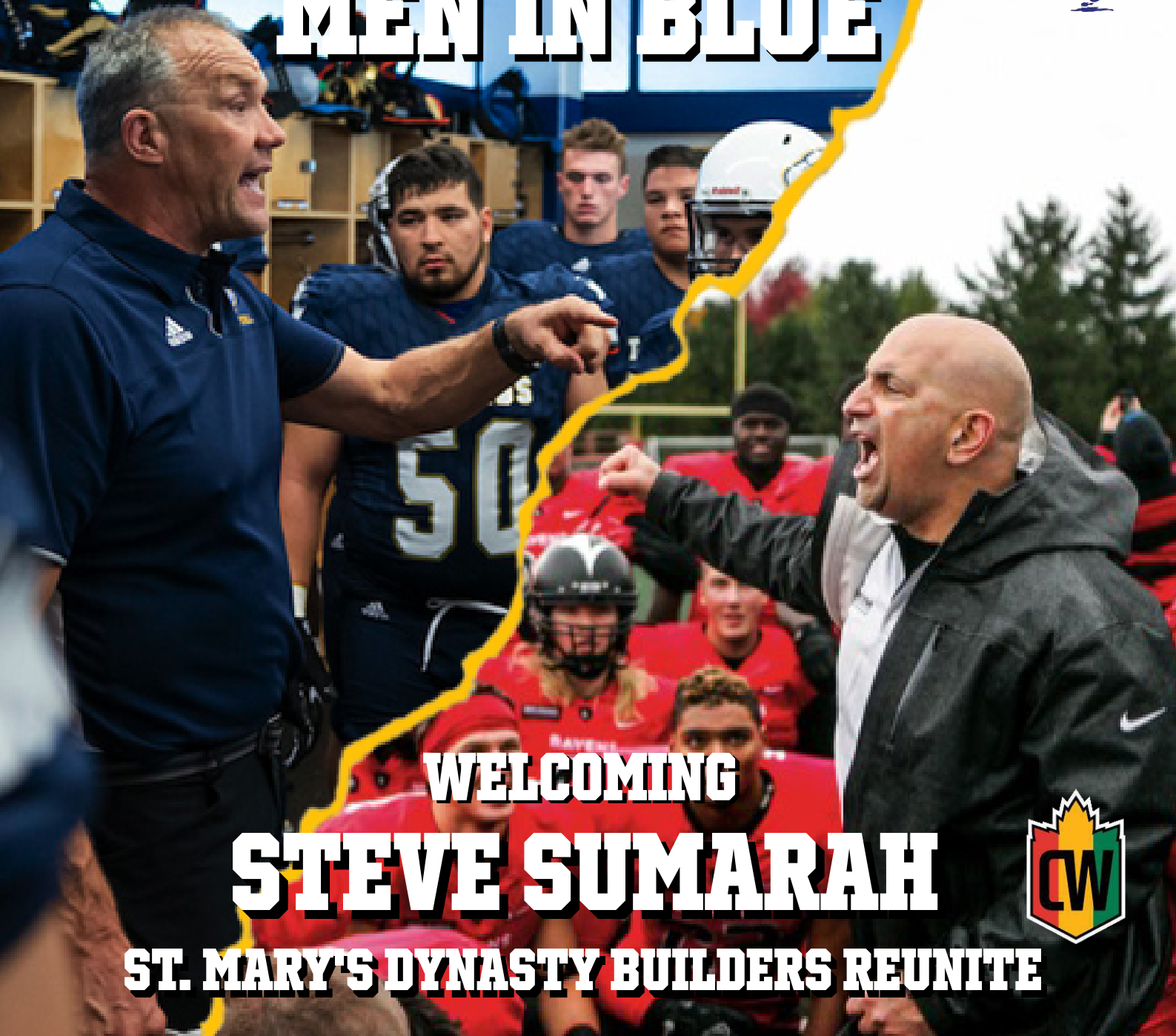


February 18, 2022

The THUNDERBIRD FOOTBALL ALUMNI Present



# MEN IN BLUE



WELCOMING

# STEVE SUMARAH

ST. MARY'S DYNASTY BUILDERS REUNITE



# OUR SPONSORS



# COACH'S NOTE

## Black Excellence—Thriving Within UBC Football



February of course is a significant month for our Black community and provides an appropriate stage for showcasing the opportunities being taken by our Black student-athletes who represent Thunderbirds Football. Led directly by Coach Shomari Williams (recruiting coordinator), and a group of assistant coaches Kirby Fabien (OL), Shawn White (Rec's), and both Dominique Termansen and Jamahl Knowles (DB's), our young athletes see up-close examples of excellence. They are

being encouraged to excel, and to celebrate studying at one of the top universities in the world while representing the enormous legacy of Thunderbirds Football.

