

VILLANOVA FOOTBALL

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On the front cover: Senior quarterback Brett Gordon looks to lead Villanova to a second-straight Atlantic 10 Championship.

On the back cover: Under the lights at Villanova Stadium.

On the inside front cover: Cameron Cross, Sean McCarthy and Gary Johnson are primed for big seasons in 2002.

On the inside back cover: Brian White, Shaz Brown and Jamison Young are expected to be playmakers for the Wildcats in 2002.

VILLANOVA 2002 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
8/31	at Rutgers	7 p.m.
9/7	at Colgate	1 p.m.
9/14	Maine	6 p.m.
9/21	New Hampshire (Parents' Weekend)	Noon
9/28	at James Madison	6 p.m.
10/5	Hofstra (Homecoming)	Noon
10/10	Pennsylvania	7 p.m.
10/19	at Massachusetts	1 p.m.
10/26	Bye Week	
11/2	William & Mary	Noon
11/9	at Northeastern	12:30 p.m.
11/16	Rhode Island	1 p.m.
11/23	at Delaware	1 p.m.

VILLANOVA FOOTBALL

PAGE 2 • MEDIA INFORMATION

MEDIA INFORMATION: In order for Villanova University's Office of Media Relations to best service responsible media members covering Wildcat Football this year, we ask your assistance and cooperation with the following policies and procedures.

GENERAL INFORMATION: The 2002 Villanova Football Media Guide was prepared by the Villanova University Office of Media Relations specifically to assist the media in their coverage of Wildcat Football. In-season requests for additional information, interviews and photographs should be directed to Dean Kenefick, Assistant Athletics Director/Communications, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085-1674, (Phone 610-519-4120).

GAME CREDENTIALS: Only accredited members of the media will receive credentials for any game. Requests for credentials should be made by noon on the day prior to the game. No requests will be honored after that time. Credentials at Villanova Stadium may be picked up two hours prior to kickoff at the press window, located at the base of the Villanova Stadium press box. Credentials should be requested through the Villanova University Office of Media Relations, by contacting Dean Kenefick at 610-519-4120. A valid form of identification is required to pick up media credentials.

PHOTO AND FILM CREDENTIALS: All photo and game film credentials should be requested as early as possible, and no later than noon on the day prior to the game. No photo credentials will be approved the day of the game. Photographers and film crews may work the sidelines between the 35-yard line and the endzone in both directions. Photographers and film crews on the sidelines and endzones assume responsibility for all risks.

RADIO: Credentials for visiting radio will be limited to four persons unless prior arrangements have been made. Visiting radio phone lines may be rented through the Villanova University Office of Media Relations at a cost of \$75.00 per line. We will not bill for these lines; a valid check must be presented prior to kickoff. There are a maximum of three phone lines available to visiting commercial stations, and one phone line for visiting student stations. Rental of the phone lines is on a first-come basis. For additional information on reserving phone lines please contact Dean Kenefick at 610-519-4120.

VILLANOVA OFFICE OF MEDIA RELATIONS



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Home	(610) 924-9042
Jonathan Gust	(610) 519-4122
Home	(610) 526-0604

ATLANTIC 10 INFORMATION

Headquarters for the Atlantic 10 Conference are in Philadelphia, Pa. Contact the league at 230 South Broad Street, Suite 1700, Philadelphia, PA 19102, Phone-215-545-6678.



PRESS PARKING: Parking for the media will be located across Lancaster Avenue in the East Main Lot. These passes must be ordered at least four days prior to a home Villanova football contest in order to ensure receipt by you prior to game day. Please note that space is limited, and early arrival is recommended. The Villanova University Office of Media Relations has limited access to Stadium parking; we kindly request your patience and cooperation.

PRESS BOX GAME SERVICES: Pre-game notes and fact sheets, current statistics, media guides, flipcards/lineups will be issued prior to the start of each Villanova home football game. Halftime statistics, as well as complete play-by-play, final team and individual statistics will be provided to the media following the game. Facsimile transmission is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please make fax arrangements with Media Relations personnel prior to the game. Also, any post-game quote requests should be made prior to kickoff; a post-game interview session is conducted in the press box conference room 10 minutes after each home game. This season, the visiting teams' head coach and selected student-athletes will be brought to the interview room first; after 10 minutes, Villanova University head coach Andy Talley and selected student-athletes will be brought to the interview room. A light lunch and beverages are served to credentialed media members prior to the game. An internal public address system will be provided for the media. Should you wish for a telephone at your seat location in the press box, please advise when requesting your credentials.

