played at Miami Killian High School before his senior season ... Recorded 40 tackles, an interception, and forced a fumble as a junior in 2021 ... Made 11 tackles (five solo), intercepted a pass and broke up a pass vs. Norland ... Attended and played at Palmetto High School during sophomore seasons ... Played with the South Florida Xpress 7-on-7 team ... Rated a three-star recruit by 247sports.com and On3.com ... Rated the nation's 106 safety by ESPN.com ... Also plays baseball (outfielder)... Carries a 4.1 grade point average ... Earned a variety of academic honors in English, Biology, World History, Chemistry, and Algebra.

PERSONAL

Born Mark-Allen Gay, Jr. on June 8, 2005 ... Son of Mark and Shay Gay of Miami, Fla. ... Has two older sisters Nia and Niya ... Hobbies and interests include playing video games, reading comics, and working out ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 25, 2022 ... Selected Central Michigan over 13 offers from Akron, Charlotte, Coastal Carolina, Florida International, Florida Atlantic, James Madison, Marshall, Maryland, Middle Tennessee, Syracuse, Memphis, Towson, and Western Kentucky ... Intends to major in Finance.

KESHAWN HAYDEN

Defensive Lineman | 6-3 | 230 | St. Louis, Mo./East St. Louis H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in December 2022 from East St. Louis High School in East St. Louis, Ill., where he played two years of varsity football for Head Coach Darren Sunkett and Rod Felton ... Named an IHSFCA honorable mention All-State selection following his senior year ... Two-time All-Metro First Team Defensive selection ... First Team All-Academic Team selection ... Registered 91 total tackles (61 solo), 11 sacks, recovered one fumble, and scored a touchdown during his senior season ... Made a season-high 14 tackles (12 solo) vs. Creekside, Ga. ... Made 10 tackles and a sack vs. Crete-Monee ... Registered nine tackles and two sacks vs. O'Fallon ... Made eight tackles with two sacks vs. Oak Lawn Richards ... Scored a touchdown vs. Belleville East ... Led the Flyers to a 12-2 overall record, including 11 straight wins and a Class 6A state championship ... Led the Flyers to a 57-7 win over Crystal Lake Prairie Ridge in the Class 6A state title game as a senior ... Made 100 tackles and finished with 10 sacks and a fumble recovery as a junior ... Made 13 tackles vs. De Smet ... Made two sacks and nine tackles vs. Edwardsville ... Guided the Flyers to an 11-3 overall record, a Class 6A state playoff appearance, a Class 6A state runner-up finish, and shutouts of all of their conference opponents ... Dropped the state title game 37-36 to Cary-Grove ... Attended and played his first two high school football seasons at Duchesne ... Ranked the No. 26 recruit on the St. Louis Post-Dispatch Super 30 List ... Ranked a three-star recruit by ESPN.com and On3.com ... Rated a two-star recruit by Rivals.com and 247sports.com ... Honor Roll student ... Dean's List student ...

PERSONAL

Born Keshawn Hayden on February 21, 2005 ... Son of Lekisha Hill ... Also resides with his grandfather Ronald Hill ... One of four siblings: Kanisha, Antwon, and Anisha ... Has a twin brother Antwon JoJo Hayden, who will sign with Illinois ... Nickname is "Kiki" ... Grandfather competed at Indiana State ... Hobbies and interests include video games ... Favorite home-cooked meal is mashed potatoes and Salisbury steak ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 21, 2022 ... Selected Central Michigan because both the school and football program made him feel like home and had a family feel ... Chose Central Michigan over offers from Northern Illinois, Bowling Green, Miami, Ohio, Memphis, Toledo, Northern Iowa, Arkansas State, Austin Peay, Bowling Green, SIU, and Lindenwood ... Intends to major in Sports Management.

ARTICLES

https://www.stltoday.com/sports/high-school/football/super-30/no-26-haydens-enhanced-size-will-make-him-a-handful-at-east-st-louis/article_7d12d860-136c-11ed-8076-0baf622f819b.html

SHATAVIOUS HOGAN

Wide Receiver | 6-3 | 205 | Milledgeville, Ga./Miami Jackson H.S. (Fla.)

