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**2010 Villanova Football Media Guide Credits**

The 2010 Villanova Wildcat Football Media Guide is published by Villanova University's Office of Media Relations; Additional copies are available for \$7.00 from Villanova Media Relations, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Jake Nevin Field House, Villanova, Pa. 19085.

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**Contributors:** David Berman, Mike Sheridan, Megan O'Shea, Krissy Woods

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**On the Front Cover:** Head Coach Andy Talley along with Matt Szczur and Chris Whitney hoist the 2009 FCS National Championship trophy.

**On the Back Cover:** 2009 trophies and awards with the national championship scoreboard in the background.

**On the Inside Front Cover:** Senior All-Conference returnees, including Angelo Babbaro, Aaron Ball, Brant Clouser, Ben Ijalana and Marquis Kirkland

**On the Inside Back Cover:** 2010 Captains John Dempsey, Matt Szczur, Terence Thomas and Chris Whitney

**2010 Villanova Football Schedule**

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Sept. 3	Temple	Philadelphia, Pa.	5 p.m.
Sept. 11	Lehigh	Bethlehem, Pa.	12:30 p.m.
Sept. 18	Towson	Villanova, Pa.	3:30 p.m.
<i>Parents' Weekend</i>			
Sept. 25	Penn	Villanova, Pa.	6 p.m.
Oct. 2	@ William & Mary	Williamsburg, Va.	3:30 p.m.
Oct. 16	@ Maine	Orono, Maine	Noon
Oct. 23	James Madison	Villanova, Pa.	3:30 p.m.
<i>Homecoming</i>			
Oct. 30	Richmond	Villanova, Pa.	Noon
Nov. 6	Rhode Island	Kingston, R.I.	1 p.m.
Nov. 13	New Hampshire	Villanova, Pa.	Noon
Nov. 20	Delaware	Newark, Del.	Noon





## Media Information

### Villanova Media Relations Office



**Dean Kenefick**  
Associate AD/  
Communications



**Mike Sheridan**  
Director of Media  
Relations



**David Berman**  
Director of  
Communications



**Megan O'Shea**  
Media Relations  
Coordinator



**Krissy Woods**  
Media Relations  
Assistant

Media Relations Office	(610) 519-4120
Media Relations FAX	(610) 519-7323
Press Box Phone	(610) 519-5290
Dean Kenefick, Football Contact	(610) 519-6514
Home	(610) 308-4395
Mike Sheridan	(610) 519-4145
David Berman	(610) 519-4122
Megan O'Shea	(610) 519-5927
Krissy Woods	(610) 519-6460

**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 2010 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, Associate Athletics Director/Communications, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Jake Nevin Field House, Villanova, PA 19085-1674, (Phone 610-519-6514).

**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 610-519-6514. 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 610-519-6514.

**Press Parking:** Parking for the media will be located across Ithan Avenue in the Bartley 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, flip cards/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.

**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 610-519-6514. 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. The luncheons alternate between the Donaldson Room at the University of Pennsylvania, and both the Connelly Center and Stadium Press Box at Villanova University. Lunch will be served beginning at 11:15 a.m. Question and answer sessions with the Philadelphia coaches begin at noon. Charge to the media is \$15.00.

### 2010 Football Luncheon Schedule:

#### at Villanova

Sept. 8 (TBA)

Sept. 22 (Connelly Center)

Oct. 6 (Press Box)

Oct. 20 (Connelly Center)

Nov. 3 (Press Box)

Nov. 17 (Connelly Center)

#### at Penn

Sept. 15, 29

Oct. 13, 27

Nov. 10



2009 National Champions

## Media Outlets

### Newspapers

#### The Associated Press,

1 Franklin Plaza, Suite 250, Philadelphia, PA 19102  
215-561-1133; FAX 215-561-3544  
Rob Maadi - Sports Editor

#### Philadelphia Inquirer,

400 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19101  
215-854-4550; FAX 215-854-4564  
Jim Cohen - Sports Editor  
Keith Pompey - Football Beat Writer

#### Philadelphia Daily News,

400 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19101  
215-854-5700; FAX 215-854-5524  
Josh Barnett - Sports Editor;  
Mike Kern - Beat Writer

#### Camden Courier Post,

P. O. Box 5300, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034  
856-486-2424; FAX 856-663-2831  
Gary Silvers - Editor