INTERVIEWS: All requests for player or coach interviews, either in person or via phone, will be arranged by the Villanova University Office of Media Relations by contacting Dean Kenefick at 610-519-4120. **The Wildcat locker room, at home and on the road, is closed to members of the media.**

WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE: A weekly press luncheon featuring Villanova University, the University of Pennsylvania, and other Philadelphia area collegiate football programs is held each Wednesday during the football season. Members of the media are welcome to attend. Villanova Football Head Coach Andy Talley will be available at each luncheon, while telephone conferences with that week's Wildcat opponent will also be conducted. The luncheons alternate between the Donaldson Room at the University of Pennsylvania, and the Connelly Center at Villanova University. Lunch will be served beginning at 11:15 a.m.; telephone interviews with Villanova and Pennsylvania's weekly opponents begin at 11:30 a.m. Question and answer sessions with the Philadelphia coaches begin at noon. Charge to the media is \$10.00.

This year's luncheon schedule

At Villanova — 9/4, 9/18, 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13

At Pennsylvania — 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20



VILLANOVA FOOTBALL

MEDIA OUTLETS • PAGE 3

NEWSPAPERS

The Associated Press, 1 Franklin Plaza, Suite 250, Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-561-1133; FAX 215-561-3544
Ken Berger - Sports Editor

Philadelphia Inquirer, 400 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19101
215-854-4550; FAX 215-854-4564
Tim Dwyer - Sports Editor
Joe Juliano - Football Beat Writer

Philadelphia Daily News, 400 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19101
215-854-5700; FAX 215-854-5524
Mike Rathet - Executive Sports Editor; Pat McCloone - Sports Editor;
Mike Kern, Bill Fleischman - Beat Writers

Camden Courier Post, P. O. Box 5300, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
856-486-2424; FAX 856-663-2831
Chuck Boufnan - Sports Editor; Dave Treffinger, John Voeding - Assistants

Delaware County Daily Times, 500 Mildred Avenue, Primos, PA 19108
610-622-8881; FAX 610-622-8887
Bob Tennant - Sports Editor; Terry Toohey- Beat Writer

Norristown Times Herald, 410 Markley Street, Norristown, PA 19404
610-272-2322; FAX 610-272-0660
Jack Kerwin - Sports Editor

Philadelphia Tribune, 520-26 South 16th Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19146
215-893-4080; FAX 215-893-4064
Barnett Wright - Sports Editor; Donald Hunt, Jack Chevalier - Beat Writers

West Chester Daily Local News, P. O. Box 517, West Chester, PA 19380
610-696-1775; FAX 610-430-1194
Barry Schickling - Sports Editor

Bucks County Courier Times, 8400 Route 13, Levittown, PA 19067
215-949-4212; FAX 215-949-4177
Gary Silvers - Sports Editor

Trenton Times, 500 Perry Street, Trenton, NJ 08605
609-396-3232; FAX 609-989-8368
Jim Gauger - Sports Editor

The Trentonian, 600 Perry Street, Trenton, NJ 08618
609-989-7800; FAX 609-394-1358
John Davis - Sports Editor

Wilmington News Journal, P. O. Box 15505, Wilmington, DE 19850
302-324-2850; FAX 302-324-2298
Rich Luna - Sports Editor; Tom Tomaschek, Football Beat Writer.

The Main Line Times, 311 East Lancaster Avenue, Ardmore, PA 19003,
610-642-4300; FAX 610- 642-9704
Dan Eisenhuth - Publisher

The Suburban & Wayne Times, P. O. Box 409, Wayne, PA 19087
610-688-3000; FAX 610-964-1346
Lindon Hickerson - Sports Editor; Pete Kelso - Football Beat Writer

The Villanovan (student newspaper), 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA
19085, 610-519-7206
Ian Koski - Sports Editor

RADIO:

Football Broadcasts:
Flagship Station: WZZD 990 AM, 117 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444,
610-828-6965; FAX 610-828-8879
Producer: Russ Whitnah
Announcers: Joe Eichhorn (play-by-play), Ryan Fannon (color analyst)