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in December 2022 from Jackson High School in Miami, Fla., where he played one year of varsity football for Head Coach John Harris ... Helped guide the Generals to a 7-4 overall record, 2-2 district record, and state playoff appearance as a senior ... Played wide receiver for the Generals ... Registered five 100-yard receiving games during senior season ... Earned First Team Class 4A All-State honors in Georgia following his junior year ... Two-time Class 4A All-Region team selection in Georgia ... Named First Team All-Area, First Team All-Region, First Team All-County, and First Team All-Conference at Baldwin High School as a junior ... Led Baldwin to a conference title, regional championship, and sectional title ... Attended and played football at Baldwin High School in Milledgeville, Ga. ... Competed at the NextGen All-American Camp in Orlando in 2022 ... Ranked a three-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Two-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Also played basketball ... Class 4A All-Area and All-Region basketball player in Georgia in 2022 ... Guided Baldwin H.S. to the Class 4A state championship in 2021.

PERSONAL

Born Shatavious Hogan ... Mother is Shanika Hogan ... Nickname is Tay ... Originally from Milledgeville, Ga. and Baldwin H.S. ... Chose Central Michigan over offers from Florida International, Iowa, Pittsburgh, Auburn, and Alabama State.

BRENT HOPPE

Defensive Lineman | 6-4 | 235 | Beloit, Wis./Turner H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in May 2023 from Turner High School in Beloit, Wis., where he played four years of varsity football for Head Coach Derek Diehl ... Earned First Team All-State Small School honors as a junior ... WFCAs All-State Small School honors ... Two-time All-Region honoree ... Named the Capitol Conference Defensive Player of the Year and Lineman of the Year ... Played both defensive end and tight end ... Invited to play at the Blue-Grey All-American Bowl at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas ... Holds the Wisconsin state record for most sacks in a game (seven) ... Over four-year career, finished with 225 tackles (165 solo), 66 tackles for loss, 22.0 sacks, recovered five fumbles, forced six fumbles, and blocked four kicks ... Finished the year with 95 tackles, 18 tackles for loss, two sacks, 15 quarterback pressures/hits, two forced fumbles, an interception and blocked three kicks on defense, rushed for 65 yards and a touchdown on 13 carries on offense as a senior ... Led the state in tackles for loss ... Finished with 12 tackles, three tackles for loss, intercepted a pass and forced a fumble vs. Big Foot ... Made 17 tackles (13 solo) with two tackles for loss vs. Lake Mills ... Made 14 tackles with five tackles for loss vs. Edgewood ... Made 17 tackles (nine solo) vs. Lodi ... Had six tackles for loss and a total of 10 tackles vs. New Giarus/Monticello ... Made 87 tackles (74 solo) with 14.0 sacks and 42 tackles for loss, four forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries with one blocked kick on defense and rushed for 100 yards and a touchdown on 29 carries on offense as a junior ... Finished with a career-high 11 tackles for loss and a career-high seven sacks and totaled 12 tackles with two forced fumbles vs. Horizons/Huntsford ... Made 10 tackles with five sacks vs. East Troy ... Made 11 tackles with five sacks vs. Saint Francis ... Made nine tackles with six sacks a forced fumble vs. Big Foot ... Registered a season-high 13 tackles and seven tackles for loss vs. Lake Mills ... Made 31 tackles (19 solo) with 4.0 sacks as a sophomore ... Saw action as a freshman ... Rated a three-star recruit by 247sports.com and ESPN.com, and two-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Rated the nation's No. 113 defensive end by ESPN.com ... Also plays basketball ... Academic Honor Roll student.

PERSONAL

Born Brent Hoppe on October 25, 2004 ... Son of Chuck and Kristin Hoppe ... Has an older brother Dylan ... Chose Central Michigan because of the coaches, players, culture and the fact that he loved the place from the first time he was on campus ... Selected Central Michigan over offers from Air Force, Army, Navy, Illinois State, Miami, Ohio, South Dakota, Wyoming ... Intends to major and pursue Athletic Training.

