



# TIGERtales

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER May 2016

## NEW ALUMNI CLUBHOUSE SET TO OPEN THIS SEASON



The HTCAA is pleased to announce our new Alumni Clubhouse at Tim Horton's Field is set to open this summer. Much unlike our old

Alumni room, this will be first class facility open to Alumni on game day and other special events.

The room will have a definite Tiger-Cat Alumni feel with photos and memorabilia. A large full service bar will centre the room and be furnished with multiple big screen TV's, ample comfortable seating along with stand-up tables and bar stools. Unique locker seating and display cabinets will also add a branded Tiger-Cat feel to the room.

The 2,000 square foot room will be situated under the southeast stands and accessible from the Gate 1A entrance. Only Alumni who have paid up their membership dues will have accredited access to the room. Guests must be accompanied by Alumni.

The Tiger-Cat Club has stepped up contributing services, amenities and financial

assistance in the creation and maintenance of the room. The Alumni Association is continuing a capital fundraising campaign to assist in construction costs, furniture and decor.

## WALK OF FAME DINNER

The Cats Claws Fan Club will host their annual Tiger-Cat Walk of Fame dinner on Monday, June 13th at the Carmen's Banquet Centre.

This year, Mike Morreale will be inducted into the Walk of Fame.

Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased by calling Carol Rose at 905-664-6117 or [crose@cogeco.ca](mailto:crose@cogeco.ca).

## 31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL TIGER-CAT ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Tiger-Cat Alumni will be hosting their 31st annual golf tournament on Monday, May 30th at MontHill Golf and Country Club in Caledonia. The tournament was a near sell-out last year as many fans joined dozens of Alumni on hand for a beautiful afternoon of golf.

It's a great time to re-connect with some old team-mates as well as other Alumni. As always, there will be lots of great prizes and chance to win \$10,000 for a hole-in-one.



### REGISTRATION

Registration is only \$160 which includes lunch, steak dinner and golf. Registration and payment can be made online via PayPal at [www.htcaa.ca](http://www.htcaa.ca).

Registration can also be made via email at [mark@relevent.ca](mailto:mark@relevent.ca) or call Mark Bowden at 905-981-9409

**TigerTales is the official newsletter of the Hamilton Tiger-Cat Alumni Association. It is published 3 times per year in May, September & December. For more information visit our website at [www.htcaa.ca](http://www.htcaa.ca).**

# EVENTS

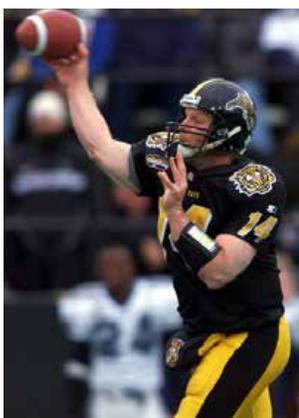
## MCMASTER FOOTBALL GALA

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual McMaster Football Gala was held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the David Braley Athletic Centre. Hamilton Tiger-Cat and McMaster Alumnus Mike Morreale was the keynote speaker at the event which is a key fundraiser for the McMaster football program. In attendance among the 500 plus supporters was representation from both the Tiger-Cat football Club and the Tiger-Cat Alumni including Jason Riley and Bob Krouse.

*Mike Morreale*



## DANNY MCMANUS TO BE INDUCTED INTO GRIDIRON GREATS HALL OF FAME



Tiger-Cat Alumnus Danny McManus will be among the latest inductees into the Gridiron Great Hall of Fame.

The Gridiron Greats group helps former players who need assistance in their post-career lives. According to the website, some 1,500 former players have received some sort of assistance. Inductees are honoured not just for their careers but also for giving back to the game after they've stopped playing it.

In 2012, Angelo Mosca was the first Tiger-Cat Alumnus and the first former CFL player, to be inducted into the Gridiron Greats Hall of Fame. Other CFL alumni since inducted include one-time Ti-Cat Matt Dunigan, George Reed, Hugh Campbell, Ray Elgaard and Marv Levy.

Joining McManus in the 2016 inductees are New York Jets legends Joe Namath and Don Maynard, and a trio of other NFL quarterbacks: Billy Kilmer, Daryl Lamonica and Dan Pastorini



This year's event will be held on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Silverton Casino & Hotel in Las Vegas. Tickets to the induction dinner are \$250 each.

## GREY CUP REUNION WEEKEND



The Tiger-Cat Alumni Reunion Committee is organizing a 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion of the 1986 Grey Cup Championship team along with an

event for all 1980s' Grey Cup participants.

A special Championship Team party will be held on Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm.

On Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> a pre-game tailgate party will take place from 2:30-6:30pm at the Holy Trinity Polish Church Hall, 880 Barton St. E., just one block for the stadium. This event is open to all 1980s' Grey Cup players, administration, support staff and fans. Tickets are \$20 and price includes food – pizza & porchetta, munchies. Cash Bar – Beer & Wine.

The Tiger-Cats will play the Saskatchewan Roughriders at 7 pm and the 1986 team will be honoured in a half-time ceremony.

On Sunday there will be a team brunch and tour at Tim Horton's Field starting at 11:00 am.

For more information please contact Jason Riley at [jason75z@hotmail.com](mailto:jason75z@hotmail.com) or (905) 531-6029.