KYW-AM Newsradio 1060 (All-News 24-hour format)
Independence Mall East, 5th & Market Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19106,
215-238-4991; FAX 215-238-4783 (TV), 215-238-4657 (Radio)
Tom Maloney

WXVU-FM Radio (Villanova Student Station)
Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085
610-519-7200

TELEVISION & LOCAL CABLE

WCAU-TV Channel 10 (NBC Owned & Operated)
City Avenue & Monument Road, Philadelphia, PA 19131
610-668-5660; FAX 610-668-3700
Collin McCauly - Producer
Howard Eskin, Vai Sikahema, Derek Costello- on-air hosts

WPVI-TV Channel 6 (ABC Owned & Operated)
4100 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131
215-581-4596; FAX 215-581-4530
Jack Braboy, Mark Meany - Producers
Gary Papa, Scott Palmer, Phil Andrews - On-air hosts

KYW-TV Channel 3 (CBS Affiliate/Westinghouse Group W)
Independence Mall East, Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-238-4646; FAX 215-238-4786
Saul Stokes - Producer
Beasley Reese, Steve Bucci- On-air hosts

WTXF-TV Channel 29 (FOX Affiliate)
4th & Market Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-923-6397; FAX 215-592-1535
Tom Schredenckek, Paul Luongo - Producers
Don Tollefson, Bill Vargus - On-air hosts

WPHL - TV Channel 17
5001 Winfield Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131
215-878-1700; FAX 215-879-7682
Jon Agree - Producer
Mike Dardis - On-air host

COMCAST SPORTSNET
1 First Union Complex, Lot D
Philadelphia, PA 19148
215-952-5366; FAX 215-952-5953
Mark Jordan, Steve Bernstein - Producers
Leslie Gudel, Neil Hartman, Pete Christy,
Derrick Gunn, Dei Lynam - Talent and On-air hosts

CN8
1351 South Columbus Blvd.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19147
215-468-2222 ext 3810
Bob Carroll - Coordinating Producer
Bruce Casella - Managing Editor
Lou Tilley - On-Air Host



VILLANOVA FOOTBALL

PAGE 4 • VILLANOVA FOOTBALL FACTS & FIGURES

VILLANOVA QUICK FACTS

Location	Villanova, Pa.
Founded	1842
Enrollment	6,295
President	Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A.
Athletics Director	Vince Nicastro
Head Football Coach	Andy Talley
Nickname	Wildcats
Colors	Blue and White
Stadium	Villanova Stadium
Capacity	12,000
Stadium Surface	Artificial Turf
Playing Field	Leo Goodreau Field
Press Box Phone	.610-519-5290
Affiliation	NCAA Division I-AA
Conference	Atlantic 10
2001 Overall Record	8-3
2001 Conference Record	7-2, Co-Champions
Lettermen Lost/Returning	.23/13
Starters Returning/Lost	.12/10
Offensive Formation	Multiple
Defensive Formation	4-3

2001 VILLANOVA FOOTBALL RESULTS

**8-3 OVERALL, 7-2 ATLANTIC 10
(ATLANTIC 10 CO-CHAMPIONS)**

8/30	Colgate	W, 38-14
9/8	Northeastern	W, 31-14
9/29	@ Richmond	W, 31-30
10/6	James Madison (Parent's Weekend)	W, 45-44 (2OT)
10/12	New Haven	L, 17-14
10/20	@ Maine	L, 44-40
10/27	Massachusetts (Homecoming)	W, 47-13
11/3	@ New Hampshire	W, 38-35
11/10	@ Hofstra	W, 54-34
11/17	Delaware	W, 19-14
11/24	William & Mary	L, 47-44

2002 COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Andy Talley (Southern Connecticut '67)
	Record at Villanova: 114-69-1 (17 seasons, .622 win pct.)
	Record in Conference Games: 71-47 (14 seasons, .602 win pct.)
	Overall as a Head Coach: 142-87-2 (22 seasons, .619 win pct.)
Assistant Head Coach/Offensive Line	Mark Ferrante
Defensive Coordinator/Linebackers Coach	Joe Trainer
Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks Coach	Sam Venuto
Defensive Line Coach	Lou Ferry
Wide Receivers Coach	Drew Maginnis
Defensive Line/ Ends Coach	Clint Wiley
Running Backs Coach	Apollo Wright
Secondary Coach	Mark Reardon
Assistant Coaches	Billy Crocker, Phil Galiano
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Jeff Watson