Of course, this is not new to UBC and/or Thunderbirds Football. There is a long history of Black students coming to campus as highly regarded athletes, and in the end transferring those skill sets into careers and leadership capacities everywhere.

A lot goes into this effort, and through the advocacy of our highest administrators, student population, and of course our coaches, you can see that UBC is becoming a beacon of sorts for many of the top Black student-athletes in the country. Led by Coach Williams and our staff, we will always take a leadership role in the advocacy of Black excellence in the young men we recruit to succeed. It is something that our program is proud to emphasize and be recognized for.

Blake Nill  
UBC Head Coach

# INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

## *Sumarah Handed Keys To UBC Offence*

February started off with a bang as UBC announced that former U Sports Coach of the Year (2009) Steve Sumarah had agreed to a 3-year commitment becoming the new offensive coordinator of the Thunderbirds. A veteran Head Coach of 16 seasons, Sumarah's career includes tenures at Saint Mary's University (2006-11) and Carleton University (2012-21). Also instrumental with the national program, Sumarah led Team Canada to a World Championship in 2018.



“Steve immediately makes us a better program and I believe he will transition smoothly into his new role. As important as his X’s & O’s, are his understandings of player management, recruitment, and even business development. UBC is fortunate to have him.” — Coach Nill

## *Cantor Named Defensive Assistant*



The T-Birds defensive unit is getting a big boost as long-time CFL veteran Noah Cantor has committed to join the 2022 coaching staff. Cantor, a former CFL All-Star and 4-time Grey Cup Champion will work as a defensive assistant to coordinator Pat Tracey, focussing primarily on the defensive front.

“Immediately — Noah brings reputation and championship culture to our program. He is a true student of the game and will help our staff tremendously as we scout and game plan for our opponents. I am really looking forward to having Noah as a member of our program.” — Coach Nill

# CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH



## *Edgerrin Williams — WR*

"The importance of being a role model consists of numerous things but I believe you have to be true to yourself more than anything. In terms of Black History Month, we have numerous role models who demonstrated leadership, belief, goals to create change, as well as being morally correct."

"When we hear Rosa Parks, MLK, Gandhi, and more, people know they all took a stance on their beliefs while understanding that their actions had consequences, but took the risk to inspire millions of others which shows their values and commitment to being a TRUE role model."



## *Steph Tshishimbi — LB*

"Black History Month is a time to rejoice and reflect on how far we've come, and how far we're going as a race. For me, it's a time to celebrate & give thanks to my ancestors who've sacrificed & overcame so much adversity and oppression throughout history."

"I embody Black excellence by being unapologetically myself everyday. Being true to yourself, your culture, values and principles are things that I take very seriously in my day-to-day which help me thrive in school, in sports and other endeavours I partake in."

# MEET THE CLASS OF 2022

*Ben Sangmuah*



Position: DB  
High School: Clarkson Football North  
Hometown: Burlington, ON

*Dante Masone*



Position: DB  
High School: Milford Academy  
Hometown: Scarborough, ON

# THE DIFFERENCE MAKERS



**Jamie Brown**  
Corporate Donor

Jamie is the CEO & Executive Producer of Frantic Films, which has been named twice as one of North America's fastest-growing businesses by Deloitte. He has twice been named a finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Frantic Films became a leading provider of cutting-edge visual effects for clients including Warner Bros, Paramount, 20th Century Fox, and ABC Television, for which it received an Emmy nomination. Jamie is the father of Thunderbird kicker #41 Owen Brown, who attends the Sauder School of Business.