#### Delaware County Daily Times,

500 Mildred Avenue, Primos, PA 19108  
610-622-8881; FAX 610-622-8887  
Rob Parent - Sports Editor;  
Terry Toohey- Beat Writer

#### Norristown Times Herald,

410 Markley Street, Norristown, PA 19404  
610-272-2322; FAX 610-272-0660  
Dave Kurtz - Sports Editor

#### Philadelphia Tribune,

520-26 South 16th Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19146  
215-893-4080; FAX 215-893-4064  
Donald Hunt - Beat Writer

#### West Chester Daily Local News,

P. O. Box 517, West Chester, PA 19380  
610-696-1775; FAX 610-430-1194  
Dave Zeitlin - Sports Editor

#### Bucks County Courier Times,

8400 Route 13, Levittown, PA 19067  
215-949-4212; FAX 215-949-4177  
Jeff Beideman - 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  
Matt Osborne - Sports Editor

#### The Main Line Times,

311 East Lancaster Avenue, Ardmore, PA 19003  
610-642-4300; FAX 610-642-9704  
Bruce Adams - Sports Editor

#### The Suburban & Wayne Times,

P. O. Box 409, Wayne, PA 19087  
610-688-3000; FAX 610-964-1346  
Michael Bierne - Sports Editor;

#### The Villanovan

(student newspaper),  
800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085,  
610-519-7206

### Radio

#### Football Broadcasts:

**Flagship Station: ESPN 950 AM (WPEN),**  
1 Bala Plaza #429  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004  
610-667-8500; FAX 610-771-9692  
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, Matt Leon - Reporters

#### 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  
Vai Sikahema, John Clark - On air hosts

#### WPVI-TV Channel 6

(ABC Owned & Operated)  
4100 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131  
215-581-4596; FAX 215-581-4530  
Mark Meany - Producer  
Kevin Russell, Jamie Apody, Jeff Skversky - 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  
Beasley Reese, Don Bell- 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  
Joe Staszak - On-air hosts

#### COMCAST SPORTSNET

1 First Union Complex, Lot D  
Philadelphia, PA 19148  
215-952-5366; FAX 215-952-5953  
Leslie Gudel, Neil Hartman,  
Ron Burke, Amy Fadool, Gregg Murphy, Der-  
rick Gunn, Dei Lynam - Talent and On-air  
hosts



## Villanova Facts & Figures

### Villanova Quick Facts

Location	Villanova, Pa.
Founded	1842
Enrollment	6,240
President	Rev. Peter M. Donohoue, 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	Astroplay - artificial grass
Press Box Phone	610-519-5290
Affiliation	Football Championship Subdivision (FCS)
Conference	CAA
2009 Overall Record	14-1
2009 Conference Record/ Finish	7-1, T-1st place South Division
2009 Postseason	NCAA Champions

### Media Information

Media Relations Mailing Address	800 Lancaster Ave. Jake Nevin Field House Villanova, PA 19085
Media Relations Phone	610-519-4120
Media Relations Fax	610-519-7323
Associate AD/Communications, Football SID	Dean Kenefick
Kenefick's Phone	610-519-6514
Kenefick's Email	dean.kenefick@villanova.edu
Official Web Site	www.villanova.com

### 2010 Wildcat Team Information

Lettermen Lost	10
Lettermen Returning	31
Offensive Starters Lost	3
Defensive Starters Lost	4
Offensive Starters Returning	8
Defensive Starters Returning	7
Specialists Returning	3
Offensive Formation	Multiple Spread
Defensive Formation	4-2-5

### 2009 Results

Date	Opponent	Score	Attend.
Sept. 3	@ Temple	W, 27-24	27,759
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>Lehigh</b>	<b>W, 38-17</b>	<b>8,811</b>
Sept. 19	@ Penn	W, 14-3	14,876
<b>Sept. 26</b>	<b>Northeastern (*)</b>	<b>W, 56-7</b>	<b>11,119</b>
<b>Oct. 3</b>	<b>William &amp; Mary (*)</b>	<b>W, 28-17</b>	<b>8,217</b>
Oct. 10	@ New Hampshire (*)	L, 24-28	14,811
Oct. 17	@ James Madison (*)	W, 27-0	16,037
<b>Oct. 24</b>	<b>Rhode Island (*)</b>	<b>W, 36-7</b>	<b>5,517</b>
Nov. 7	@ Richmond (*)	W, 21-20	11,667
Nov. 14	@ Towson (*)	W, 49-7	5,339
<b>Nov. 21</b>	<b>Delaware (*)</b>	<b>W, 30-12</b>	<b>12,073</b>
<b>Nov. 28</b>	<b>Holy Cross (NCAA)</b>	<b>W, 38-28</b>	<b>4,319</b>
<b>Dec. 5</b>	<b>New Hampshire (NCAA)</b>	<b>W, 46-7</b>	<b>2,661</b>
<b>Dec. 11</b>	<b>William &amp; Mary (NCAA)</b>	<b>W, 14-13</b>	<b>4,171</b>
Dec. 18	vs. Montana (NCAA)	W, 23-21	14,328