### 2016 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<b>Mon. May 30</b>	The HTCAA Golf Tournament at MontHill Golf & Country Club – <b>12:30 pm</b>
<b>Wed. June 1</b>	Alumni appearances at Tim Hortons locations to raise money for "Camp Day" – <b>7:30am</b>
<b>Sun. June 12</b>	Tim Horton's Field Community Open House – <b>11:00 am</b>
<b>Mon. June 13</b>	Cat Claws Walk of Fame dinner at Carmen's Banquet Centre – <b>6:00 pm</b>
<b>Fri. July 1</b>	Hamilton Tiger-Cat home opener verses B.C. Lions – <b>7:00 pm</b>
<b>Sat. Aug. 20</b>	1980s' (1986) Grey Cup teams reunion tailgate – <b>2:30 pm</b> & game – <b>7 pm</b>
<b>Mon. Sept. 5</b>	"Football Day" @ Tim Hortons's Field <b>12:00 pm</b> – University of Toronto vs. McMaster <b>3:30 pm</b> – Free concert <b>6:30pm</b> – Toronto Argonauts vs. Hamilton Tiger-Cats

## TIGER-CAT AND CFL ALUMNI "COACH UP" KIDS

By Jason Riley

One of my great joys is celebrating the lineman fraternity every year at the annual "Up Front Lineman Camp", at McMaster. It is really gratifying to see this great fraternity of coaches come together to volunteer their time and wealth of experience to coach up high school aged players from across the province. Many of the coaches are current CFL players and Tiger Cat Alumni.

This year's camp fell on a beautiful day, April 16, with 100 offensive and defensive linemen from around the province - kids came from as far as Windsor, North Bay, Sudbury, and Ottawa. We had an awesome roster of coaches on both sides of the ball and an excellent player/coach ratio.

Many of these CFL Alumni continue to give back to their community by volunteering their time to coach aspiring players in minor and high school football. Among them are:



*Chris van Zeyl (RT-Argos), Jason Riley, Bob MacDonald, Lance Trumble, Brian Hutchings, Ralph Scholz, John Salavantis, John Malinosky, Miles Gorrell, Adam Rita, Dave Richardson, Joe Sardo, Matt O'Meara*

*Absent for picture: Dennis McPhee, Jeff Robertshaw, Jason Pottinger, Lee Knight, Matt Sewell (OL-Argos), Kevin Malcolm (OL RedBlacks), Mike Filer and Peter Dyakowski (OL - Ti-Cats)*



**DARRELL HARLE** has coached offensive line at Holy Cross High School in St Catharines from 2009–13 and at Westlane in Niagara Falls from 2014–present.



**LEE KNIGHT** has been coaching in the Burlington Minor Football Association for 13 years and is going into his 10th year as a Headline Instructor at Olympia Sports Camp.



**BOB MACDONALD** has been coaching at Salt Fleet High School for several years.



**DAVE RICHARDSON** has coached for the Niagara Storm Football Program for five years. Prior to that he coached minor and high school football in the Hamilton area for several years.



**JOHN MALINOSKY** has volunteer coached at the CIS and HS levels for many years.



**JOE SARDO** has coached minor league football and is currently the Marauder Defensive Coordinator.



**RALPH SCHOLZ** has coached minor football for 6 years in the Niagara Region, 2 years with the OVFL, and the past 5 years with A.N. Myer High School (his alma mater) helping to lead a resurgence of the program with two OFSAA bowl titles.



**DALE SANDERSON** has coached the Hamilton Hurricanes for many years.

## TIM HORTON'S CAMP DAY COMING UP!



Tim Horton's Annual Fundraiser to help send kids to camp is coming up on Wednesday, June 1st. Tiger-Cat Alumni traditional take part to help serve up coffee and donuts at various Hamilton locations. Alumni who can take part again this year, please contact [admin@htcaa.ca](mailto:admin@htcaa.ca)

## TIGER-CATS HOST DRAFT DAY PARTY

On Tuesday, May 10th the Tiger-Cats hosted a special Draft Day Party inside the Champions Lounge at Tim Horton's Field. Alumni and fans were treated to complimentary food as they followed the CFL Draft live. Tiger-Cat players and cheerleaders were also on hand as was a special draft day photo booth. Mike Morreale and Paul Osbaldiston provided onsite analysis of the draft.



# TIGER-CAT Q&A

**Name:** Paul Bennett

**Birthday:** March 27, 1954

**School:** W.A. Porter High School (Scarborough), Missouri, Waterloo, Wilfred Laurier

**Position(s):** QB, RB, DB and all special teams

**Years with Tiger-Cats:** 1984-87

## CAREER

### 1. Tell us about how you got started in football and your amateur career.

I was interested in playing football when I was about 7 or so and about 60 pounds. The game looked like fun and was told to come back next year as I too light. I tried out for the high school team in grade 9 but quit after all my friends were cut. I finally started playing in grade 10.

### 2. How did you get started in the CFL (draft, free agent, trade etc.)?

I was a protected choice of the Toronto Argonauts in 1977.

### 3. Do or did you hold any records?

At the time of retirement I held 3 CFL records: most punt return carries & yards and most interception returns yards.

### 4. Do or did you have a nickname?

Affectionally known as Badger....a name given to me by Ben Zambiasi during training camp in St. Catherine's.

### 5. Tell us about some of your fondest memories with the Tiger-Cats or in the CFL.

Winning the 1986 Grey Cup after losing in 1984 and 1985.....it truly was a great team....awesome defense, great team leaders and offense that clicked when needed most and a solid kicking game...Ozzie was great! Just as important as the players were the great coaches led by Al Bruno.

I have never been on a team where a coaching strategy was instrumental in overcoming a winning offense strategy - the 1983 Grey Cup Champions Argos and their complicated "Run and Shoot" - special thanks to Rich Stubler and Ted Schmidt for their creative genius.

A big thank you to GM Joe Zuger for putting the winning pieces together and finally, and by no means last, the very supportive Ti-Cat fans!! Oh, one last guy....Ray Jones....thanks

buzzard for keeping us taped up and on the field.

My 2002 induction into the CFHOF was my next most memorable experience.

### 6. Who were some of the team-mates and opponents you admired the most and why?

Gee there's really too many to mention and I feel that it would be unfair / disrespectful to leave somebody off of that list....and let's remember that on any team there are so many little contributions made that all add up to equal major contributions.....so let's go with the 1986 team as a whole. Regarding my opponents, how about I go with "our" opponents as there was a great deal of respect for all that we played against.