ARTICLES

https://www.beloitdailynews.com/sports/beloit-turners-brent-hoppe-will-accept-scholarship-from-central-michigan/article_31493d26-f296-11ec-bf18-ebef5a4833c3.html

<https://www.newsbreak.com/news/2676047185466/beloit-turner-s-brent-hoppe-to-play-in-all-american-bowl-in-december>

TYLER JEFFERSON

Quarterback | 6-2 | 240 | High Springs, Fla./Columbia H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate from Columbia High School in Lake City, Fla., where he was a four-year varsity football letterwinner and played three total years of varsity football for Head Coach Demetric Jackson ... Transferred to Lake City Columbia H.S. before his senior season ... Was coached by Cornelius Ingram at Hawthorne ... Threw for 1,081 yards and nine touchdowns while completing 58 of 99 attempts (58.6 percent) with only seven interceptions, and rushed for 475 yards and five touchdowns (4.3 yards per carry) with a long of 80 yards as a senior ... Passed for 108.1 yards per game ... Totaled 1556 total yards on the year ... Also served as the team's punter (35.3 average) ... Led Columbia to a 9-3 overall record, 3-0 conference record and state playoff appearance as a senior in 2022 ... Rushed for 108 yards on 23 carries and completed 3-7 passes for 28 yards vs. DeLand ... Completed 10 of 26 passes for 272 yards and two touchdowns and rushed for 100 yards on 11 carries and a touchdown vs. Trinity Christian Academy (long run of 80 yards) ... Threw three touchdown passes, completed seven of 11 passes for 169 yards vs. Ridgeview ... Completed seven of nine passes for 143 yards and two touchdowns vs. Lincoln ... Class 1A First Team All-State honoree ... First Team All-Area on offense ... Mainstreet Daily News First Team selection on offense ... Two-time Football Offensive Most Valuable Player in 2019 and 2020 ... Rushed for 721 yards and 16 touchdowns (6.7 yards per carry), also threw for 653 yards and six touchdowns as a junior ... Led Hawthorne High School to a 10-1 record and Class 1A state runner-up finish ... Played his first two seasons at Fort White High school ... Ranked a three-star recruit by 247sports.com, Rivals.com, ESPN.com, and On3DB.com ... Ranked the nation's No. 24 ranked quarterback-dual threat by ESPN.com ... Also played basketball ... Member of the National Honor Society ... Accumulated 3.8 grade point average.

PERSONAL

Born Tyler Jefferson on March 30, 2004 ... Son of Rufus and Keturah Jefferson ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 6, 2022 ... Selected Central Michigan over offers from Kentucky, Florida Atlantic, Kentucky, Florida State, Alcorn State, Bethune-Cookman, Campbell, Troy, Georgia State, UT-Martin, and Connecticut.

ARTICLES

[Tyler Jefferson to suit up for Columbia \(mainstreetdailynews.com\)](https://www.wcjb.com/2022/06/28/top-hs-quarterback-tyler-jefferson-transfer-hawthorne-columbia/)

<https://www.wcjb.com/2022/06/28/top-hs-quarterback-tyler-jefferson-transfer-hawthorne-columbia/>

<https://www.gainesville.com/story/sports/high-school/2021/09/30/z-meet-hawthorne-quarterback-tyler-jefferson/5899577001/>