\* - Indicates Conference Game    NCAA - Indicates NCAA Playoff Game  
Home Games In Bold And Played At Villanova Stadium

### 2010 Coaching Staff

<b>Head Coach</b>	Andy Talley (Southern Connecticut '67)
<b>Record at Villanova:</b>	179-102-1 (25 seasons, .637 win pct.)
<b>Record in Conference Games:</b>	107-72 (20 seasons, .596 win pct.)
<b>Overall as a Head Coach:</b>	207-120-2 (30 seasons, .632 win pct.)
<b>Assistant Head Coach/Offensive Line</b>	Mark Ferrante (St. Lawrence '83)
<b>Defensive Coordinator/Secondary</b>	Mark Reardon (Lafayette '93)
<b>Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks Coach</b>	Sam Venuto (Delaware '79)
<b>Wide Receivers Coach/Recruiting Coordinator</b>	Brian Flinn (Mt. Union '97)
<b>Defensive Line Coach</b>	Billy Crocker (Villanova '02)
<b>Running Backs/Tight Ends Coach</b>	Darius Smith (Frostburg State '95)
<b>Linebackers Coach</b>	Clint Wiley (Urbana '95)
<b>Offensive Assistant</b>	Nick Kray (Eastern Illinois '08)
<b>Defensive Assistant</b>	Bill McCarthy (Holy Cross '07)
<b>Strength &amp; Conditioning Coach</b>	Justus Galac (Brockport State '02)



### 2009 Statistical Leaders (Returners In BOLD CAPS)

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
CHRIS WHITNEY	203	987	4.9	6	
MATT SZCZUR	108	813	7.5	10	
AARON BALL	165	794	4.8	6	
Passing	Comp.	Att.	Int.	Yds.	TD
CHRIS WHITNEY	159	246	4	1936	18
Antwon Young	23	41	1	222	2
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Brandyn Harvey	53	694	13.1	5	
MATT SZCZUR	51	610	12.0	4	
NORMAN WHITE	17	251	14.8	2	
Scoring	TD	Pat.	FG	Conv.	Pts.
NICK YAKO	0	59-60	12-16	0-0	95
MATT SZCZUR	15	0-0	0-0	0-0	90
ANGELO BABBARO	7	0-0	0-0	0-0	42
CHRIS WHITNEY	7	0-0	0-0	0-0	42
Tackles	UT	AT	TT	TFL	Sacks
TERENCE THOMAS	68	48	116	11.0	8.5
Osayi Osunde	39	43	82	7.5	1.5
JOHN DEMPSEY	59	18	77	11.5	6.0
Interceptions	No.	Yds.	TD		
JAMES PITTS	4	16	0		



# Travel Itinerary/Pronunciation Guide

## Travel Plans

### Temple

September 3, 2010 • 5 p.m. • Lincoln Financial Field

Day Trip

Travel - Bus

Depart - September 3; Return - Immediately after game

### Lehigh

September 11, 2010 • 12:30 p.m. • Goodman Stadium

Day Trip

Travel - Bus

Depart - September 11; Return - Immediately after game

### William & Mary

October 2, 2010 • 3:30 p.m. • Williamsburg, Va.

Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Travel - Charter flight to Newport News.

Depart - October 1; Return - Immediately after game

### Maine

October 16, 2010 • Noon • Orono, Maine

Hotel: Four Points By Sheraton, 308 Godfrey Blvd., Bangor, Maine 04401

Travel - Charter flight to Bangor, Maine

Depart - October 15; Return - Immediately after game

### Rhode Island

November 6, 2010 • 1 p.m. • Kingston, R.I.

Hotel: Newport Hyatt, 1 Goat Island, Newport, RI 02840

Travel - Bus

Depart - November 5; Return - Immediately after game

### Delaware

November 20, 2010 • Noon • Newark, Del.