2002 WILDCAT TEAM INFORMATION

Lettermen Lost	13
Lettermen Returning	23
Incoming Freshmen Recruits	14
Eligible Transfers	1
Offensive Starters Lost	5
Defensive Starters Lost	5
Offensive Starters Returning	6
Defensive Starters Returning	6
Specialists Returning	0

2001 STATISTICAL LEADERS (Returners in CAPS)

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD
Brian Westbrook	249	1,603	6.4	22
CAMERON CROSS	35	151	4.3	0

PASSING	COMP	ATT	INT	YDS	TD
BRETT GORDON	262	382	13	3,017	25
SCOTT LUKASH	3	5	1	29	1

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	TD
Murle Sango	67	728	10.9	4
Brian Westbrook	59	658	11.2	6
SHAZ BROWN	37	499	13.5	2

SCORING	TD	PAT	FG	CONV	PTS
Brian Westbrook	29	0-0	0-0	1	176
Casey Hannon	0	41-44	12-18	0	77

TACKLES	UT	AT	TT	SACKS
JAMISON YOUNG	65	25	90	6.5
DARNELL GREENE	58	25	83	0
Joe Keating	46	28	74	2.5

INTERCEPTIONS	NO.	YDS	TD
Jason McMillion	2	76	0
CLARENCE CURRY	2	2	14
GARY JOHNSON	2	0	0

VILLANOVA FOOTBALL 2002 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
8/31	at Rutgers	7 p.m.
9/7	at Colgate	1 p.m.
9/14	Maine	6 p.m.
9/21	New Hampshire (Parents' Weekend)	Noon
9/28	at James Madison	6 p.m.
10/5	Hofstra (Homecoming)	Noon
10/10	Pennsylvania	7 p.m.
10/19	at Massachusetts	1 p.m.
10/26	Bye Week	
11/2	William & Mary	Noon
11/9	at Northeastern	12:30 p.m.
11/16	Rhode Island	1 p.m.
11/23	at Delaware	1 p.m.

VILLANOVA FOOTBALL

2002 WILDCAT NOTES • PAGE 5

THE NEXT LEVEL: Villanova will open the 2002 season against a I-A opponent for the fourth time in the last five years when it plays at Rutgers on Saturday, August 31. Since Villanova restored football at the I-AA level in 1985, the Wildcats have played seven contests against I-A opponents. In those seven games, Villanova is 0-7 losing to Wake Forest (31-11 in 1998 season opener), Navy twice (23-20 in 1990, 20-14 in 1995), Rutgers twice (38-28 in the 1996 season opener, 34-21 in 2000 season opener), Pittsburgh (48-41 in the 1998 season opener) and Air Force (37-13 in the 1999 season opener). All seven games have been played on the road with the exception of the Wake Forest game which was held at Villanova Stadium. In Villanova's seven I-A losses, the average margin of loss has been 11.2 points per game.

PLAYING ON SUNDAYS: Villanova running back **Brian Westbrook** became the first Wildcat football player to be drafted since Howie Long in 1981 when he was selected in the third round of the 2002 NFL Draft by the Philadelphia Eagles. With Westbrook now a member of the Eagles, Villanova now has two players currently playing in the NFL. Wide receiver **Brian Finneran** (Villanova: 1994-97) will be entering his third season with the Atlanta Falcons in 2002. Westbrook and Finneran both won the Walter Payton Award, given to the top offensive player in NCAA I-AA football, during their senior seasons at Villanova. Entering preseason camp, Finneran is slated as the starter at flanker for the Falcons, while Westbrook is listed as the No. 2 running back on the Eagles depth chart.

BIG LOSS: The Wildcats will have big shoes to fill on offense in 2002, as Villanova loses its top two playmakers in running back **Brian Westbrook** and wide receiver **Murle Sango**. Together, the duo combined to register 33 of Villanova's 53 touchdowns (62.2 percent), 3,751 of the team's 6,083 all-purpose yards (61.6 percent), 126 of the 265 receptions (47.5 percent) and 1,667 of Villanova's 1,924 rushing yards (86.6 percent). For their efforts last year, Westbrook was named the Atlantic 10 Offensive Player of the Year for the second-straight season and Sango was named to the All-Conference third team. Westbrook was also named the Walter Payton Award Winner as the top offensive player in all of I-AA football. Sango finished his career with 236 career receptions which ranks second all-time at Villanova, while Westbrook registered 219 career catches which is third all-time at Villanova. Sango and Westbrook are just two of three Villanova players to ever record 200 or more receptions in a career.