MEKHI JENKINS

Running Back | 5-10 | 185 | Detroit, Mich./Royal Oak H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate from Royal Oak High School in June 2023, where he played four years of varsity football for Head Coach Colin Campbell ... Two-time All-Area honorable mention selection by the Detroit News and Detroit Free Press in 2021 and 2020 ... 2020 Detroit News All-North honorable mention selection ... Two-time All-Oakland Athletic Association Blue/Gold League player ... Named team Most Valuable Player following senior year ... Two-time team offensive player of the year honoree ... Two-time team captain as a junior and senior ... Played quarterback, running back, wide receiver, slot back, and returned kicks and punts ... Scored seven touchdowns, rushed for 446 yards on 103 carries and finished with nine receptions for 127 receiving yards in nine games as a senior ... Rushed for two touchdowns and 112 yards vs. Troy Athens ... Scored eight touchdowns, rushed for 736 yards and eight touchdowns on 115 carries with 10 receptions for 107 yards as a junior ... Scored a career-high three touchdowns and totaled 207 yards vs. Troy Athens ... Rushed for 115 yards and a touchdown vs. Farmington ... Rushed for 135 yards and a touchdown vs. Fraser ... Rushed for 113 yards vs. Troy ... Rushed for 437 yards and seven touchdowns on 88 carries and caught one pass for 10 yards in seven varsity games as a sophomore ... Rushed for 113 yards vs. Berkeley, his first career 100-yard rushing game ... Saw action on the varsity as a freshman with 47 rushing yards and a touchdown on 15 carries ... Received invitations to the Under Armor Ray Lewis Next Day Camp in Chicago and the 2022 Postseason Hawaii Tiki Bowl All-Star Game in Honolulu ... Ranked a three-star recruit by On3DB.com ... Rated a two-star recruit by 247sports.com, Rivals.com ... Ranked the No. 31 overall player in the state of Michigan and No. 104 running back in the nation ... Ranked the No. 10 recruit in Oakland County ... Also competed in wrestling and track and field as a sprinter and long jumper ... Coached by David Barnett and Ryan Pippo in track and field and Jason Palazzio in wrestling ... Personal track and field records include an 11.5 in the 100-meters, 24.40 in the 200-meters, and 20-5 in the long jump ... Won Region 7 titles in the 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash and long jump as a junior ... Also competed in the 4x100-meter and 4x200-meter relays ... Led the Ravens to league titles in both wrestling (2021-22 OAA Blue League) and track and field (2020-21 OAA Gold League, 2021-22 OAA Gold League) ... Led the Ravens to two straight undefeated seasons in track and field ... Finished third in the OAA, ninth in the region, and qualified for the county championship in the long jump as a junior ... Is three inches shy of breaking the school long jump record and ranks No. 2 in school history ... National Honor Society student ... Earned a variety of academic awards.

PERSONAL

Born Mekhi Jenkins on April 12, 2005 in Detroit, Mich. ... Mother is Viola Jenkins ... One of six siblings: Eryne Jenkins, Romeiro Williams, Eriel Jenkins, Mauricio Jenkins, and Adaesa Williams ... Older brother Mauricio plays football at Lawrence Tech ... Older sister Eriel played basketball at Herkimer College ... Nicknames include Mek, MJ, and Khi ... Role model is his brother Mauricio because he's always looked to him for everything and served as a father figure to him ... Hobbies and interests include sports, gaming, and hanging out with friends and family ... Became interested in Central Michigan after attending a camp where he was extended an offer ... Committed to Central Michigan on April 23, 2022 ... Selected CMU because of the people, football culture, and school atmosphere ... Chose Central Michigan over interest from Notre Dame, Army West Point, Eastern Michigan, Michigan State, Purdue, Kent State, Miami, Ohio, Youngstown State, and Cincinnati.

ARTICLES

[Top recruits: Royal Oak speedster Mekhi Jenkins ready to elevate and dominant in 2022 - mlive.com](#)

[Prep Notebook: CMU commit Mekhi Jenkins gives Royal Oak another D-I recruit after 14-year drought – The Oakland Press](#)

MATTHEW NEHF

Offensive Lineman | 6-4 | 275 | DeWitt, Mich./DeWitt H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate from DeWitt High School, where he played three years of varsity football for Head Coach Rob Zimmerman ... Named a Division 3 MHSAA First Team All-State honors as a senior offensive lineman ... Two-time Division 3 All-Region and two-time All-Conference honoree ... Served as team captain as a senior ... Played both guard and center on offense and defensive line... Led DeWitt to an 8-4 overall record and a state playoff appearance during his senior year ... Helped the Panthers scored more than 40 points per game as a junior ... Helped lead the Panthers to a region title ... Helped the Panthers to a 2020 state title during his sophomore season ... Ranked a three-star recruit by 247sports.com and On3DB.com ... Rated a two-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Rated the nation's No. 18 center by ESPN.com ... Rated the state's No. 26 recruit ... Attended Central Michigan's Big Man Camp ... Also plays basketball and baseball.

PERSONAL

Born Matthew Steven Nehf on March 9, 2005 in Lansing, Mich.... Son of Jon and Kari Nehf ... Has two brothers Michael and Andrew ... Brother Michael plays football at Northern Michigan ... Aunt Cathy attended Central Michigan in the 1980s ... Role model is his brother Michael who pushed him to be the best person he could be ... Referees youth football, basketball, and baseball games ... Chose Central Michigan because of the people, family atmosphere and the connection he felt every time he visited campus ... Selected Central Michigan over offers from Kent State and Western Michigan ... Intends to major in Business.

