

Guilford College

SPORTS INFORMATION

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GUILFORD FOOTBALL NOTES - SEPTEMBER 3, 2016

Guilford vs. Greensboro Series

Greensboro's only Division III football teams meet for the 20th consecutive season in the Gate City Soup Bowl. The Quakers won last year's game, 77-13, to take an 11-8 lead in the series. The rivalry dates to 1997, Greensboro College's first football campaign.

Former Greensboro President **Dr. Craven Williams** developed the idea of naming the Guilford-Greensboro football game the Gate City Soup Bowl and conducting a canned-good drive concurrent to the contest for the benefit the Greensboro community. Fans bringing two nonperishable food items to this year's game receive free admission. Proceeds from the food collection benefit Greensboro Urban Ministry.

The Soup Bowl winner receives a soup bowl trophy, which has spent the past three years at Guilford. Quakers' quarterback **Matt Pawlowski '15** passed for 278 yards and five touchdowns in the first half of last year's win, which marked the most points scored by one team in the series. The Quakers' defense forced two turnovers and held the Pride to 20% on third-down chances.

The road team has won five of the last six Soup Bowl contests and 10 of the 19 games have been determined by a touchdown or less.

Pawlowski threw three of his touchdowns to **Adam Smith '15**, the Quakers' game Most Valuable Player. Smith finished with eight catches for 158 yards in addition to his career-high tying three scoring grabs. **De'Eric Bell** compiled 223 all-purpose yards and scored twice in two quarters of work. He ran for a team-high 48 yards and a touchdown and also returned a punt 60 yards for a second-quarter touchdown.

Greensboro quarterback Mac Graham completed 12-of-27 passes for 212 yards with one interception. He also accounted for one of the Pride's touchdowns with a one-yard scoring run in the third quarter. Cortez Vernon tallied Greensboro's first score on a one-yard run with less than a minute left before halftime, which marked the Pride's first points against Guilford since 2013. Micah McMaster made a game-high

eight tackles (three solo) for Greensboro and won the team's Most Valuable Player Award.

Last Time Out

Guilford competed in two preseason intrasquad scrimmages prior to tonight's game. The Quakers played an intrasquad scrimmage Aug. 20 and went up against Ferrum College in another Aug. 26.

The Quakers closed the 2015 campaign with a 41-30 home win over Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC)-rival Emory & Henry College. The win secured second place in the league's regular-season standings. It also gave Guilford a 9-1 overall record, setting the school standard for wins in a season.

Scouting the Quakers

Sixth-year head coach **Chris Rusiewicz's** team returns 64 letter winners from last year's record-setting 9-1 club that won a school-record six ODAC games. With 16 returning starters, including a league best nine All-ODAC performers, the Quakers look to continue the progress made over the past five seasons. After winning two games in Rusiewicz' first year, Guilford went 5-5 in 2012, 6-4 in 2013, and 8-2 in 2014 before last year's school-record 9-1.

Guilford earned a number-20 ranking in *Lindy's Sports* 2016 NCAA Division III Top 25 Poll and was picked third in the ODAC Preseason Coaches' Poll. The Quakers also received votes in the D3football.com Top 25 Poll.

Guilford started preseason camp with a school-record 157 players, including 88 freshmen. Today's roster features 149 students, also a school standard, seven of whom are out with season-ending injuries.

Injury Report

Seven Quakers suffered season-ending injuries during preseason camp, including two veterans expected to push for playing time in 2016, junior defensive end **Greg Salomon** and senior cornerback **Sephus Mitchell**. Both players suffered knee injuries. Others lost for the year include rook-

GUILFORD COLLEGE QUAKERS

(0-0, 0-0 ODAC*)

Date	Opponent	Time
9/3	GREENSBORO	7:00 pm
9/10	METHODIST	7:00 pm
9/17	at Averett	6:00 pm
10/1	CATHOLIC*	1:00 pm
10/8	at Hampden-Sydney*	1:00 pm
10/15	WASH. AND LEE*	1:00 pm
10/22	at Shenandoah*	1:00 pm
10/29	BRIDGEWATER*	1:00 pm
11/6	at Randolph-Macon* ...	1:00 pm
11/13	at Emory & Henry*	1:00 pm