Day Trip

Travel - Bus

Depart - November 20; Return - Immediately after game

## Pronunciation Guide

Louis Adeyemi ..... ad-ah-yem-ee

Ronnie Akins ..... a-kins

Angelo Babbaro ..... ba-bar-o

Devon Bridges ..... day-von

Josh Bucci ..... boo-chee

Marlon Calbi ..... cal-bee

Rakim Cox ..... ra-kim

Chidozie Ekwuezor ..... cha-dose-ee eck-we-zoor

Delano Ferguson ..... da-lawn-o

Ben Ijalana ..... eye-ja-lawn-a

Marquis Kirkland ..... mar-keese

Emeka Ndichia ..... ah-meck-a Na-dee-chee

Jordy Paulemon ..... paul-ah-minn

Eric Predatsch ..... pre-dash

Dominic Scarnecchia ..... scar-neck-ee-uh

Dan Shirey ..... shy-ree

Matt Szczur ..... see-zer

Nick Yako ..... yay-ko

Tamai Young ..... tuh-my



# Broadcast Information

## Villanova Athletics Website [www.villanova.com](http://www.villanova.com)

- Game Notes  
(full game notes available in .pdf format)
- Statistics
- Schedule and Results
- Feature Stories
- Complete media guide  
(available section by section in .pdf format)
- Highlight Videos
- Villanova Apparel

## Villanova.com Internet Radio Broadcasts

- Radio Broadcasts and Live Stats of Wildcat football games available over the internet.
- To access live and archived broadcasts, mouse over the NOVA NATION menu at the top of the website and select Nova Nation All-Access

## Wildcats on Television

- September 18**  
Towson at Villanova  
(Comcast Network)
- September 25**  
Penn at Villanova  
(Comcast Network)
- October 2**  
Villanova at William & Mary  
(Comcast SportsNet)
- October 16**  
Villanova at Maine  
(Comcast SportsNet)
- October 30**  
Richmond at Villanova  
(Comcast Network)
- November 13**  
New Hampshire at Villanova  
(Comcast Network)
- November 20**  
Villanova at Delaware  
(Comcast Network)



## Villanova Football Radio Network

Continuing in 2010, ESPN 950-AM (WPEN) in Philadelphia 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 18th consecutive year is Ryan Fannon, who also is Villanova's play-by-play men's basketball announcer. All 11 Wildcat gridiron contests will be broadcast live.

**Flagship Station:**  
950 ESPN Radio (WPEN), Philadelphia, Pa.





2009 National Champions

## Andy Talley Radio Show

### Talking Villanova Football With Andy Talley

For the fifth year in 2010, ESPN 950-AM (WPEN), the flagship station of Villanova Athletics, 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 on Tuesday evenings at a site to be determined. 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 Colonial Athletic Association, a head coach interview from that week's opponent, as well as NCAA football on the national scene.



The Andy Talley Radio Show will include interviews with the head coach of that week's opponent, national guests and Wildcat players.



The Andy Talley Radio Show can be heard throughout the fall on 950-AM ESPN Radio.

### 2010 Andy Talley Radio Show Schedule

#### "Talking Villanova Football With Head Coach Andy Talley"

*Produced And Managed By ISP Sports, Inc.*

Tuesday, Sept 7	Tuesday, Oct 19
Tuesday, Sept 14	Tuesday, Oct 26
Tuesday, Sept 21	Tuesday, Nov 2
Tuesday, Sept 28	Tuesday, Nov 9
Tuesday, Oct 12	Tuesday, Nov 16

All shows will air from 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM EST live from TBD unless otherwise noted.





## 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. Below are profiles of each of the individuals who are honored on the Wall of Fame.

### 1994 Induction Class

The first group of honorees to the Villanova Wall of Fame was an impressive one, and shows the history and tradition of 100 years of outstanding football student-athletes on the Main Line.

#### Lou Ferry (1945-48 Player; 1960-2003 Coach)

- All-East and All-America honoree
- Played for seven seasons in the NFL
- Villanova head coach from 1970-74

#### Dominic Liotta (1949-51)

- Played offensive guard; co-captain in 1951
- Earned mention on six different All-America teams
- Appeared on the “Ed Sullivan Show”

#### Ed Michaels (1933-35)

- Villanova’s first-ever All-American in 1935
- Played in the NFL and Canadian Football League
- Villanova assistant coach from 1951 to 1961



Center Bryan Russo had his jersey retired in 2000.