ARTICLES

<https://www.mlive.com/highschoolsports/2022/08/top-recruits-dewitt-lineman-matthew-nehf-focused-on-being-a-leader-ahead-of-final-season-before-heading-to-cmu.html>

<https://cm.lansingstatejournal.com/offers-reg/?return=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lansingstatejournal.com%2Fstory%2Fsports%2Fhigh-school%2F2022%2F06%2F22%2Fdewitt-football-matthew-nehf-commits-central-michigan%2F7697230001%2F>

BRADY NEU

Defensive Tackle | 6-3 | 280 | Greenwood, Ind./Roncalli H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in June 2023 from Roncalli High School in Indianapolis, Ind., where he played four years of varsity football for Head Coaches Johjn Rodenberg and Eric Quintana ... Two-time All-Marion County selection ... Two-time All-Circle City Conference Football team selection ... Four-time IFCA Academic All-State selection ... Played both defensive tackle and on the offensive line ... Led the Rebels to a 12-2 overall record, 3-0 conference record and Class 4A semistate finish Ranked a three-star recruit by 247sports.com, On3DB.com ... Rated a two-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Rated the nation's No. 102 defensive tackle by ESPN.com ... Also competed on the wrestling team ... Outstanding student who earned a 3.9 grade point average.

PERSONAL

Born Brady Neu on November 28, 2004 ... Son of David and Erin Neu ... One of 10 siblings: David, McKenzie, Alex, Emily, Nick, AJ, Ruthie, Sam, and Charlie ... Hobbies and interests include being outdoors and hanging out with friends ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 21, 2022 .. Selected Central Michigan over offers from Ball State, Miami, Ohio, Western Michigan.

CADE RIDDLE

Linebacker | 6-3 | 230 | Brighton, Mich./Brighton H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate from Brighton High School in May 2023, where he played three years of varsity football for Head Coach Brian Lemons ... Earned First Team All-Livingston County honors as a defensive end in 2021 ... Two-time All-KLAA Conference First Team selection as a defensive end and tight end ... Academic All-State honoree ... Four-year KLAA Scholar-Athlete selection ... Three-year starter ... Played a variety of positions including defensive end, tight end, offensive tackle, and defensive tackle ... Four-time Academic Letter award winner ... Did not play during his senior season due to injury ... Helped guide the Dogs to an 8-3 overall record as a senior ... Made 33 tackles (21 solo), made seven sacks, and recovered a fumble on defense and caught eight passes for 129 yards on offense as a tight end as a junior ... As a sophomore, made 15 tackles, seven tackles for losses, and one sack ... Played on the Legacy Gray 7v7 football team ... Varsity starter in four varsity sports as a sophomore ... Also competed in three other sports: wrestling, powerlifting, and track and field ... Coached by Alice Garvin in powerlifting, Sean Scott in wrestling, and Nate Grabowski in track and field ... Named to the All-Livingston County Boys Track and Field team in the shot put ... Ranked No. 16 in the state wrestling at 215 pounds as a junior ... Placed eighth in the state in powerlifting ... Ranks in the top-10 percent of his high school class ... First Team All-Conference honoree in the shot put during junior year ... Competed in the shot put (45-7), discus (145-6), high jump (5-11) and 4x100-meter relay

(10.65 split) in track and field ... Earned academic awards in all eight semesters ... Involved in a variety of community service activities including serving as a seventh and eighth grade football coach.

PERSONAL

Born Cade Riddle on March 15, 2005 in Ann Arbor, Mich. ... Son of Jack and Clarissa Riddle ... Has two older brothers Conor and Cole ... Brother of Central Michigan linebacker Cole Riddle ... Father is a chemical engineer ... Nickname is Little Riddle ... Hobbies and interests include fishing, weightlifting, shooting bows, carving, biking, demolition, and working out ... Selected Central Michigan to play football with his brother and study chemistry ... Intends to major in Chemistry and has future plans of becoming a chemical engineer.