### 7. Which coach did you respect or enjoy playing for the most and why?

For me there are two....Al Bruno as the HC because he knew how to balance things and his loyalty and respect for his veteran players was very much appreciated. From a strategic perspective it was Rich Stubler. Not just for his creativity, but for his understanding of me as a person and his being OK with letting me play my game within the team concept.

### 8. Tell us about some of your favourite Grey Cup memories.

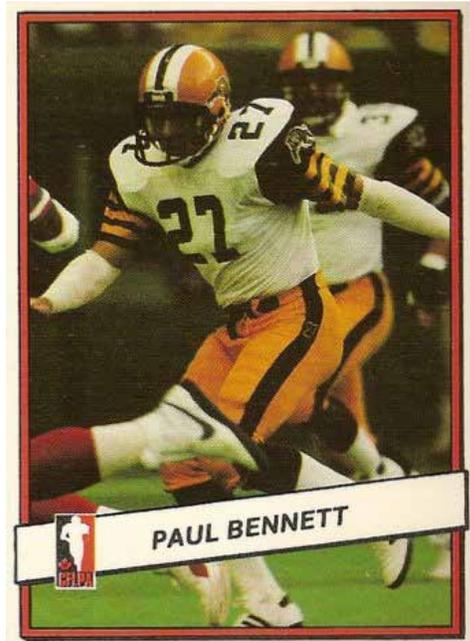
1986...14 to 17 point underdogs as I recall.....watching Mike Kerrigan hit Steve Stapler on an out and up for a TD....WOW!. Ozzie being perfect. Dan Huclack as the game's leading rusher. The feeling of a defense that was not to be denied as 10 turnovers were created against the yet be CFHOF'ers Matt Dunigan and Damon Allen. So much for the yellow haired Nike swooshes!..... finally holding the Grey Cup and surrounded by your teammates.....there's nothing like that feeling.

## POST CFL CAREER

### 9. Tell us about your life and career after playing/working with the Tiger-Cats or CFL?

Worked in jobs at mostly 8 year increments.... radio sales, MTS (now Bell), HR recruitment and now as a part time associate with Home Depot...ya, I am semi-retired.

Married to my high school sweetie, Patti Ling, and we share a blended family that includes 5 adult children; Renee, Dylan, Melissa,



Mackenzie and Kendall plus two grandchildren, Ava and our latest shining star Emma.

### 10. Tell us about your interests, hobbies, your passion or anything else you would like to. Share about yourself.

Co-Founder and Chairman of the Our Manitoba Heroes "Compassion in Action" a celebration of community concept that recognizes the contributions of some wonderful Manitoban's and in support of numerous charities. Too much to tell here so I would ask that you check us out at [www.ourmanitobaheroes.ca](http://www.ourmanitobaheroes.ca)

Have coached many sports over the years and have enjoyed it all, but coaching with my son, Mackenzie, at Oak Park high school and winning 2 championships was pretty cool.

### 11. Share with us some of the places you've been or things you have experienced.

Have travelled extensively over the past 10 + years....Mexico, Europe / Mediterranean Sea, USA - football / hockey games in Denver, Green Bay and Tampa Bay, across Canada, all great places to visit.

Being a grandfather has been an awesome experience.

## THE GAME

### 12. What aspects of the Canadian game do you like the most?

The opportunity to put up a lot of points, the available space and the overall athleticism required to play the game.

# Season Preview

By Brian Snelgrove



Last year the Tiger-Cats came within a whisker of a third straight berth in the Grey Cup.

Only a miraculous play by the Ottawa RedBlacks in the Eastern Final deprived the Cats of a third consecutive kick at Earl Grey's Cup.

Hamilton enters the 2016 season with renewed optimism and hopefully a healthy team for most of the year. The Tiger-Cats are coming off a 10-8 record and a tie with the Argos for second place in the East.

"Our expectations are always the same," says Head Coach Kent Austin, commenting on the 2016 campaign. "The goal is to win the championship. That's our only goal.

"On offence, I think we have the experience," says Austin. "We have a strong quarterback group. We're good up front. We have receivers with experience. We feel good

about what we have. We have to start the season fast but if we have a loss we just have to keep playing well. So much depends on staying healthy."

Former McMaster Marauder Head Coach and CFL wide receiver Stefan Ptaszek takes over the reigns as new Offensive Coordinator. Ptaszek spent 10 years at the helm of the Marauders and was a first round draft pick of the BC Lions in 1994.

QB Zach Collaros is expected to miss the first month of the season as a result of last year's torn ACL. Once healthy, he will once again lead a high-powered offence that includes the likes of Luke Tasker, Andy Fantuz, Tiquan Underwood, Spencer Watt, Terrence Toliver and Chad Owens as receivers. A healthy Collaros is critical as the Tabbies struggled last year when he went down with a season-ending injury. Incumbents Jeremiah Masoli, Jacory Harris and Jeff Mathews will shoulder the load for at least the first month of the season. C.J. Gable should be the featured running back and also needs to rebound from an injury-shortened season last year. The O-line is solid with leaders Peter Dyakowski, Ryan Bomben, Mike Filer and Jake Olson.

Defensively, the Ti-Cats should be able to duplicate their fine effort in 2015. The squad will be anchored by veterans such as DT Ted Laurent, LB Simoni Lawrence and DB Courtney

Stephen. DB Craig Butler is expected to miss the year with an ACL injury while DT Linden Gaydos is healthy after missing last year with an injury. Newly acquired DE John Chick will be an asset.

"We have a chance to be a real good defence," says Austin. "We have a couple of holes to fill but our job is to have the next guy ready. We expect to be competitive."

While the Tiger-Cats lost one the league's best kickers in Justin Medlock, they did re-sign one of the best return specialists in Brandon Banks.