Brian Westbrook will take his game to Veterans Stadium in 2002 as a member of the Philadelphia Eagles.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION: For his efforts last season where he rushed 249 times for 1,603 yards and 22 touchdowns, caught 59 passes for 658 yards and two scores, returned 17 kickoffs for 440 yards and a score and returned 12 punts for 90 yards, running back **Brian Westbrook** was named the winner of the Walter Payton Award which goes to the top offensive player in all of NCAA I-AA football. In addition last season, Westbrook became the NCAA career all-purpose yards leader in the history of college football at any level. Westbrook becomes the second Villanova Wildcat to earn this award, as former Wildcat and current Atlanta Falcon wide receiver Brian Finneran garnered the honor in 1997. Villanova joins the University of Idaho (quarterback Doug Nussmeier in 1993/quarterback John Friesz in 1989) as the only schools to have two Walter Payton Award winners to its credit.

MOVING UP: Senior quarterback **Brett Gordon** enters the 2002 season fourth all-time on the Villanova career passing yards list with 5,349. With 477 more yards passing, Gordon will move past Tom Colombo into third place. Last year as a junior, Gordon completed 262-of-382 for 3,017 yards to go with 25 touchdowns and 13 interceptions. By throwing for 3,017 yards, Gordon becomes just the second Villanova signal caller to throw for 3,000 yards in a season. The only other Wildcat to accomplish the feat is Chris Boden who did it three times from 1997-99. Gordon was rewarded for his play last year by being named third team All-Atlantic 10.

ALL-AMERICAN HISTORY: With standout **Brian Westbrook** being named first team All-American by virtually everyone last season, the Villanova football program has had a first team All-American in six of the last eight years. In the program's history, 20 different players have earned All-American distinction.

1994	LB	Tyrone Frazier
1996	WR	Brian Finneran
1997	WR	Brian Finneran
	QB	Chris Boden
1998	RB	Brian Westbrook
2000	KR	Brian Westbrook
2001	RB	Brian Westbrook

NOTE: In 1999, wide receiver Murle Sango was a second team All-American



Murle Sango finished his outstanding Villanova career with 236 receptions.

VILLANOVA FOOTBALL

PAGE 6 • BROADCASTS

**VILLANOVA ATHLETICS WEBSITE
WWW.VILLANOVA.COM**

- Game Notes
- Statistics
- Schedules and Results
- Feature Stories
- Complete media guide
- Highlight Videos
- Villanova Apparel

**VILLANOVA ATHLETICS HOT LINE
1-888-400-NOVA (6682)**

- Scores, highlights and leading scorers for every varsity Wildcat sport.
- Updated immediately following Villanova home and away games.

**VILLANOVA.COM
INTERNET RADIO BROADCASTS**

- Radio broadcasts of Wildcat football games and coaches shows available over the internet.
- Requirements: IBM (soundcard, speakers, broadcast.com software); Macintosh (broadcast.com software)
- Log on to the Villanova Athletics Website.
- Click on the broadcast.com icon
- Follow directions

WILDCATS ON TRZ'S TEAMLINE

Villanova University's Wildcat Football broadcasts, for a 10th consecutive year, are now available nationwide through TRZ'S TEAMLINE phone service. Interested fans, family and media can dial 1-800-846-4700, enter their Visa or Mastercard number and expiration date, and then be connected to the live game broadcast on the Wildcat Football Radio Network. TRZ pays for the long distance call, while callers are billed on their credit card a maximum of 50 cents per minute, and as low as 20 cents per minute for the service. Save up to 60 percent on every call by purchasing a TeamLine season ticket. Using a declining rate card, fans pay less per minute the longer they listen, and can listen as long as they like.