JESIAH STEVENS-SILVA

Tight End | 6-3 | 230 | Colorado Springs, Colo./Fountain Fort Carson H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate from Fountain Fort Carson High School in Colorado Springs, Colo., where he played three years of varsity football for Head Coach Jacob Novtny... Named to the Blue-Grey Football All-American Bowl Watch List ... Played tight end and outside linebacker ... In three-year career, caught 52 passes for 897 yards and nine touchdowns with a 17.3 yards per catch average on offense ... Caught 25 passes for 504 yards and a 20.2 average with five touchdowns during senior season ... Played both tight end and defensive end ... Led the Trojans to an 8-4 overall record, 3-2 league state playoff appearance as a senior in 2022 ... Caught 25 passes for 332 yards and three touchdowns as a junior ... Rated as a two-star recruit by Rivals.com ... Named one of the top tight ends in the state of Colorado by Colorado Prep Report ... Also competes in track and field ... Earned academic honors in U.S. History.

PERSONAL

Born Jesiah Stevens-Silva on November 17, 2004 ... Son of Michelle Stevens ... Has a brother Elijah and sister Savannah ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 9, 2022 ... Selected Central Michigan over offers from New Mexico State, Northern Colorado, Colorado, and Yale ... Intends to major in Engineering.

NATHAN VANTIMMEREN

Tight End | 6-4 | 220 | Grand Rapids, Mich./Grand Rapids Catholic Central H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in December 2022 from Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School, where he played three years of varsity football for Head Coach Todd Kolster ... Two-time Division 5-6 All-State Football Team selection ... Earned Associated Press All-State honors as a tight end ... Two-time MHSFCA Division 5 All-Region 1 Team ... Two-time Played both tight end and defensive end ... Led the Cougars to a district championship during senior season ... Finished with 22 receptions for 322 yards and eight touchdowns as a junior ... Led Grand Rapids Catholic Central to back-to-back state championships in 2021 and 2020 ... Led the Cougars to a 14-0 record and state championship as a junior ... Rated a three-star recruit by 247sports.com, On3DB.com, ESPN.com ... Ranked a two-star prospect by Rivals.com ... Rated the nation's No. 37 tight end by ESPN.com ... Named to the Michigan Top-53 man roster as a defensive lineman ... Also plays basketball ... Named one of the area's top-5 post prospects ... Guided GRCC to a state championship runner-up finish, district title, in 2021 ... Honor Roll student.

PERSONAL

Born Nate VanTimmeren ... Son of Brad and Susan VanTimmeren ... Sister Ally plays basketball at Boston College ... Father coaches women's basketball at Grand Rapids Catholic Central and previously at Jenison ... Sister Emily plays basketball at GRCC ... Dreamed about playing college basketball but decided he loved football a bit more ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 24, 2022 ... Chose Central Michigan over offers from Army, Air Force, Toledo, Eastern Michigan.

ARTICLES

[Nate VanTimmeren comes from basketball family, but he will play DI football - mlive.com](#)

[Interview with Grand Rapids Catholic Central 2023 TE/DE Nathan VanTimmeren - YouTube](#)

[Grand Rapids Catholic Central Football's Nate VanTimmeren talks about the win over Port Huron - YouTube](#)

JAKE WALRATH

Punter | 6-4 | 200 | Salado, Texas/Tarleton State/Utah State/Salado H.S.

CAREER

Finished career ranked No. 2 all-time in career punting (40.9) ... Averaged 40.9 yards per punt (5,894 yards on 144 punts), kicked 27 punts of 50-yards or more, placed 45 punts inside the 20-yard line and registered 55 fair catches in 35 career games ... Set single-season school records for punting ... Earned three varsity letters.

2022 AT TARLETON STATE

Graduated from Tarleton State ... Averaged 40.2 yards per punt (1,969 yards on 49 punts), placed 13 inside the 20-yard line and kicked nine 50-yard punts with only five touchbacks ... Kicked two 50-yard punts and placed two inside the 20-yard line at Stephen F. Austin

(Oct. 15) ... Placed three punts inside the 20-yard line with a long of 55 yards vs. Southwest Baptist (Oct. 22) ... Averaged 47.0 yards per punt (7-329 yards) with a long of 55 yards and placed two inside the 20 yard line at Utah Tech (Nov. 12) ... Helped guide the Texans to a 6-5 overall record.