* - Old Dominion Athletic Conference game

GUILFORD QUICK FACTS

Location: Greensboro, N.C.
Founded: 1837
Enrollment: 1,881
Nickname: Quakers
Affiliation: NCAA Division III
Conference: ... Old Dominion Athletic Conf.
Head Coach: Chris Rusiewicz
Alma Mater: DeSales '01
Overall Record: . 30-20 (6th season)
Guilford Record: same
ODAC Record: 21-13
Season: 111th
All-Time Record: . 322-594-26 (.356)
Sports Info. Director: . Dave Walters



ies: **Brendan Bourque, Daniel Bratcher, Lamar Brown, Jamil Nappier and Chase Willis.**

Junior safety **Victor Smith** and senior quarterback **A.J. Pasquale** are among the notable veterans out for tonight's contest. Both are expected to return to the lineup.

Head Coach Chris Rusiewicz

Chris Rusiewicz (ruh-SEV-itch) took over as Guilford College's head football coach in January 2011. He is the Quakers' 23rd head football coach in 110 recorded seasons.

In five years, Rusiewicz has compiled a 30-20 overall record, coached six All-Americans and led Guilford to its first national rankings in over two decades. The Quakers have won 17 of 20 games over the past two years, including a 9-1 campaign in 2015, the most wins in the school's 110 recorded football seasons. Guilford has had a league-high 39 All-Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) commendations over the past three years, including 20 first-team honorees and three players of the year. Guilford has collected 55 all-league commendations in Rusiewicz's five seasons, more than all but one conference team.

Prior to taking over at Guilford, Rusiewicz was associate head coach at Ursinus College, a highly selective liberal arts college in Collegetown, Pa, from 2007-10. He received the 2010 American Football Coaches Association's (AFCA) Division III Assistant Coach of the Year Award. The annual prize honors coaches who excel in community service, commitment to the student-athlete, on-field coaching success and AFCA professional organization involvement.

Rusiewicz joined Peter Gallagher's Ursinus staff in 2001 as a secondary coach, became the Bears' defensive coordinator in 2003 and was named special teams coach in 2008. Rusiewicz guided 11 Ursinus defenders or specialists to 14 First Team All-Centennial Conference honors in 10 years.

In addition to his coaching accomplishments, Rusiewicz made significant contributions to the greater Ursinus community. He implemented a Christmas program that raised approximately \$1,500 for the benefit of three local families. Rusiewicz also participated in service projects with the National Marrow Donor Program, Big Brothers and Habitat for Humanity.

After playing at Quakertown (Pa.) High School, Rusiewicz started his college career at Shippensburg (Pa.) University where he

lettered as a reserve running back for the NCAA Division II Red Raiders. He graduated with a degree in sports administration from DeSales University in 2001.

A native of Perkasi, Pa., Rusiewicz and his wife, Tara, have three children.

This Bell Tolls For The Quakers

Junior running back **De'Eric Bell**, who made D3football.com's preseason All-America squad as a second-team kick returner, was a First Team All-ODAC all-purpose back in 2015. The 5-6, 205-pound running back set school and ODAC records last year for single-season all-purpose yardage (2,235), which ranked second in NCAA Division III. Bell led the Quakers and ranked third in the ODAC with 943 rushing yards, seventh-best in school history. He set the Guilford standard with 736 kickoff return yards and his league-leading 30.7-yard kickoff return average ranked fourth nationally. Bell was named a D3football.com Third Team All-American in 2015. He starts the year ranked 12th in career rushing yards (1,416) and sixth in kickoff return yards (953).