"On special teams Jeff (Reinebold) does an outstanding job. We have to replace Justin (Medlock) and we have put a lot of time and resources into that," Austin says.

"Overall we are just grinding towards the start line and want to be well-prepared," Austin adds. "We are really excited with the talent we have signed."



## SAY HELLO TO:

OC Stefan Ptaszek, SB Chad Owens, DE John Chick, CB Tevrin Brandon, LB Alex Hoffman-Ellis, WR Anthony McClung, CB Chase Minnifield, RB Ronnie Wingo, DB Demond Washington, OL Sean Donnelly, OL Brandon Washington, LB Geoff Hughes

## SAY GOODBYE TO:

OC Tommy Condell, K Justin Medlock, WR Terrell Sinkfield, DE Eric Norwood, DE Justin Hickman, DL Brian Bulcke, DL Bryan Hall, LB Taylor Reed, WR Bakari Grant, RB Ray Holley, RB Mossis Madu, DB Ed Gainey, DT Hasan Hazime, DB Brandon Stewart

## 2016 CFL DRAFT

PICK	PLAYER	POS	SCHOOL
# 3	Brandon Revenberg	OL	Grand Valley State
# 14	Mercer Timmis	RB	Calgary
# 18	Mike Jones	WR	Southern
# 21	Terrell Davis	LB	UBC
# 39	Felix Faubert-Lussier	WR	Laval
# 41	Elroy Douglas	DB	Missouri Western State
# 59	Mitchell Barnett	LB	UBC
# 67	Matt Uren	WR	Western Ontario



## What Do I Get For My Membership Fee?

- **Access to Alumni Clubhouse on game day at Tim Horton's Field**
- **Tigertales newsletter published 3x / year**
- **Email updates throughout the year**
- **Access to members section on website and Alumni contact info**
- **2 for 1 Tiger-Cat Tickets, Season, Flex Pac, Single game**  
*(limit 4 tickets in total – 2 full price, 2 free)*
- **2 for 1 Wall of Honour Dinner Tickets**
- **Discounted Walk of Fame tickets**
- **50% Discount at the Tiger-Cat Shop**
- **Alumni Social at AGM – Annual General Meeting**
- **Year End Alumni Social**
- **Participate in Alumni community and special events**
- **Free web listing on our Alumni business network**
- **Automatic membership to CFLAA & associated benefits**

Membership fees also go to help maintain and improve our website, which is a diverse historical database of Hamilton and Tiger-Cat football.

**Membership: \$25 / year, \$65 / 3 years or \$100 / 5 years**  
**Seniors (65+) \$20 / year, \$50 / 3 years, or \$100 / 6 years**

**TO BECOME A MEMBER, REGISTER & PAY ONLINE @ WWW.HTCAA.CA**

Or send cheques payable to "HTCAA"  
57 Sunning Hill Ave. Hamilton, ON L8T 1B6

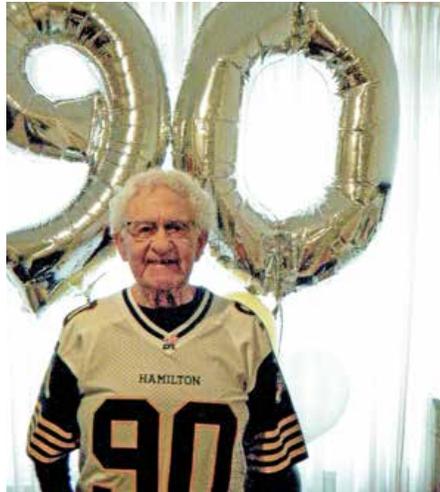
**Email:** admin@htcaa.ca

## FOR SEASONS TICKETS CONTACT:

**Bryan Smith | Account Executive, Business Development**  
**Hamilton Tiger-Cats Football Club**  
**905-547-2287 X261 | BSMITH@TICATS.CA**

## BILL KYLE TURNS 90!

Bill turned 90 years old on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Bill is a long-time member and current Board member of the Tiger-Cat Alumni. Bill played for the Tiger-Cat Juniors in 1946 that won the Eastern Championship and the Hamilton Tigers in 1947. Bill is the proud owner of 4 Tiger-Cat season tickets since 1950!



## HTCAA LAUNCHES NEW LOGO

In conjunction with the opening of our new Alumni Clubhouse, the HTCAA has launched a new logo. The new logo incorporates the original "leaping Tiger" along with "Est. 1986" to recognize the foundation of the Alumni Association. A modified version will be used in branding of the new "Clubhouse"



## TIGER-CATS OPEN NEW FLAGSHIP STORE

The Tiger-Cats have opened their new "Tiger-Cat Shop" on the southeast corner of Tim Horton's Field. Tiger-Cats Shop will feature new apparel from leading brands including New Era, Old Time Football, '47 Brand and more in this new larger location.

The Tiger-Cats Shop will be open weekly from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays. The store will be closed on Sundays. During Ti-Cats home games, the store will be open exclusively to game ticket holders beginning 90 minutes prior to kickoff.



## ALUMNI CLUBHOUSE FUNDRAISING

Our Alumni Clubhouse fundraising campaign has proved to be a success so far. Almost 100 Alumni have made contributions to this point. Our fundraising deadline is fast approaching next month, yet we are still short of our goal.