2021 AT TARLETON STATE

As a sophomore, earned Phil Steele FCS All-WAC Third Team honors ... Played in all 11 games, serving as the team's only punter in game action ... Had 50 punts cover 2,129 yards, averaging 42.6 yards per punt ... Had 16 punts placed inside the 20-yard-line, nine punts go 50 or more yards, 24 fair catches and six touchbacks ... Set a new team single-season record for yards per punt at 42.6, surpassing Ron Reid's 42.1 yards per punt average in 2018 ... Ended the 2021 season with the second highest career yards per punt average in school history at 41.3, trailing only Isaac Arrellano (2012-15) at 41.4 yards per punt ... Had a 74-yard punt against Abilene Christian on Nov. 13, which tied for the second longest punt in the Western Athletic Conference in 2021 ... Only 10 punts across the FCS all season were longer than his 74-yarder ... In the Western Athletic Conference, ranked first in fair catches, second in total yards, second in total punts, third in average punt yards, third in punts inside the 20 ... In the FCS, only 20 players averaged more yards per punt ... Recorded his most punts in a game at Eastern Kentucky on Oct. 2 (eight) ... Had his best yards per punt average in a game vs. Fort Lewis on Sept. 11 at 46.7 yards per ... Pinned Midwestern State at the 1-yard-line on a 45-yard punt with 38 seconds remaining in the game with Tarleton leading, and eventually winning, 17-14.

2020 AT TARLETON STATE

As a sophomore, was the lone punter to appear in a game for the Texans, booting 30 punts ... Averaged 37.5 yards per punt, trapping opponents inside the 20-yard-line 10 times, a career-high mark ... Had four punts go 50+ yards, topping at 55 yards against New Mexico State on Feb. 21 ... Had a season-high seven punts against the Aggies and averaged his long of 51.5 yards in his two punts against Northeastern State on March 27 ... Had 13 fair catches and four touchbacks.

2019 AT TARLETON STATE

As a redshirt freshman, appeared in five games ... Punted 15 times for 672 yards ... Had five punts over 50 yards, including a long of 63 ... Pinned six punts inside the 20 ... LSC Champion.

2018 AT UTAH STATE

Redshirted season as a true freshman.

HIGH SCHOOL

A 2018 graduate of Salado High School, earned three varsity letters for Head Coach Alan Haire and Jared Cruddas ... Two-time Second Team All-District kicker in 2016 and 2017 ... Led the Eagles to the 2018 District Championship in football ... 2018 District Champs in soccer ... Two-time football All-District selection ... Academic All-State ... Holds the school record for longest field goal ... Averaged 41.3 yards per punt as a senior ... Also competed in track and field ... Earned a total of eight varsity letters.

PERSONAL

Born Louis Jake Walrath on August 27, 2000 in Killeen, Texas ... Son of Jason and Kathi Walrath ... Father Jason is a retired Army General, who attended Army West Point ... Has a younger sister Olivia ... Role models are his mother and father, who demonstrated a blend of hard work, honesty, preparedness, kindness, and compassion ... Hobbies and interests include hiking, hunting/fishing, ping pong, shooting skeet and trap, and grilling... Has bartended at a brewery in Birmingham, Ala. during summers ... Visited Central Michigan on December 9, 2022 ... Selected Central Michigan to play for the coaching staff, the opportunity, the family feel of the program, and college town location ... Chose Central Michigan over offers from Texas, Baylor, Arkansas, Oregon State, Troy, Georgia State, Connecticut, and Bowling Green ... Majoring in kinesiology.

TROY WERTMAN

Athlete | 6-1 | 200 | Pewamo, Mich./Pewamo-Westphalia H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in June 2023 Pewamo-Westphalia High School, where he earned two varsity letters for Head Coach Jeremy Miller... Two-time Division 7-8 First Team All-State selection as an athlete and punter ... Earned Division 7-8 First Team All-State honors from the Associated Press as a senior punter ... Named an honorable mention All-State selection as a quarterback ... Two-time First Team All-Region, First Team All-County and First Team All-Area ... Two-time Greater Lansing Dream Team honoree by the Lansing State Journal ... Two-time First Team All-CMAC selection ... Voted team Most Valuable Player, Player of the Year and Offensive Most Valuable Player ... Played quarterback, running back, linebacker, long snapper, and punter ... Concluded senior year with a 45.5 yards per punt average on 11 punts and had three punts land inside the 20-yard line with a long of 62 yards ... Also ranked among area leaders in rushing with 730 yards on 130 carries and 10 touchdowns during the regular season ... Helped lead the Pirates to a 6-5 overall record, 5-1 league record, first-place finish in the CMAC, and state playoff appearance as a senior ... Averaged 40.5 yards per punt (13 punts) with a long of 52 yards and four placed inside the 20-yard line as a junior ... Guided the Pirates to a perfect 14-0 record, perfect 6-0 league record, state championship, regional championship and conference title as a junior ... Led the Pirates to a 14-0 state title win over Jackson Lumen Christi ... Rated No. 12 nationally among upperclassmen punters by Kornblue Kicking ... Also plays

