

📝 The Gridiron Report 🥉



2009 Utica College Football

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A Message from Coach Faggiano

Dear alumni, parents, and friends,

We kicked off the semester with our 2008 Season Football Banquet at the Harts Hill Inn in Whitesboro, NY. Jason Powles from WKTV Sports was our Master of Ceremonies. Thanks to the generosity of our parents and family members we were able to have a special banquet. Over 200 people honored our seniors and award recipients. We were pleased to announce the first "Big John" Offensive Linemen of the Year Award. The Kaczmarski family generously endowed our football program with a \$10,000 gift in kind. We thank them for their support of our program.

Your Pioneers have been hard at work this semester. Their success in the classroom and community has been impressive. In this issue of the Gridiron Report, we are excited to announce our 2009 Varsity and Junior Varsity schedules. We have also introduced the Blue & Orange Club as our annual fundraiser. The 12th Man Tailgate will be highlighted in our Blue & Orange Club.

Spring practice is going well. Defensively, we continue to work on our zone blitzes and zone coverages. We return 9 of 11 starters on defense. Offensively we also return 9 of 11 starters. Offensively, you will see us both under center as well as in the shotgun in 2009. Our special teams continue to improve as well. In 2009, Coach Justin Higgins will serve as our Special Teams Coordinator.

I do hope to see you at one of our upcoming Pioneer events: the Annual Vodka Riggie Dinner, Spring Football Fever, or our first annual Pioneer Football Golf Classic. I hope you have a safe and healthy summer.

Fear the Moose...

Sincerely, Blaise Faggiano Blaise Faggiano Head Football Coach



2009 Varsity Football Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Place	Time	
Sat.	Sept. 5	Becker College	Home	1:00pm	
Sat.	Sept. 12	Castleton State #	Home	1:00pm	
Sat.	Sept. 19	R.P.I.	Away	1:00pm	
Sat.	Sept. 26	Ithaca College	Home	1:00pm	
Sat.	Oct. 3	Springfield college	Home	1:00pm	
Sat.	Oct. 10	Anna Maria College	Away	1:00pm	
Sat.	Oct. 17	St. John Fisher College	Away	7:00pm	
Sat.	Oct. 31	Hartwick College %	Home	1:00pm	
Sat.	Nov. 7	Mt. Ida College	Away	12:00pm	
Sat.	Nov. 14	Alfred University	Away	1:00pm	
# - Homecoming % - Senior Day					



Pioneer Football 2009 Recruiting Class

Since August 1, 2008...

300 Student-Athletes visited our campus with their families for: Summer Recruitment Days Home Football Games Official Recruitment Days

As of April 20, 2009...

We have had 450 applications and 60 Deposits (Committed Pioneers) Over 50% of Deposited Student-Athletes have received a merit scholarship for their high school academic record.

Congratulations to our coaches & players. Special thanks to Coach Penree who serves as our Recruiting Coordinator.

As of April 20, 2009 There are...

117 Days to Camp August 15th

131 Days to St. Lawrence Scrimmage August 29th

138 Days to Home Opener Vs. Becker College September 5th

2009 Leadership Council

Eric Kahl - Spencer, NY Kevin Hennion - Dumont, NJ Tyler Malagisi - Gloversville, NY Josh Mason - Schenectady, NY Tracy Branch - Bay Shore, NY Marcus Gurdineer - Westtown, NY Cody Elliott - Buffalo, NY Terrell Cunningham - Rochester, NY Mike Clark - Fulton, NY Josh Wright - Cortland, NY Chris Walrath - Little Falls, NY Steve Karboski - Whitesboro, NY

Blue & Orange Club

In 2008, our families and friends of football were very generous to our program. Both the My Sports Dreams and 12th Man fundraisers were a huge success. In 2009, and the future, we will have one annual fundraiser, the Blue & Orange Club. The club was formed to generate financial support for our football program and athletic department. Gifts to the Blue and Orange Club

help to offset the many expenses that occur over a given season. Your support helps to keep us on the cutting edge of technology and strength and conditioning. The Blue & Orange Club also supports the general athletic fund at the college. The general athletic fund provides senior awards to all Utica College Athletes, and supports events such as the Pioneer Hall of Fame

& Senior Awards Dinner. For a brochure go to www.ucpioneers.com.

Super Fan

Our leadership council started "Super Fan." Super Fan demonstrates support for our fellow student-athletes at the college. Here our team is seen supporting our Women's & Men's Basketball programs.