**TEAMLINE — 1-800-846-4700 VILLANOVA FOOTBALL
ACCESS CODE, 5438**

VILLANOVA FOOTBALL RADIO NETWORK

For the sixth straight season in 2002, WZZD-AM 990 in Lafayette Hill, Pa., will be the flagship station of the Villanova Football Radio Network. Play-by-play announcer Joe Eichhorn, who has been broadcasting Villanova Football since 1988, returns to anchor the broadcasts. Joining Eichhorn for a ninth consecutive year is Ryan Fannon, who also is Villanova's play-by-play men's basketball announcer. All 12 Wildcat gridiron contests will be broadcast live, with a pre-game show airing 30 minutes prior to kickoff during away games and one hour prior to kickoff for home games. The exciting show includes comments each week from Wildcat head coach Andy Talley.

Flagship Stations: WZZD-AM 990, Lafayette Hill, Pa.

WILDCAT VILLAGE

The Wildcat Football one hour Pre-Game Radio Show with Joe Eichhorn and Ryan Fannon is broadcast live from festive Wildcat Village before all Villanova home football games. Wildcat Village offers a wide variety of food, drink and fun for fans of all ages. Open to the public two hours prior to kick-off, Wildcat Village is located adjacent to the east end of Villanova Stadium.



Wildcat Village provides Villanova fans a place to enjoy a festive atmosphere before kickoff.



VILLANOVA FOOTBALL

ANDY TALLEY ON THE AIR • PAGE 7

Talking Villanova Football With Andy Talley — Continuing in 2002, WZZD 990-AM will broadcast Talking Villanova Football With Andy Talley. The one hour call-in show is hosted by color commentator Ryan Fannon and will provide a weekly recap of Villanova football games, as well as a preview of upcoming contests. The show will be held at the West Philadelphia Marriott in Conshohocken, Pa. The show will be held on Thursday evenings prior to away games, and on Saturdays following home contests. Throughout the one-hour program, Fannon and Coach Talley will take questions about all aspects of the Wildcat football program, in addition to fielding questions concerning all the teams in the Atlantic 10 Conference, as well as NCAA I-AA football on the national scene.

Already the winningest coach in Villanova football history entering the 2002 campaign, Tally ranks 12th on the NCAA Division I-AA coaching list with 142 victories.

2002 ANDY TALLEY RADIO SHOW SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	STATION
Thursday, Sept. 5	7:00-8:00 p.m.	WZZD 990 AM
Saturday, Sept. 14	10:00-11:00 p.m.	WZZD 990 AM
Saturday, Sept. 21	4:00-5:00 p.m.	WZZD 990 AM
Thursday, Sept. 26	7:00-8:00 p.m.	WZZD 990 AM
Saturday, Oct. 5	4:00-5:00 p.m.	WZZD 990 AM
Thursday, Oct. 10	11:00-midnight	WZZD 990 AM
Thursday, Oct. 17	7:00-8:00 p.m.	WZZD 990 AM
Saturday, Nov. 2	5:00-6:00 p.m.	WZZD 990 AM
Thursday, Nov. 7	7:00-8:00 p.m.	WZZD 990 AM
Saturday, Nov. 16	5:00-6:00 p.m.	WZZD 990 AM



Photo not here as
of 7/17

Andy Talley and Ryan Fannon will host a weekly radio show at the West Philadelphia Marriott for the second straight year.

Photo not here as
of 7/17

Andy Talley has registered an impressive 114-69-1 record in 17 seasons as the Villanova head football coach.

VILLANOVA FOOTBALL

PAGE 8 • RETIRED JERSEYS

At halftime of the University of Delaware game in 1994, Villanova University began a "Wall of Fame" by retiring the jerseys of five former Wildcat Football greats in a special ceremony to honor their outstanding careers. The retired jerseys are permanently recognized on the wall of The Swimming Center next to the scoreboard in the west end of Villanova Stadium in the form of football-shaped plaques, bearing each recipient's name and number.

The first group of honorees was an impressive one, and shows the history and tradition of 100 years of outstanding football student-athletes on the Main Line. Those inducted were (in alphabetical order) Lou Ferry (player 1945-48, coach 1960-present), Dominic Liotta (1949-51), Eddie Michaels (1933-35), Mike Siani (1969-71) and John Wysocki (1936-38).

Ferry was a standout offensive and defensive tackle for the Wildcats from 1945-48 earning All-East and All-America honorable mention distinction. He went on to spend seven seasons in the NFL before returning to his alma mater in 1960 where he served as the defensive line coach until 1970, when he was appointed head coach. He served in this capacity between 1970-73 and part of the 1974 season. In 1975 he returned as defensive line coach until 1981, and has currently served in the same role since 1985 when football was restored.