Every little bit helps and every contributor will be recognized for their donation on a special commemorative plaque within the new Clubhouse. Donation levels are:

- Platinum - \$5,000+
- Gold - \$1,000 +
- Silver - 500 +
- Bronze - \$100 +

Donations can be made online via credit card on our website at [www.htcaa.ca](http://www.htcaa.ca) or cheques can be mailed to:

HTCAA  
57 Sunning Hill Ave.  
Hamilton, ON  
L8T 1B6

We would like to recognize those making donations to this point:

Bethea, Willie	Clarke, Dave
Beveridge, Sandy	Clements, Tom
Blair, Jack	Clugston, Tara
Bowden, Mark	Collimore, Mike
Brady, Pat	Cook, Don
Butter, Bob	Cruikshanks, Bob
Caterini, Ernie	Danychuk, Bill
Cats Claws	Dawson, Bob
Chalupka, Ed	DeNobile, Mark
Chambers, Richard	Dilks, Frank
Cheron, Pascal	DiPietro, Rocky

Dulmage, Dan	Krouse, Bob	Robinson, Frank
Durka, Chris	Kudryk, Peter	Robson, Pete
Ealey, Chuck	Kyle, Bill	Rose, Carol
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Harle, Darrel	Merlo, Al	Sternberg, Gerry
Henley, Garney	Metras, John	Stiener, Bob
Howe, Jeff	Mitchell Doug	Timlock, Glenn
Hutchings, Brian	Mosca Family	Turek, Ed
Hyk, Jim	Muzyka Family	Turpin, Helen
Inskeep, Gary	Papai, Jim	United Trophy
Ireland, Terry	Pellizzari, John	Valtenbergs, Ed
Jones Ray	Philbrick, Mike	Viti, Dave
Jusdanis, Larry	Pollice, Nick	Walker, Mike/Tanner
Karcz, Zeno	Riley, Jason	Weslowski, Dick
Kearns, Steve	Riopelle (Smith & Long Limited)	Whitehouse, Rob
Kelly, Ellison	Robinson Mike	Zambiasi, Ben
Knight, Lee		Zatylny, Wally

# High School to Hard Knocks

By Brian Snelgrove

It is a road less travelled.

A road that leads directly from high school to the pros.

For most players the journey to the CFL is a linear one that leads from high school to university or college and finally to the big leagues.

There was a time however when the feat of bypassing university wasn't quite so unique.

Here are three who made the transition directly from high school to the Tiger-Cats.

## BOB KROUSE

Bob Krouse was a Tiger-Cat fixture at linebacker for 13 seasons. He was a four-time Grey Cup champion (1963, 65, 67 and 72), a team captain, an Eastern all-star as well as a back-up running back and sometime defensive back.

Krouse was an outstanding athlete in both football and track and field at Hamilton's Central Secondary School. He and his teammates set a Canadian high school record in the mile relay (3:26:8) and Krouse was the quarter mile champion. On the gridiron, Central won the Hamilton high school championship three years in a row while Krouse was there. One of his opponents from Westdale was future Canadian Football Hall of Famer Jim Young. "We were good friends and I remember I popped his shoulder out on one play," says Krouse.

"When I was in Grade nine the two phys-ed teachers pulled me aside and said that I should come out for football and that I could probably play pro" said Krouse.

"When I was in Grade 13 they had a high school evaluation camp at Civic Stadium run by the Tiger-Cat coaches. I think it was the oldest such camp in North America. Each

high school was asked to send a couple of players and I was one of the players chosen by my school. I felt very secure. I went as a running back and had good speed. Ralph Sazio was in his first year as head coach. Jake Gaudaur gave me \$1,000 as a bonus and said, 'If you don't make the team, you can keep it.'"

The \$1,000 proved to be a pretty good investment by Gaudaur.

"That first training camp was overwhelming," says Krouse. "Garney Henley was my hero. I wore #26 and here he is in the same locker room as me. You're awestruck but I made the team. But it wasn't enough just to be there. You had to contribute, on special teams or wherever they put you.

"I remember my first game. It was against Montreal and Don Clark and George Dixon were back to receive the opening kickoff. I was on the Ti-Cats' kickoff team and ran down field past one of them; I don't remember which one and hit the other one. In my mind I literally saw stars. I thought to myself, 'this is different'. But you learn, you pick up and you watch."

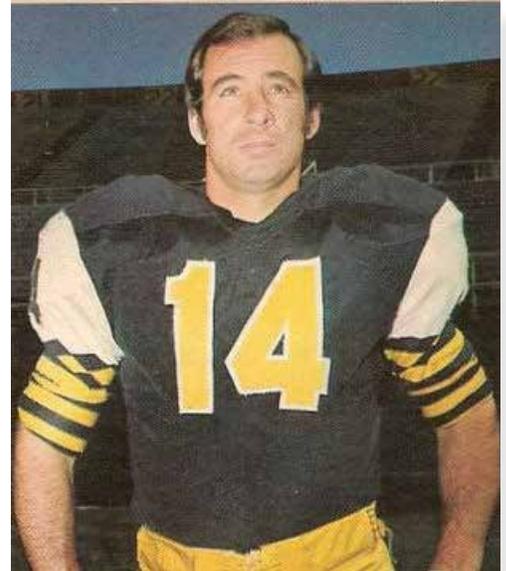
Indeed Krouse learned his lessons well and parlayed it into a 13 year career and recognition as a member of the all-time Tiger-Cat team and Wall of Honour in 2012 and an induction into the Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame in 2014.

## BILL GRAHAM

Bill Graham was a Tiger-Cat halfback from 1953-60 and played on two-Grey Cup winning teams (1953 and 57). He was a multi-sport athlete at St. Andrew's College in Aurora. Graham played football,

hockey, track, cricket and boxing.