Pioneers Win "Air Band" Contest

Air Band is one of the longest standing traditions at Utica College sponsored by the UC Sorority Chi Beta . The lip sink contest raised money for a local abused women's shelter. Congratulations to Keith Barone, Casey McNulty, Kurt Zimmerman, Bob Montgomery, and Michael Zappetti.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2009 "Spring Football Fever" To Benefit Autism Awareness

10:00am Gaetano Stadium

- FREE T-SHIRTS TO THE FIRST 25 FANS STARTING AT 10:00AM

- POWDER PUFF FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT TO FOLLOW PRACTICE TO BENEFIT AUTISM AWARENESS AT 11:30AM

- BBQ FOLLOWING PRACTICE \$7 FOR PARENTS/ RECRUITS

> Practice Schedule 10:00am Team Period 10:40am 7 on 7 Period - OL vs. DL 1 on 1 11:10am Competition Period 11:30am Powder Puff Tournament





Pioneers Give Back

Elks Lodge #33 Clean Up

Congratulations to our players and coaches for participating in the following community service projects in the Mohawk Valley:

- Son's of Italy Benefit Dinner
- America's Greatest Heart Run Walk
- Elks Lodge #33 Spring Clean Up •
- 2009 Autism Telethon .
- Nutcracker Ballet Clean Up Stanley Theatre League
- North Utica Senior Center After School Program
- Riggie Fest 2009 to benefit the YWCA
- Young Scholars Mentor Program Utica City School District





America's Greatest Heart Run Walk

Son's of Italy Benefit Dinner

Strength & Conditioning Update

Your Pioneers have been working hard in the weight room. In just one year of our new strength program they have made tremendous gains. Coach Greg Pyszczynski has done an excellent job as our Strength & Conditioning Coordinator.

D1 football player averages	UC Pioneer Averages			
Bench: 348	Bench: 270			
Squat: 448	Squat: 400			
Power Clean: 268	Power Clean: 227			
More Impressive Numbers:				
15 Pioneers are in the 1000 pound club				

15 Pioneers are 100 lbs or less from the 1000 pound club

- 20 Pioneers have over a 400 lb squat
- 20 Pioneers are 50 lbs or less from squatting 400 lbs or more
- 20 Pioneers are power cleaning 250 lbs or more

15 Pioneers are 50 lbs or less from power cleaning 250 lbs or more.

Welcome to our new coaches

Wide Receivers:	Lazarus Morgan (Utica, 2009)
Secondary (Cornerbacks):	Walter Burks
Offensive Student Assistant:	Anthony Rivie (Utica, 2010)
Offensive Student Assistant:	Burnell Branch (Utica, 2010)
Defensive Student Assistant:	William Daley (Utica, '09)

2008 Season Awards

Offensive Rookie of the Year Josh Mason

Defensive Rookie of the Year Marquez Mosely

Special Teams Player of the Year Ben Atwood

Offensive Player of the Year Cody Elliott

Defensive Player of the Year Eric Kahl

Defensive Lineman of the Year Chris Walrath

"Big John" Offensive Lineman of the Year **Bob Montgomery**

> **Pioneer Award** Josh Wright

Captains Awards Jim Pincher Eric Kahl Michael Zappetti Vinson Jones

2009 Junior Varsity Football Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Sun.	Sept. 13	St. Lawrence	Away	TBA
Sun.	Sept. 20	Hartwick	Away	1:00pm
Sun.	Sept. 27	Alfred	Home	2:30pm
Sun.	Oct. 4	St. John Fisher	Away	4:00pm
Sun.	Oct. 11	Union	Away	1:00pm
Sun.	Oct. 18	Cortland	Home	1:00pm
Sun.	Oct. 25	Ithaca	Home	1:00pm
Sun.	Nov. 1	St. John Fisher	Home	1:00pm
Sun.	Nov. 8	RPI	Home	1:00 pm

Largest JV Schedule in New York State!



Save the Dates for upcoming Pioneer Events!



Benefit Vodka Riggie Dinner for Utica College Football Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Utica Elks Lodge #33 Tickets \$10, 5:30-7:30pm 1315 Champlin Ave Utica, NY 13502



Big John Kaczmarski Jr. Memorial Golf Outing

Monday, July 13, 2009 Harvest Hill Golf Club

3052 Transit Rd. Orchard Park, NY 14127 New Website <u>www.golf4johnny.org</u>



Spring Football Fever Gaetano Stadium Saturday, May 2, 2009 Pioneer Family Picnic 2nd Annual Powder Puff Football Games

Pioneer Football Golf Classic

Saturday, June 27, 2009 Stonebridge Golf Course New Hartford, NY Brochure located at www.ucpioneers.com

Pioneer Football Apparel

The 2009 Adidas Order form is in PDF format on our football website at <u>www.ucpioneers.com</u> For additional information including pictures log on to: <u>www.adidas-team.com</u>

2009 Fundraising Clothing Order Form

These items are great for the family. Money raised goes directly to the football program. Available in May on our football website at <u>www.ucpioneers.com</u>

Support your Pioneers and Join the BLUE & ORANGE Club! Brochure located at www.ucpioneers.com