Liotta made his mark on the offensive side of the ball as an offensive guard, playing from 1949-51. As a co-captain in 1951, he earned mention on six different All-American teams. He also made an appearance on the nationally televised "Ed Sullivan Show" as a member of the *Look Magazine* All-American first-team.

Michaels was a lineman who earned honors while playing on both the offensive and defensive lines during his stay at Villanova, including a stint as captain as a senior. Competing between 1933-35, Michaels became Villanova's first-ever All-American during the 1935 season. Following graduation he played in the NFL as well as the Canadian Football League. Michaels returned to Villanova as an assistant coach from 1951-61.

The most recent player in this group was Siani. This wide receiver ranks high in most of Villanova's receiving records, and was named a first-team All-American in 1971. He holds Villanova marks for receiving yards in a season (1,358 in 1970), and ranks second in yards receiving (2,776) in a career in just three seasons. Siani went on to play in the NFL with the Oakland Raiders and the Baltimore Colts.

The final inductee, Wysocki, played at Villanova from 1936-38 and played in Villanova's first bowl game, the 1937 Bacardi Bowl in Havana, Cuba. Wysocki was named a first-team All-American end two consecutive years by United Press International and in 1938 was named to six different All-American teams. In his career, he scored three touchdowns on blocked kicks.

Villanova continued the tradition in 1995, inducting three more former Wildcat greats onto the wall of honor. The 1995 inductees included Howie Long (1977-80), Jordan Olivar (player 1935, 1937, coach 1943-48) and John Sandusky (1946-49). Long is the most recent Wildcat to be honored by having his jersey retired. A defensive lineman on Coach Dick Bedesem's teams from 1977-80, he earned All-East honors as a senior. That year, he played in the Blue-Gray All-Star Football Classic and was named the game's Most Valuable Player after blocking a punt and helping his team to a 24-23 victory. Throughout his career, he tallied 313 tackles, nine quarterback sacks, five deflected passes, five fumble recoveries and one blocked kick. He went on to play 13 years in the National Football League with the Oakland and Los Angeles Raiders and was selected to the Pro Bowl 10 times.

Olivar made his mark on Villanova football history not only as a standout player, but also as one of the outstanding coaches in Wildcat history. As a player, he was co-captain and co-MVP of the 1937 squad that recorded an 8-0-1 ledger under legendary head coach Maurice "Clipper" Smith. He returned to his alma mater six years following graduation and served as head coach from 1943-48, compiling a mark of 33-20-1. His 33 wins currently ranks fourth on Villanova's all-time coaching victory list.

Sandusky has ties to both Olivar and Long from his football career. He played three of his four seasons under Olivar while on the Main Line, where he was a four-year starter at lineman. Regarded as one of the quickest big men in the nation during his time, he earned first-team All-America honors at tackle in 1949. He went on to spend seven years in the National Football League, including six with the Cleveland Browns. Recently retired from the Miami Dolphins coaching staff, he battled Long as the Dolphins' offensive line coach while Long was wrecking havoc as a member of the Raiders' defensive line.

The third group of retirees were honored during the West Chester game on Friday, August 28, 1997. Three Wildcats were inducted on this night including Al Atkinson (1962-64), Eugene Filipksi (1952-53) and Billy Joe (1960-62). An All-East performer, Atkinson started every game of his Villanova career and is regarded as one of the best linemen in Wildcat history. As a sophomore, Atkinson was a big contributor to the 1962 Villanova squad that earned a bid to the Liberty Bowl. Following his career on the Main Line, Atkinson went on to play for the New York Jets where he was a member of the 1969 Super Bowl Championship team.

Filipksi is considered by many to be one of the best players to ever wear a Villanova uniform. A standout running back from 1952-53, Filipksi was a consensus All-American

in 1952 by *Look Magazine*, the Football Writers Association of America and *Collier's*. During his two-year Wildcat career, Filipksi averaged 5.9 yards per carry, still a Villanova school record. Filipksi also owns school records for highest rushing average per game in a season (98.8 yards in 1952) and highest rushing average per game in a career (83.9 yards). His 889 yards rushing in 1952 ranks third all-time at Villanova for single season best rushing totals.