"We had a lot of good football teams in high school," he says, "but I left after Grade 12 because I had a chance to play junior hockey with the Guelph Biltmores. "I played



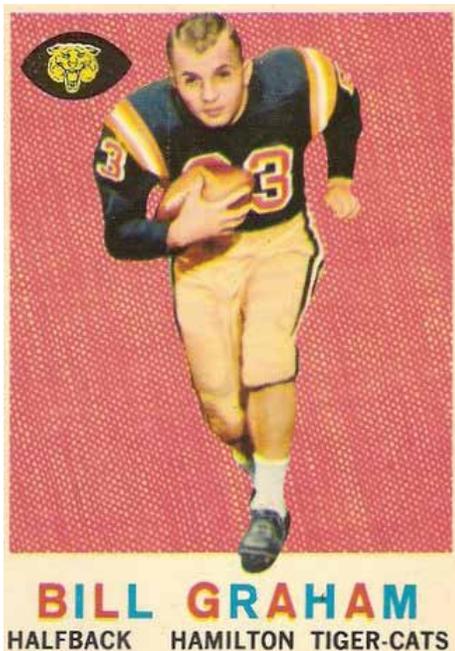
junior hockey in the winter and in the summer (1951) came home to Hamilton. The Hamilton Tiger Cats Old Boys Association was holding a high school football clinic at Civic Stadium. I rode my bicycle down and twelve of us were chosen to move on to a junior training camp where we would get a tryout for the Tiger-Cats. I just kept moving up the ladder and before I knew it, I was at training camp and then my first exhibition game and then I made the team."

"I felt elated," says Graham. "I wasn't really intimidated; it was mostly euphoria that I was there. The great thing is that a lot of guys took an interest in me; I was just 17 years old."

"When we had little scrimmages I would try to line up against Ralph Sazio. He was a pretty tough guy and I wanted to be the tough guy. Later

on I was always proud that whenever he was on the lecture circuit (coach) Jim Trimble called me 'pound for pound the toughest man in Canadian football.'"

Graham left the Ti-Cats for two years to play with the Kitchener-Waterloo Dutchmen of the old ORFU where he suited up with the likes of Cookie Gilchrist and Bobby Kuntz. "They were great years," he says, "but the Tiger-Cats bought out my



contract and I was glad to return to my hometown in 1957. It was five minutes from my house."

Graham retired from the Ti-Cats in 1960 and played a year with the London Lords.

Following his CFL days, Graham embarked on a very successful business career including becoming president of his own investment firm, University Scholarships of Canada. "I've had a great family life as well with six children, all girls, and five grandchildren," he says.

Today, the 80-year-old lives in Mississauga. "I still follow the Tiger-Cats," he says. "They were great years with some really good people. I have had season's tickets from 1955 up until last year. I finally gave them up because I am away a lot and

spend half my time up on the Bruce Peninsula where I have a farm."

## PETE NEUMANN

Pete Neumann played defensive end for the Tiger-Cats for 14 seasons (1951-1964). He was a nine-time Eastern all-star and won three Grey Cups (1953, 57 and 63). He was named to the Tiger-Cats Wall of Honour in 2011 and was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 1979.

Neumann played football at St. Catharines Collegiate High School. "We had some pretty good teams and won the Red Feather Tournament in Toronto, I think it was 1950," he says. "The tournament was for all the high schools in Southern Ontario.

"At that time I never gave any thought to playing pro ball," says Neumann, who also played baseball and hockey during his high school days. "Both Toronto and Hamilton contacted me and wanted to come down and see me. The guy from Toronto never showed up so I went with Hamilton. They signed me up and I went to my first training camp in 1951."

The Argos' loss was the Ti-Cats gain.

"It was like night and day," Neumann says of his introduction to the pro game. "Coming right out of high school, to me they were monster linemen and everybody was bigger and faster. I did the best I

could and they really took a shine to the speed I had. At that time I was very quick. Over time I became great friends with most of the players especially Bernie Custis."

"At that age you don't think of that, coming directly from high school. You just say, 'my goodness I'm going to play pro ball,' he adds. "Not like a kid in a candy store but more like, 'wow I was going to play professional football.' It was an exciting time."

Neumann suited up for the Tiger-Cats first exhibition game that year against Toronto. "The game was played at old War Memorial Stadium in Buffalo, he says. "Joe Krol was still playing for Toronto. I played probably a quarter and I think I



tackled Krol on one play."

Neumann obviously impressed the Tiger-Cat coaches as he stayed with the club and went on to a 14-year Canadian Football Hall of Fame career with Hamilton.

The 85-year-old still lives in St. Catharines and despite a bad knee and bad back, "tries to keep busy."

I used to do a lot of biking and skating," says the former Tiger-Cat star. "Now I have a bad knee and a bad back so I just try to keep busy."

**BRIAN SNELGROVE** has written extensively for the CFL, the Hamilton Tiger-Cats and the Toronto Argonauts.

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# In Conversation With... Dick Easterly

By Chris Durka

I recently had a great and uplifting conversation with former Hamilton Tiger Cat #20, Dick Easterly. Dick played for the Cats from 1962 to 1964, and participated the 1962 Grey Cup Fog Bowl game and the victorious 1963 Grey Cup game that will always be remembered for the infamous hit that Angelo Mosca made on BC's star running back Willie Fleming.

Dick Easterly had an outstanding collegiate career at Syracuse University. He was a multi-talented athlete who excelled in basketball, baseball and football. It was football however that landed him a university scholarship. In 1960 Dick mainly played defensive back, a position that he excelled in however he also was the back-up quarterback for the Syracuse Orangemen. That team went 11-0 and won the Cotton Bowl and the U.S. National Collegiate Football Championship. In 1961 Dick was the QB, receiver and captain of the Orangemen and MVP of both the 1961 Liberty Bowl game and the Blue Grey All Star game.

Dick was drafted by the San Francisco 49ers in the 1962 draft but was also contacted by the Denver Broncos. When he tried to report to the Broncos he was informed that he couldn't because his rights were apparently owned by the Buffalo Bills. Dick also found out that a CFL team called the Hamilton Tiger Cats had him ranked number one on their negotiation list so he decided to report to the Tiger Cats. Jake Gaudaur was the G.M. and Jim Trimble was the coach of the Cats at the time and they welcomed him with open arms.

