



## Woodbridge High School Football

9 State Championship Titles  
 12 Conference / Divisional Titles  
 Greater Middlesex Conference - White Division  
 NJSIAA - NJ 2, Group 4  
 Overall WHS Football Record: 445 - 356 - 40 .553



**Last Game:** (G11) at Phillipsburg L 34-14

**Next Game:** (G1) Carteret Sep. 11 7pm

### NEW - Weekly Newsletter

Welcome to the first in a series of newsletters that will cover Woodbridge Football 2015, the 92<sup>nd</sup> Season!

Over the course of the next 20 weeks, a new issue will be published every Monday.

The content will include information about schedules, coaches, players, statistics, local print media reports, and maybe a surprise report or two from other distinguished prospective reporters.

The purpose of producing this document is to un-clutter our web site and make it more user friendly, as well as providing one spot for players, parents, school staff, and students to read about the events of the season as they unfold. Of course, all reports are print friendly so you can build your own personal collection.

We hope you enjoy this new format, and are looking forward to seeing you at our newly built "Stadium" this year. It's going to be an exciting season with loads of great action. The pursuit to win a 10<sup>th</sup> NJSIAA State Championship is beginning. Be part of it!

### Important Sites

Woodbridge Football – [Web Site, Since 2003](#)

Woodbridge Football – [Facebook Page](#)

Woodbridge Football – [Photo Gallery](#)

Woodbridge Football – [Videos](#)



### Woodbridge Football 5th Quarter Club

#### Welcome!

We invite you to join the Fifth Quarter Club! We are a Non-Profit Parent Organization. Our priority and goal is to support the cheerleaders and football players. This organization can only progress with the participation of parents, guardians, grandparents and family members.

Our meetings are generally held on the second Wednesday of each month at the high school cafeteria #125 at 7:00 pm. Please see attached meeting schedule. We welcome everyone to the meetings and hope to see you at the games!!!



In order for your child to receive the “benefits” from our organization, you must be a paid member of the 5th Quarter Club for 3 years. Membership fees: \$12.00 for a single Child; \$15.00 for two children; and \$20.00 for 3 or more children in the family. Also, it is required for a parent to purchase a \$50.00 minimum ad every year for the banquet program.

Participation in our fundraisers is very important. ALL proceeds from our fundraisers go directly to the program to purchase for “eligible” members who participated in (2) fundraisers yearly, paid their membership each year and purchase banquet ad yearly receive the following :

Juniors: Varsity Jackets

Seniors: Upgraded Senior Jersey-for Senior Night

Discount on banquet tickets for family

Preferred seating at banquet

The money we raise also supports our end of the season banquet for all cheerleaders and football players.

Providing trophies and plaques during a great evening of fun and entertainment.

The 5th Quarter Club is proud to award 8 Scholarships (4 to football players and 4 to cheerleaders) at "Awards Night" held in May. These scholarships are chosen by the guidance dept and coaches.

“Spirit Wear” can be purchased for cheer and football players at every home game located at our Spirit Wear table. Look for exciting new things this year!!!

Spaghetti Dinners for all football players are held every Thursday night in our cafeteria before Friday night games. All dinners are prepared with donations; no 5th Quarter Club funds are used for the dinners. We need parents to donate food and to help out in the kitchen with these dinners. We had over 100 football players on our roster for 2014. That is a lot of pasta and meatballs!

Our children work hard, play hard and give all they can to their sport. Join our team so we as parents can support them and show them we are behind them 100%!!!

We look forward for you to join the team and making 2015 an amazing year!!!! If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at coachmarie24@yahoo.com, or 732-742-5041

Thank you, Marie Anderson, 5QC President







**2015 - Coaches and Staff**

**Bill Nyers** – Head Coach, Offensive Coordinator

Over-all WHS coaching record of Coach Nyers  
 (1994-'02, 2012-'14) 64 - 54 – 1 Percentage - .542  
 1997 – Central Jersey, Group IV State Champions  
 Season Record: 9 – 2 GMC Red Division: 7 - 1