#### Mike Siani (1969-71)

- Ranks near top of every Villanova receiving record
- Owns record for receiving yards in a single season

- NFL player with Oakland Raiders, Baltimore Colts

#### John Wysocki (1936-38)

- Consensus All-American two straight years
- Played 1937 Bacardi Bowl, first Villanova bowl
- Had three career touchdowns on blocked kicks

### 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 Filipski, Billy Joe

1998 . . . . .Paul Berardelli, Curtis Eller

2000 . . . . .Bryan Russo, Sam Gruneisen

2001 . . . . .Bob Brady, Charlie Johnson

2002 . . . . .John Mellus, Harry Stuhldreher

2003 . . . . .Brian Finneran, John Babinecz

2005 . . . . .Brian Westbrook

### 1995 Induction Class

In 1995 the Wildcats continued a new tradition by inducting three more players onto the Wall of Fame. This year’s induction class included NFL Hall of Fame inductee Howie Long.

#### Howie Long (1977-80)

- MVP of Blue-Gray All-Star Classic as a senior
- Registered 313 tackles during his Wildcat career
- 10-time Pro Bowl selection during NFL career

#### Jordan Olivar (1935, 1937 Player; 1943-48 Coach)

- Co-captain and co-MVP of undefeated 1937 team
- Head coach at Villanova from 1943-48
- Compiled 33-20-1 (.620) record as a head coach

**John Sandusky (1946-49)**

- Regarded as one of quickest big men in the nation
- Garnered All-America honors in 1949
- Player and coach in the NFL

**1997 Induction Class**

The third group of honorees on the Wall of Fame were honored during a game against West Chester on August 28, 1997.

**Al Atkinson (1962-64)**

- Led the 1962 squad to the Liberty Bowl
- Considered one of the best linemen in school history
- Won a Super Bowl with New York Jets in 1969

**Eugene Filipski (1952-53)**

- Standout running back and consensus All-American

- Averaged school-record 5.9 yards per carry
- Owns two school rushing records for yards per game

**Billy Joe (1960-62)**

- MVP of the 1961 Sun Bowl as a fullback
- Played professionally from 1963-68
- 1963 AFL Rookie of the Year

**1998 Induction Class**

Two more Villanova greats were inducted on the Wall of Fame in 1998, and the Wildcats produced a thrilling 34-31 overtime win against rival Delaware.

**Paul Berardelli (1985-88)**

- First All-American after football returned in 1985
- Wildcats were 24-10-1 during his career
- Played for the World League's London Monarchs

**Curtis Eller (1989-92)**

- First Wildcat to be a two-time first team All-American
- Yankee Conference 50th Anniversary All-Time Team
- Wildcats were 33-14 during his career

**2000 Induction Class**

The two Wall of Fame inductees were a pair of renowned linemen who rank among the greatest ever at Villanova.

**Sam Gruneisen (1958-61)**

- Played both tight end and linebacker in college
- Helped lead team to win in 1961 Sun Bowl
- Had an 11-year NFL career with two different teams

**Bryan Russo (1986-89)**

- One of the top offensive linemen in team history
- Second offensive lineman to earn All-America honors
- Led Wildcats to combined 27-16-1 record