baseball (shortstop and pitcher) ... Outstanding student who carries a 3.9 grade point average ... Completed Advanced Placement courses in honors chemistry, pre-Calculus, and statistics ... National Honor Society student.

PERSONAL

Born Troy Wertman on June 7, 2004 ... Son of Todd and Suzanne Wertman ... Has a brother Logan ... Hobbies and interests include lifting, working out, and hanging out with friends and family ... Intends to major in Exercise Science/Kinesiology.

ARTICLES

[Associated Press all-state football: Trio from Greater Lansing named to Division 7-8 first team \(yahoo.com\)](#)

Punting Highlights: <https://www.hudl.com/video/3/13167705/636165ee96765006942fc3d1>

Athlete Highlights: <https://www.hudl.com/video/3/13167705/63616b6fbed6e10ab0e0ba70>

JAVORIAN WIMBERLY

Wide Receiver | 6-2 | 180 | Belle Glade, Fla./Palm Beach Central H.S.

HIGH SCHOOL

Will graduate in January 2023 from Palm Beach Central High School in Wellington, Fla., where he played three years of varsity football for Head Coach Kevin Thompson ... Named to the 2021 Class 8A Third Team All-State team as a junior ... Two-time Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel All-County First Team selection ... Palm Beach Post Offensive Player of the Year nominee ... Preseason Super-11 pick by the Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel and Palm Beach Post ... Played wide receiver and also returned punts and kickoffs ... Caught 31 passes for 699 yards (22.5 average per catch) and five receiving touchdowns and one punt return score during senior season ... Led the Broncos to an 11-1 record, 3-0 conference record, Class 4M Region 3 district title, regional appearance and eight straight victories as a senior ... Scored on a 98-yard catch vs. Palm Beach Gardens ... Named the Land Rover Palm Beach Player of the Week after scoring three touchdowns on seven receptions and 143 yards in a win over Boca Raton ... Scored on a 79-yard touchdown reception vs. Jupiter ... Caught 49 passes for 987 yards and 10 touchdowns, 1,179 all-purpose yards and a total of 13 touchdowns as a junior ... Led Palm Beach Central in receptions and receiving yards ... Led Palm Beach Central to an 11-1 overall record as a junior ... Endured health struggles as a sophomore ... Attended Pahokee High School for his freshman year ... Rated a three-star recruit by 247sports.com, On3.com, and Rivals.com ... No. 1 ranked wide receiver and No. 4 ranked player in Palm Beach County ... Also competed in track and field ... Personal-bests include an 11.68 in the 100-meter dash, 24.15 in the 200-meter dash and 1:03.19 in the 400-meter run ... Also competed in the sprint relays ... Outstanding student who has a 4.59 grade point average ... Honor Roll student.

PERSONAL

Born Javorian M. Wimberly on December 14, 2004 ... Son of Marquita Rhames Wimberley and Emory Payne ... One of four siblings: Javarian, Treasure, and Ah'Zyah ... Nickname is the "Game Changa" ... Hobbies and interests including playing Madden and working out ... Committed to Central Michigan on June 12, 2022 ... Chose Central Michigan because he felt comfortable with the school, coaches, the family atmosphere, and the fact that he fits into their scheme on offense ... Selected Central Michigan over offers from Akron, Arkansas State, Bowling Green, Temple, Illinois, South Florida, and Coastal Carolina ... Plans to major in Business and Meteorology.

ARTICLES

[Palm Beach Central wide receiver Javorian Wimberly commits to Central Michigan \(palmbeachpost.com\)](#)

[Javorian Wimberly -Land Rover Palm Beach Player of the Week - YouTube](#)

[Chippewa Landing: WR Javorian Wimberly goes with Central Michigan - New Era Prep](#)