**Kevin Coleman** – Defensive Coordinator

**Ron Hilliard** – OL,

**Joe Liqouri** – LB, OL, JV Offensive Coordinator

**Daniel Harris** – RB, DB

**Jason Ali** – RB, LB

**Greg Capone** – F, Offensive Coordinator

**Eric Allen** – F, Defensive Coordinator

**Mike Carbone** – F HC, Offensive Coordinator

**Patrick** – Special Assistant to the Head Coach

**Jo Carruba** – Certified Athletic Trainer



**Weight Training, Conditioning, Practice  
 and Scrimmage Schedule (Subject to change)**

- August 1 – Saturday – Off
- August 2 – Sunday – Off
- August 3 – Equipment Handout – Seniors / Juniors
- August 4 – Equipment Handout – Juniors / Sophomores
- August 5 – Equipment Handout - Freshmen
- August 6 – Thursday – Off
- August 7 – Friday – Off
- August 8 – Saturday – Off
- August 9 – Sunday – Off
- August 10 – Varsity / Freshmen (Helmets) 3:30pm
- August 11 – Varsity / Freshmen (Helmets) 3:30pm
- August 12 – Varsity / Freshmen (Helmets) 3:30pm
- August 13 – Varsity / Freshmen (Uppers) 3:30pm
- August 14 – Varsity / Freshmen (Uppers) 3:30pm
- August 15 – Varsity / Freshmen (Full Pads) 8:00am
- August 16 – Sunday – Off



August 17 – Varsity Double 8:00am  
 August 18 – Varsity Single 8:00am  
 August 19 – Varsity Double 8:00am  
 August 20 – Varsity Single 8:00am  
 August 21 – Varsity Double 9:00am  
 August 22 – (S1) Red & Black Intra-Squad 10:00am  
 August 23 – Sunday – Off

August 24 – Varsity Single 8:00am  
 August 25 – (S2) Quad Scrimmage at Edison 10:00am  
 August 26 – Varsity Single 8:00am  
 August 27 – Varsity Single 8:00am  
 August 28 – (S3) Ocean 10:00am  
 August 29 – Varsity 9:00am  
 August 30 – Sunday – Off

August 31 – Varsity Double 8:00am  
 September 1 – Practice TBA  
 September 2 – 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School, Varsity 2:45pm  
 September 3 – (S4) East Brunswick 7pm  
 September 4 – Early Dismissal, Varsity TBA  
 September 5 – Varsity TBA  
 September 6 – Sunday – Off

September 7 – No School, Varsity TBA  
 September 8 – Varsity 2:45pm  
 September 9 – Varsity 2:45pm  
 September 10 – Varsity 2:45pm  
 September 11 – (G1) Carteret 7pm  
 September 12 – Varsity  
 September 13 – Sunday – Off



### The History & Traditions of Woodbridge HS Football

Two alumni, George P. Ryan CPA, WHS Class of 1971, and Dr. Nicholas Sardone, WHS Class of 1963, have written a book on the history of Woodbridge HS Football dating back to 1924. The cost is \$35.00 (cash) and profits go right back to the WHS football program. The book, is 350 pages long with many pictures. It can be purchased in the WHS main office or at home games near the main entrance entry gate. If interested see Carol.

### Book documents Woodbridge H.S. football program history

Greg Tufaro, December 3, 2014

As construction workers put the finishing touches on renovations to Woodbridge High School's football stadium last month, Nick Sardone reflected upon the five decades he spent inside the 66-year-old venue.





“I was here when they demolished the old stadium,” Sardone said of watching the concrete home stands of Nicholas A. Priscoe Stadium come tumbling to the ground. “It broke my heart to see it. But I understood the reality of the situation. These kids today needed a more modern facility. Now that I have seen this, I love it.”

A 1963 graduate of the high school who began keeping records of Woodbridge games in the late 1950s and who has been researching Barron football lore since the late 1970s, Sardone’s affection for the venerable stadium is understandable.

He has co-authored a book – *The History and Traditions of Woodbridge High School Football* – with 1971 graduate George Ryan.

The 324-page spiral-bound tome, according to Woodbridge Athletics Director Joe Ward, reads like a college football media guide.

Ward said the book is packed with information about the football program from 1924 through 2013 and is neatly organized in eight chapters with an appendix that includes the roster of almost every Woodbridge gridiron squad over the past 90 years.

The book includes bios of coaches and top players, attendance records, the final score of every game played, all-time records against every opponent, a synopsis of the best teams and greatest victories in school history, individual records by category, details on

the collegiate exploits of dozens of Woodbridge football alums, reprints of yearbook photos and more.

“It’s wonderful to have the history of Woodbridge football documented like this,” Ward said. “Knowing that somebody has kept these records over the years is just awesome. I appreciate the time involved in accumulating all this information. The research is painstaking.”

Unlike Ryan, who played for three seasons at Woodbridge, including the 1969 and 1970 campaigns, which are regarded among the finest in school history, Sardone never played a single down.

“I’ve been going to Woodbridge football games since the late 1950s, so I started jotting down notes at those games,” Sardone said. “It was just a fun thing for me to do. I wasn’t good enough to play, so I went ahead and started doing this, sort of like a hobby. Later it just developed, and then I started doing the research in the library, going back to the 1920s and 1930s.”

Sardone said he asked himself: “What am I going to do with this information?”