One of Villanova's greatest athletes, Coatesville, Pa., native Billy Joe was a standout fullback from 1960-62. In Villanova's 17-9 victory over Wichita State in the 1961 Sun Bowl, Joe earned Most Valuable Player honors. The following season, Joe was named the Outstanding Back in the 1962 Liberty Bowl. After his Wildcat career, Joe went on to enjoy a fine professional career from 1963-68 as a member of the Denver Broncos, Buffalo Bills, Miami Dolphins and New York Jets. In 1963, in his first season with the Broncos, he was named the AFL Rookie of the Year. Joe not only played football at Villanova, but he also excelled in track & field for legendary coach Jumbo Elliott. He still holds the five best shot put throws in Villanova history and was the first 60-foot shot putter to ever play in a football game.

On Sept. 12, 1998 at halftime of Villanova's thrilling 34-31 overtime win over Delaware, former Wildcat standouts Paul Berardelli (1985-88) and linebacker Curtis Eller (1989-92) had their jerseys retired.

Playing offensive guard for current Villanova head football coach Andy Talley, Berardelli helped lead the Wildcats to a 24-10-1 record during his four-year career. By garnering AFCA/Kodak All-America honors in 1988, he became the first Villanova player to receive All-American distinction after return of football to the school in 1985. After concluding his illustrious Villanova playing days in 1988, Berardelli went on to continue his football career as a member of the World League's London Monarchs.

Wrecking havoc for opponents at linebacker, Eller was the first Villanova player to ever earn first team All-America honors twice in his career. Leading the Wildcat team with 101 tackles in 1991, Eller helped Villanova to 10-2 and its second Yankee Conference title in three seasons. For, his play he earned Yankee Conference Defensive Player of the year honors and first-team All-Yankee Conference distinction. His greatest Yankee Conference honor came later, however as Eller would become the only Villanova player named to the Yankee Conference 50th Anniversary All-Time Team.

One season later, Eller received All-America and Conference Defensive Player of the Year honors for the second straight year and All-Yankee Conference first team honors for the third straight campaign. As Wildcat team captain in 1992, he was also named *The Sporting News'* National Defensive Player of the Year, leading the 'Cats to a 9-3 mark, and bringing Villanova's record during the "Eller Era" to 33-14. Winding down his Villanova career in 1992, Eller signed with the Saskatchewan Roughriders of the Canadian Football League.

In 2000, the Wall of Fame added Sam Gruneisen and Bryan Russo. Gruneisen played for Villanova from 1958 through 1961 as both a tight end and outside linebacker. Following his playing days on the Main Line, he spent 11 seasons in the NFL playing for the San Diego Chargers and Houston Oilers. One of the top offensive linemen in the school's history, Russo made Wildcat football a household name during his four years leading the team to a combined 27-16-1 record. In 1989 as a senior, he was named a AFCA All-American, becoming only the second Villanova offensive linemen to earn All-America honors.

The latest honorees came in 2001 when Bob Brady and Charlie Johnson joined the Wall of Fame. One of the members of the great 1961 Wildcat football team, Johnson's play on the offensive line was instrumental in leading the team to a victory in the Sun Bowl. In 1962, Johnson was captain of the Villanova team that lost to Oregon State in the Liberty Bowl. He capped an outstanding three-year career at Villanova, when he was selected as a first team All-America tackle by Williamson in 1962. He also earned All-America honorable mention from the Associated Press in 1962. Brady's Wildcat teams compiled a combined record of 27-14-1 and advanced to the NCAA Playoffs in 1989, the same year Brady served as team captain. Brady ranks fourth on Villanova's career reception list with 187, as well as second on the school's career receiving yards list with 2,901. His accomplishments earned him several honors including 1989 first team All-East and 1989 first team All-Yankee Conference.

WALL OF FAME HONOREES BY YEAR

1994:	Lou Ferry, Dominic Liotta, Ed Michaels, Mike Siani, John Wysocki
1995:	Howie Long, Jordan Olivar, John Sandusky
1997:	Al Atkinson, Eugene Filipksi, Billy Joe
1998:	Paul Berardelli, Curtis Eller
2000:	Bryan Russo, Sam Gruneisen
2001:	Bob Brady, Charlie Johnson