Experience Up Front

De'Eric Bell and other Guilford ballcarriers have the luxury of running behind an offensive line that features seven returning starters. The 2015 starting line supported an offense that set school records for passing touchdowns (43), total offensive yards (5,231) and points (452). Left tackle **Wes Johnson**, a 6-2, 280-pound redshirt senior, captured First Team All-ODAC honors as a junior and second-team recognition in 2013. The team captain missed the 2015 season due to injury. Right tackle **Ty Shwallon**, a 6-1, 290-pound junior, was Guilford's highest-graded lineman in six of 10 games last season at his right tackle position. All-ODAC linemen **Pat Charvat** and **Steven Gordon** also return to the fold. There are seven linemen with substantive starting service on the Quakers' roster this fall.

Inexperience Under Center

With the graduation of four-year starter **Matt Pawlowski '16**, a 2015 D3football.com Third Team All-American, and his four-year backup, **Mitch Ferrick '15** (now a Guilford receivers coach), the Quakers are breaking in a new signalcaller for the first time since 2012. Junior **Christian Miles** saw the most game action among veteran quarterbacks last fall. He completed

two-of-five passes for 57 yards and a touch-down in three games. Guilford also has senior **A.J. Pasquale**, who appeared in one varsity contest in 2015.

Sophomore **Joe Ferrick**, Mitch's younger brother, was on the team last year, but did not see varsity action. He's currently listed behind Miles and junior **Karsten Miller** on the Quakers' depth chart. Miller edged out Miles for the starting nod tonight, but expect both to play. Miller is a 6-3, 240-pound quarterback who spent two seasons at Northwest Mississippi Community College. He started nine games in 2013 and five in 2014 before suffering a season-ending injury. In 15 career starts in Mississippi, Miller completed 227-of-410 passes (55.4%) for 2,739 yards, 19 touchdowns and 18 interceptions. He also ran for three scores. Miller started his college career at UNC Charlotte as a redshirt freshman.

A Lexington, North Carolina native, Miller was the 2011 4A Carolina Piedmont Conference Player of the Year at North Davidson High School

Watch Out For The Defense

With a solid cast of veterans and greater input from head coach Chris Rusiewicz, the Quakers look forward to putting forth one of their best defenses in recent years. Two-time First-Team All-ODAC linebacker **Hunter Hoots** is back after leading the team in tackles for the second straight season. He has 185 stops over the past two years and was an all-region pick in 2014.

He's joined by a veteran defensive line led by two-time All-ODAC end **Gibson Ziah** (31 tackles, 4.5 sacks) and 2015 third-team all-conference pick **Patrick Volk**.

The secondary, which employs five defensive backs, is largely untested, but senior safety **Karl Roberts** (career-high 58 tackles, 3 fumble recoveries) is back after collecting third-team All-ODAC honors a year ago. Sophomore **Tim Marshall** has starting experience at cornerback.

Quakers Picked Third in the ODAC

Guilford College earned the number-three in the 2016 ODAC Football Coaches' Pre-season Poll. The Quakers received one first-place vote and trailed defending league champion Washington and Lee University (48) and Hampden-Sydney College (41) in the rankings. Emory & Henry College trailed the Quakers with 31 points, followed by Bridgewater College and Randolph-Macon College, who both collected 23 points. Shenandoah University (16) and Catholic

University of America (7) round out the poll.

Guilford last won the ODAC title in 1997 when it shared the honor with Randolph-Macon and Emory & Henry. The Quakers won their first league crown outright in 1991, their first year of league membership.

Guilford Earns Votes in National Poll

Guilford earned 25 votes in the D3football.com Top 25 Preseason Poll. Defending national champion University of Mount Union earned 18 first-place votes and leads the rankings in front of Linfield College, which earned three top votes and was picked second. The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater collected three first-place votes and is third.

The Quakers were the second-rated ODAC team in the rankings, trailing Washington and Lee, which placed 20th with 128 votes.

Next Week's Opponent

Guilford hosts Methodist University next Saturday (9/10) at 7:00 p.m. The Quakers evened the series at 10 wins apiece last season with a 55-7 triumph in Fayetteville, North Carolina, their second straight over the Monarchs.

Matt Pawlowski '16 passed for 397 yards and five touchdowns in Guilford College's 55-7 football win at Methodist University Saturday. **De'Eric Bell** added three touchdowns and 254 all-purpose yards.