Dick's first impression of Hamilton was extremely positive. He liked the downtown area particularly the park (Gore Park) in the centre of the city. He initially stayed at the Royal Connaught Hotel but later moved into an apartment with his wife on the hill as he put it.

Dick's roommate during the out of town road trips was Angelo Mosca who had just returned to the Ti-Cats after a year with Ottawa and a short stint with Montreal. He and Mosca developed a strong relationship that has lasted to this day.

Although he was recruited by the Cats as a QB/DB, Dick's first taste of Canadian Professional Football found him in a flanker's position (known today as a slot back) where he caught 2 long touchdown passes from Joe



Zuger. As special as that game seemed to be another even greater event occurred that same evening with the birth of his first daughter.

In 1962 Dick played for Jim Trimble who he described as a very firm no nonsense type of coach, but at least you knew where you stood with him. In 1963 there was a coaching change and Ralph Sazio was in charge and, although he was somewhat similar to Trimble, he was more demanding to play for, according to Dick.

On the positive side Dick mentioned a list of great team mates that he had the distinct pleasure of playing with such as Angelo Mosca, Garney Henley, Joe Zuger, Gene Cepetelli, Don Sutherin, Ralph Goldston, Willy Bethea, Art Baker, Joe Cannavino and Dave Viti. He also mentioned how talented and good the Canadians were that he played with like Tommy Grant, Bob Krouse, Pete Neumann, Zeno Karcz, Bobby Kuntz and Frank Cosentino. He then mentioned Hal Patterson and stated that Patterson had to be one of the greatest players that ever played the game.

He remembered a game in Edmonton when both he and Patterson were lined up on the

same side of the field for a pass. On the snap of the ball Patterson was levelled at the line of scrimmage and when he looked back he was sucker punched so there they both were spread eagle on the field and the QB had no one to throw to. This added some comic relief for the players and coaches when they were gathered together to review the post-game films and clearly see the both of them laid out flat on the field during that play.

There were memorable games that Dick said he remembered such as the victorious 1963 Grey Cup game in Vancouver and the 1962 Grey Cup fog bowl in Toronto where the visibility was so poor in the last quarter of the game it had to be stopped and finished the following day. Another game that stood out for him was a game in Regina in 1962 where the downpour of rain was so intense and constant it was virtually impossible to see the opposing player in front of you during most of the game. As a result of the extreme poor weather conditions the final score of that game was more like a hockey score than a football score. The game ended something like 3-2 or 5-3 in favour of Regina.



Similar to previously interviewed Tiger Cat Legends, Dick stated that he enjoyed his playing days in Hamilton and a main contributing factor were the fans. The fan support as he put it was terrific. He said that he got to meet countless number of great Tiger Cat fans personally and made many friends. He labelled Hamilton football fans as hard working, down-to-earth people.

Dick made a special tribute to Bernie Custis, who he remembered as a great football player at Syracuse and in Hamilton. He called Custis a true gentleman and a real fine person. He also mentions Tony Gabriel as another Syracuse alumnus that did well in the CFL.

Dick Easterly was recognized for his athletic accomplishments and was inducted into the Greater Syracuse Sports Hall of Fame in 2012. He and wife Mary now live in Florida where he is still very active in his Financial Planning Business which he states " keeps him out of trouble at home".

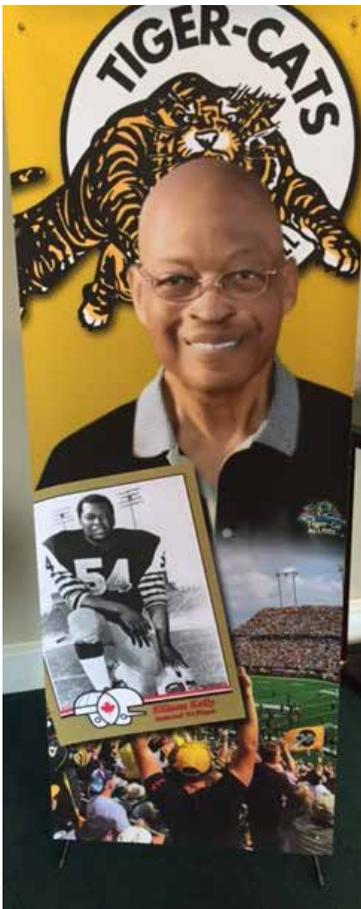
Dick Easterly is part of a long line of great former Tiger-Cats that have been responsible for the outstanding football tradition that has been created here in Hamilton. His enthusiasm, candidness and humour made the conversation with him both enjoyable and very interesting.

### CHRIS DURKA

Chris is a long-time Tiger-Cat fan, season ticket holder, historian and collector of Tiger-Cat memorabilia and autographs. Over the years, Chris has had the honour to speak with many Tiger-Cat players whom he now recalls in conversation.

## IN MEMORIAM

# Ellison Kelly



Ellison passed away on February 11<sup>th</sup> at the age of 80.

Ellison played for the Tiger-Cats from 1960–1970 and was an 8-time Eastern All-Star, 4-time CFL All-Star as well as an inductee into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame and Wall of Honour.

Ellison lived in Hamilton and was a regular at Tiger-Cat events. He was very popular with fans and Alumni and will be fondly remembered.

### ELLY'S PRAYER

*Dear God,*

**In the battle that goes on through life,  
I ask for a field that is fair;**

**A chance that is equal with all in strife,  
And the courage to strive and to dare;**

**And if I should win, let it be by the code,  
With my faith and my honour held high;**

**And if I should lose, let me stand by the road,  
And cheer as the winners go by.**

# Arlene Kovacs

Arlene spent 12 years (82–94) with the Tiger-Cats in many administrative positions. She was an administrative assistant to GM Joe Zuger, a scouting coordinator working with Bob Krouse and the coach's secretary.

She passed away on February 11<sup>th</sup> at the age of 75.