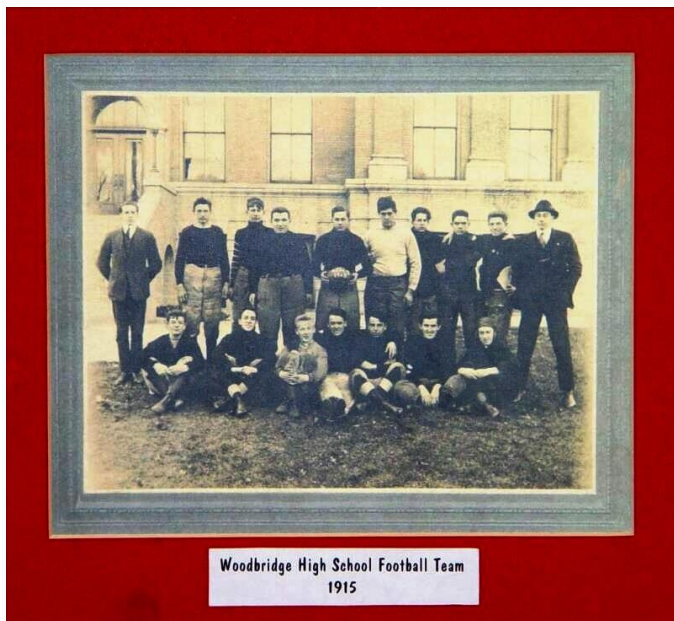
He and Ryan spent more than two years compiling the book and plan on updating it as a second edition in several years.

The book, which can be purchased in the main office at Woodbridge High School, costs \$35 with all proceeds benefitting the gridiron program through the Woodbridge High School Alumni Football Association. Books will also



be available for purchase at the football team's Dec. 10 banquet.

"I just felt it was something important for the town to get to know, to be educated about Woodbridge Township High School football because it is a proud and successful program through 90 years," Sardone said of the book. "This is something I've wanted to do for many years. A lot of the information I had already built up over the years because I was always interested in sports history and data. I am a collector of that information."



Some interesting facts from the book include:

Woodbridge fielded football teams in 1915 and 1916. The program was suspended due to injury, financial woes and World War I. The program resumed in 1924.

Seven Woodbridge players who graduated from 1936 through 1942 died during World War II.

Woodbridge has produced four high school All-Americans and six professional football players, including NFL Hall of Famer Lou Creekmur.

More than 150 Woodbridge gridiron alums went on to play in college.

A crowd of 12,000 spectators attended a 1961 home game against Edison. Woodbridge has drawn more than 5,000 spectators at least 13 times.

The current football stadium sits where the Woodbridge Speedway, a popular racing site, was once located.

Woodbridge was previously known as the Red Ghosts and Red Blazers before settling on the Barrons moniker in the late 1930s, a nickname derived from a family of Woodbridge property landowners who lived in the township.

The school's first night game was contested in 1935 against Neptune.

More than a dozen former Woodbridge coaches or players have locations in town dedicated to them.

"To the Woodbridge reader, this book gives historical information that resonates with the town's history," current Barrons head coach Bill Nyers writes in the forward. "Most of all, this book recognizes the amazing contributions of former Barrons that made this program what it is today."

Ryan said his three years playing under legendary head coach Sam Lupo, for whom after the street entering Woodbridge High School is named, helped him and his teammates become the men they are today.





“It built character in us,” he said. “The coaches we had were great men. They instilled values we learned on and off the field. They were stern disciplinarians. The privilege of playing for Woodbridge built things for us as we went on in life.”

Ryan and Sardone stood alongside one another in the newly renovated black and red bleachers of Nicholas A. Priscoe Stadium last month, simultaneously reminiscing and discussing the future as the din of power tools echoed in the background.

Sardone’s eyes bulged and his voice became animated when Ryan told him about a Woodbridge player who recorded three safeties in a 1930s game.

“We have to get that into the next book,” Sardone said, referring to the second edition before controlling his enthusiasm to take in the sights from where he was standing just beneath the renovated press box.

The future at Woodbridge, the Greater Middlesex Conference’s most improved team, which won seven of its last nine games to snap a 10-game losing streak dating back to last season, looks as bright as its past.

Sardone said he looks forward to watching the Barrons play in their renovated stadium, making more history that he and Ryan can chronicle.

“No one is going to have bad seat in the house,” he said. “The view is just outstanding.”



### **Rahway tabs former Woodbridge mentor Russo as Head Football Coach**

Greg Tufaro, March 23, 2015

Brian Russo has been named the head football coach at Rahway High School, where last fall the Indians had a string of 10 consecutive winning seasons snapped under Gary Mobley, the program’s previous mentor.