**Paul Orazietti**  
Champion's Level Donor

Paul Orazietti (BA-Queen's, BEd-UBC) was a long-time T-Birds Associate Head Coach and Special Teams Coordinator ('09-'18). Currently, Orazietti is the Manager of Athletics & Recreation for the Sault College Cougars ('19-present). He was a Hardy Cup finalist ('96), and a 2-time Vanier Cup champion—once in '97 and again as an assistant coach in '15. His extensive coaching and scouting resume has also seen him work with Football Alberta, the University of Calgary, NFL World League, and as a guest coach with the Calgary Stampeders and B.C. Lions.

# THUNDERBIRD GIVING

UBC Football Giving asks supporters to commit to a 5-year plan at one of 4 giving levels.

Funds generated go to the identified priorities of:

## I. Athletic Scholarships

## II. Academic Support

## III. Coaching Sustainability

### 1. Champion's Level Giving (\$10–\$160 / month)

Dan Rootes

Jeffrey Lavis

Tyson St. James

Paul Oraziotti

Dexter Horton

Andrea & Dwayne Derban

Janine Benedet

Rob Cummings

Billy Greene

Helen Hunter

Michael Canic

Warren Reece

Aaron Barker

Ken Lee

Jay Rooker

Garry Parkes

### 2. Legacy Level Giving (\$2,000–\$4,999 Annually)

Anthony Findlay

Craig Walker

Braydon Hobbs

Diane & Hans Stasiuk

Doug Spencer

Glen Donaldson

Beth Burton-Krahn

Diane & Frank Smith

Nagata Family

Steve Hansen

### 3. Vanier Level Giving (\$5,000–\$19,999 Annually)

Pat Cantner

Ryan Voegeli

Drew Green

Pam & Dave Kirzinger

Gord Campbell

Terri & David Kolb

Carissa & Jason Boudreau

### 4. Director's Level Giving (\$20,000+ Annually)

George Petrovas

Jordan Leith

Jill & Chris Davies

Christina & Dan Smith

Lois & Doug Mitchell

**Enable our football student-athletes to reach their potential by contacting:**

Blake Nill (Head Coach)

Harvey Hubball (Football Development)

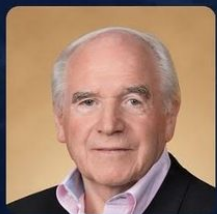
[blake.nill@ubc.ca](mailto:blake.nill@ubc.ca)

[harvey.hubball@ubc.ca](mailto:harvey.hubball@ubc.ca)

# Message From Your UBC Football Alumni Advisory Council

*From the onset, and in conjunction with UBC athletics, the Football Advisory Council (FAC) has been working towards a more sustainable coaching situation within Thunderbirds Football. News that Coach Pat Tracey has agreed to remain on staff along with the hiring of Offensive Coordinator Steve Sumarah are examples of what is capable when alumni leadership is brought in to partner with the efforts of our department.*

*The FAC along with the Thunderbird Football Alumni (TFA) will continue to play a significant role in the growth of varsity football at UBC. We encourage football alumni to get involved and help us make a difference.*



Doug Mitchell '62  
'59 Hardy Cup Champion  
& Co-Chair



Danny Smith '79  
UBC Sports HOF



Chris Davies '81  
'76 Hardy Cup Champion



David Negrin '81  
'78 Western Bowl Champion



George Petrovas '88  
'86 Vanier Cup Champion



Javi Glatt '03  
'02 Bobby Gaul Recipient



## SAVE THE DATE



Friday, October 21st & Saturday, October 22, 2022!

This year's Legacy Game will be dedicated to Casey Smith. The TFA Legacy Celebration will take place on Friday, Oct. 21st at the Richmond Golf and Country Club. On Oct. 22, the Wall of Honour Induction Ceremony will be held.

There will also be two Tribute Games to honour historic teams: one on Sept. 3 for the 25th anniversary of the 1997 Vanier Cup Championship team, and the other on Sept. 24 for the 40th anniversary of the 1982 Vanier Cup Championship team.



#45 Dan Kwamou

3rd Year, Arts

Defensive Captain

#76 Giovanni Manu

2nd Year, Arts

**CLICK ANYWHERE TO SUBSCRIBE  
TO FUTURE EDITIONS OF  
MEN IN BLUE**



#5 Isaiah Knight

1st Year, Arts

CW All-Star



#38 Nelson Uzonwa

Master's of Journalism

Academic All-Canadian