**2001 Induction Class**

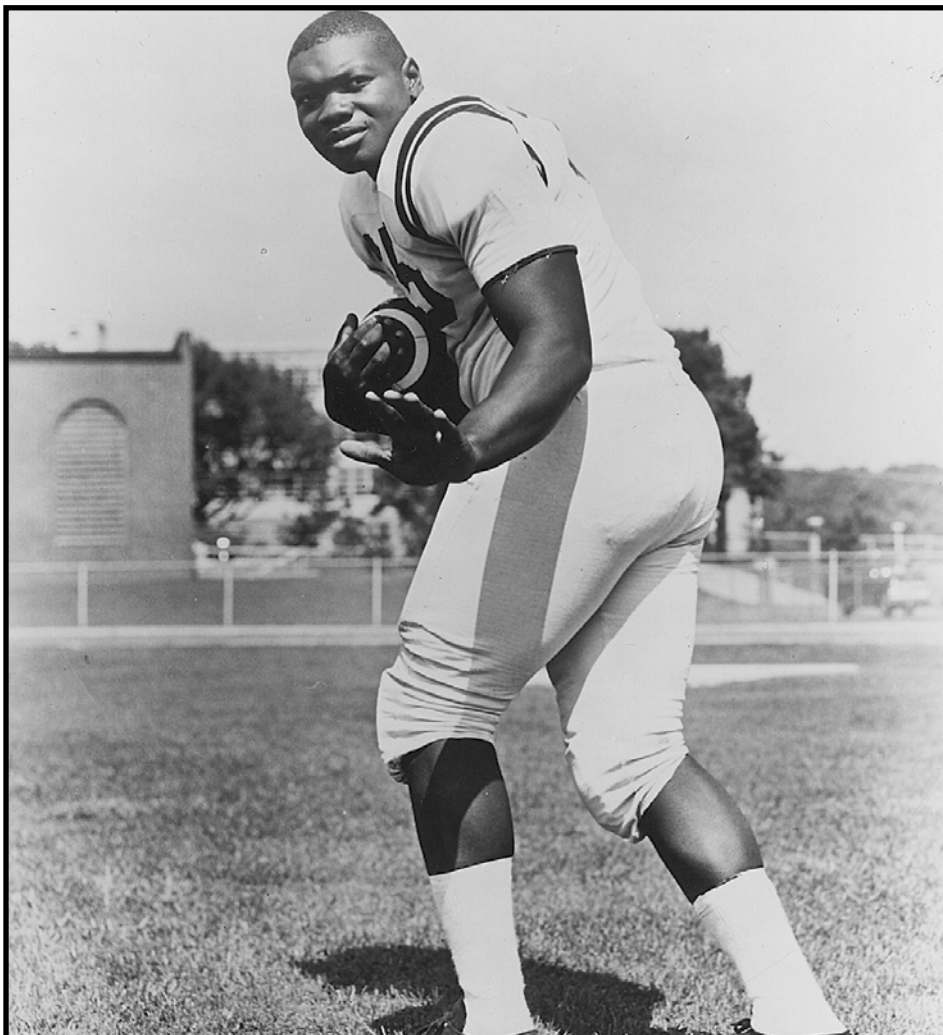
A standout offensive lineman for a Bowl team and a top running back made up the 2001 induction class, as the Wildcats honored two more former players on the Wall of Fame.

**Bob Brady (1986-89)**

- Team captain in 1989, led Wildcats to NCAA playoffs
- First team All-East and All-Yankee Conference in 1989
- Wildcats were 27-14-1 during Brady's career

**Charlie Johnson (1960-62)**

- One of the members of the 1961 Sun Bowl champs
- First team All-American tackle in 1962
- Captain of 1962 team that reached the Liberty Bowl



**Billy Joe, who was MVP of the 1961 Sun Bowl, had his jersey retired in 1997.**





**Brian Finneran, who is the only wide receiver to win the Walter Payton Award, had his Villanova jersey retired in 2003.**

#### **2002 Induction Class**

Two of the most decorated individuals in the history of Villanova football were honored on the Wall of Fame in 2002, bringing the number of honorees at the time to 19.

##### **John Mellus (1935-37)**

- Villanova was 22-4-2 (.821) during his career
- Led Wildcats to first Bowl game in 1936 Bacardi Bowl
- Team posted 16 shutouts in his 28 career games

##### **Harry Stuhldreher (1925-35 Head Coach)**

- Member of Notre Dame's famed "Four Horsemen"
- Led his teams to 65-25-9 (.702) record as head coach
- Quarterback and punt return specialist as a player

#### **2003 Induction Class**

On October 25, 2003, Villanova retired the jerseys of former Wildcat greats Brian Finneran (No. 25) and John Babinecz (No. 64) during a halftime ceremony of Villanova's homecoming game with the University of Massachusetts.

##### **John Babinecz (1969-71)**

- Three-year starter at linebacker
- Three-time All-East performer
- *Sport Magazine* College Athlete of the Month

##### **Brian Finneran (1994-97)**

- Most decorated wideout in school history
- 1997 Walter Payton Award winner
- Atlantic 10, ECAC Offensive Player of the Year

#### **2005 Induction Class**

After a one-year break, the Wildcats most recent Wall of Fame honoree was an explosive offensive player during his career and is currently one of the team's most successful NFL players in recent memory.

##### **Brian Westbrook (1997-01)**

- Finished his career holding 41 school records
- Also owns five NCAA records, 19 conference marks
- 2002 Walter Payton Award winner
- Selected to 2004 and 2007 NFL Pro Bowls
- School's all-time leading rusher and scorer