“What a great hire for them,” MyCentralJersey.com football analyst Marcus Borden said of Rahway tabbing Russo, who compiled a 48-45 record as Woodbridge’s head coach from 2003-11.

“He’s one of the most enthusiastic young coaches that I’ve been associated with in my (30 years as a NJFCA and NJSIAA Hall of Famer at East Brunswick). I think Brian is well respected in our Middlesex County circle and I’m sure he will gain that same respect in Union County. Losing Coach Mobley was a great loss for their



program. He was a great coach, too. I'm sure Brian will continue to do what Gary did and try to take them to another level. It's great for football having Brian back coaching."

Russo, who guided the Barrons to three NJSIAA sectional semifinal playoff appearances, said he plans to meet with current and prospective varsity football lettermen this week and that he looks forward to upholding Rahway's winning tradition.

"I have a tremendous amount of respect for what Coach Mobley accomplished in his tenure," said Russo, who said he is not looking to waste any time rebuilding the 1-9 team he inherited, one that featured seven sophomore starters. "I'm not saying we are going to win a state championship right away, but we want to come in right away and be competitive. It's a tremendous opportunity to work with great kids, great athletes and great people. My goal is to take the program to another level and win a state championship."

School Board President Peter Kowal said Russo stood out among an "impressive field of candidates" to fill the vacant head coaching position after the board decided "that we would be going in a different direction."

"Brian's enthusiasm, his knowledge of the game and his desire to just get in here and start working tipped us in the interviews," said Kowal, noting that Russo came highly recommended. "We had many people calling about Brian saying you are lucky to get this guy. He's got

the characteristics you want in a head coach. If I had a son going through the (football) program, I'd be extremely excited. I think this guy is the real deal."

Woodbridge Athletics Director Joe Ward said, "Rahway found themselves a great coach and I wish (Russo) nothing but the best."

Russo told the school board and reiterated in an interview with MyCentralJersey.com that personnel would dictate what offensive and defensive schemes he employs. Russo said he has already started working to assemble a coaching staff.

Mobley, who still teaches physical education at the high school and remains Rahway's indoor and outdoor track and field coach, posted a 74-44 record and made nine NJSIAA playoff appearances. Despite inheriting a 2-8 team as a rookie head coach in 2004, Mobley went 42-14 over his first five seasons. The Indians went 32-30 over the next six years.

Under Russo, a 1996 Woodbridge graduate who won a sectional title as a player in 1993, the Barrons upheld the program's tradition as a gritty team that reflected the township's blue-collar makeup.

Russo opened and closed his Woodbridge tenure with 8-3 campaigns, but his most impressive coaching performance likely came in 2009 when the Barrons rebounded from a 0-4 start to win five consecutive games and qualify for the NJSIAA playoffs.





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Head Coach, Brian Russo. Woodbridge 21 at Bayonne 20  
 2003 NJSIAA Playoffs, Round One

In 2009, Woodbridge, as the No. 8 seed, posted a stunning upset of top-seeded Union in the opening round of the North 2 Group IV playoffs. In 2011, the Barrons shocked two-time defending North 2 Group IV champion Piscataway for the second time in three years, handing the Chiefs a 28-14 regular-season setback.

Following a stellar All-Northeast Conference playing career at Wagner College, Russo was hired as assistant at Woodbridge before being named, at the age of 25, the school's head coach.

Russo resigned as Woodbridge's head football coach in August 2012 to become the school district's supervisor of guidance and special education.

He currently teaches special education at Iselin Middle School.

# Giants Season Tickets



**Raffle!!!**



Sponsored by the WHS 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Club

# Win 2015 Season Tickets

9/20 Atlanta Falcons  
 9/24 Washington Redskins  
 10/11 San Francisco 49ers  
 10/25 Dallas Cowboys

**2 Seats per Game!**

11/15 New England Patriots  
 12/06 New York Jets  
 12/20 Carolina Panthers  
 01/03 Philadelphia Eagles

**\$10.00  
 TICKET**



Sec 106  
 Row 36  
 Seats 27 & 28



Drawing to be held on: August 22, 2015 – During Halftime  
 Location: Intra-Squad Scrimmage  
 Woodbridge High School  
 Nicholas Priscoe Stadium



For tickets call Marie Anderson 732-742-5041 or Christina Prestien-LaPenta 908-881-1806

## WHS 5TH QUARTER CLUB

### NY Giants Season Tickets Raffle

**Donation: \$10.00**

Drawing will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2015  
 At the Woodbridge High School - Nicholas Priscoe Stadium During the Red and Black Intrasquad Scrimmage

Winner need not be present. Proceed go to the WHS Football and Cheerleading programs

To get your ticket, contact: Marie Anderson  
 732-742-5041 or coachmarie24@yahoo.com