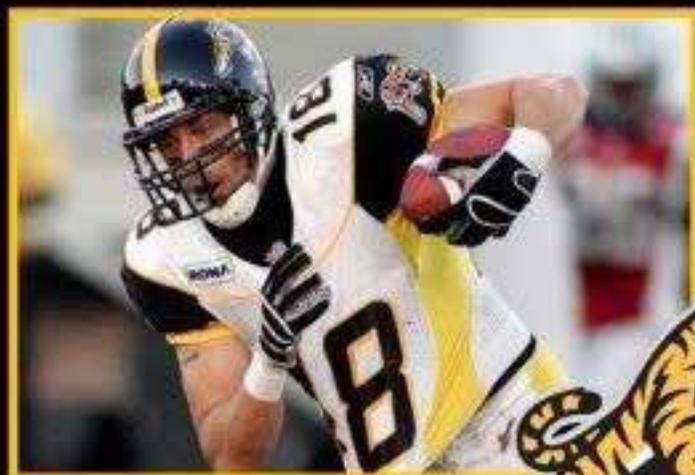
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# CARD COLLECTOR

**90** Alex Muzyka  
Hamilton Tiger-Cats

Alex Muzyka was born in Hamilton on December the 8th, 1927. He plays tackle. Alex is 5' 11" tall and weighs 220 pounds. Both his hair and eyes are brown. Alex is one of the many Hamilton boys who are playing professional with the home town. He was on the Tiger-Cat line-up last year, as well!

SAVE THE COMPLETE SET OF 100 PARKIES 1952 FOOTBALL CARD

Alex Muzyka, 1952

**MITCHELL PRICE #65**

**CARD 114**  
**MITCHELL PRICE #65**  
DEFENSIVE LINEMAN  
Ht: 6'2" Wt: 271 lbs. Import  
Livingston University  
Years Pro: 5

Is starting his fifth season with the Tiger-Cats... appeared in 12 regular season games in 1984... played at Livingston University from 1979 to 1982... received an Honourable Mention All-American in 1982... selected as an All-Gulf Conference All-Star in 1982. Mitchell played out his option year in 1985 but registered with the Tiger-Cats for the 1986 season.

JOGO INC. '86

Mitchell Price, 1986

**Post**  
**Dave Viti** 67

End - HAMILTON TIGER-CATS - Allier  
Ht. 6-2; Wt. 220; Age 23

Home - Providence, R.I. Boston Univ.

Sought by Washington of the National League and Buffalo of the American League, this strong two-way end cast his future with Hamilton. His arrival couldn't have been timed better. On his performance last year he seemed to be the perfect replacement for retired Paul Dekker. A strong blocker, he was used infrequently on passes, but caught 14 for 206 yards.

Taille 6-2; Poids 220; Age 23

Résidence - Providence, R.I. Université Boston

Recherché par Washington de la Ligue Nationale et Buffalo de la Ligue Américaine, ce solide ailier défensif et offensif a préféré venir jouer à Hamilton. Son arrivée fut très opportune; en raison de ses performances de l'an dernier, il semble le joueur tout indiqué pour remplacer Paul Dekker. Solide bloqueur, il n'a pas joué souvent à l'attaque mais a quand même attrapé 14 passes pour 206 verges.

Dave Viti, 1967

**CARL COULTER #51**

**CARD 115**  
**CARL COULTER #51**  
CENTRE  
Ht: 6'2" Wt: 278 lbs  
Carleton University  
Years Pro: 9 Years CFL: 9  
Canadian



**HAMILTON**

Carl joined the Ticats this season and helped turn the offensive line into the CFL's best, with only eight sacks allowed in the first nine games. He started all 18 regular-season games, plus two playoff games and the Grey Cup game, last year for Saskatchewan. Coulter began his CFL career with B.C. in 1990. He played three seasons for the Lions, one for the Ottawa Rough Riders and two for the Toronto Argonauts before returning to B.C., then moving to Saskatchewan and now Hamilton Carl has scored two career touchdowns, one on a reception and one on a fumble recovery.

Printed in Canada JOGO INC./'98

Carl Coulter, 1998

**ANGELO MOSCA**

**69** ANGELO IS A WRESTLER IN THE OFF-SEASON.

**ANGELO MOSCA**  
Non-Import  
6'4"-240 lbs.  
Notre-Dame University  
Defensive Tackle

Canadian  
6'4"-240 lb.  
Université Notre-Dame  
Bloqueur défensif

"Angie" is known by all for his ruthless methods of attack. Angelo was the 1970 Schenley-Best Lineman runner-up to Wayne Harris.

"Angie" est bien connu pour ses méthodes impitoyables à l'attaque. Deuxième meilleur joueur de ligne après Wayne Harris en 1970.

©O-PEE-CHEE PRINTED IN CANADA

**HAMILTON Tiger Cats**  
DEFENSIVE TACKLE

Angelo Mosca, 1971

**Ray Mariuz #44**

**CARD 153**  
**RAY MARIUZ 44**  
LINE-BACKER  
Ht: 6'3" Wt: 219 lbs  
Years Pro: 6  
Canadian

Ray started all 18 games at outside linebacker in his third season in Hamilton. He finished fourth on the Ticats with 65 defensive tackles and led the team with 15 special teams tackles, also recorded two quarterback sacks, four tackles for a loss, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery and one pun knockdown, earned the Ticats nomination for the Most Outstanding Canadian Player Award. At McMaster University he made a school record 136 total tackles (98 solo), his 98 solo tackles is also a McMaster record. Ray was a conference all-star at McMaster in both 2001 and 2002, and an all-Canadian in his final season, when he was also named the top defensive player in the Ontario conference. Ray lives year round in Burlington and spends his off-time as owner of a digital advertising company called Oust Media.

Printed in Canada JOGO INC. '09

Ray Mariuz, 2009

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