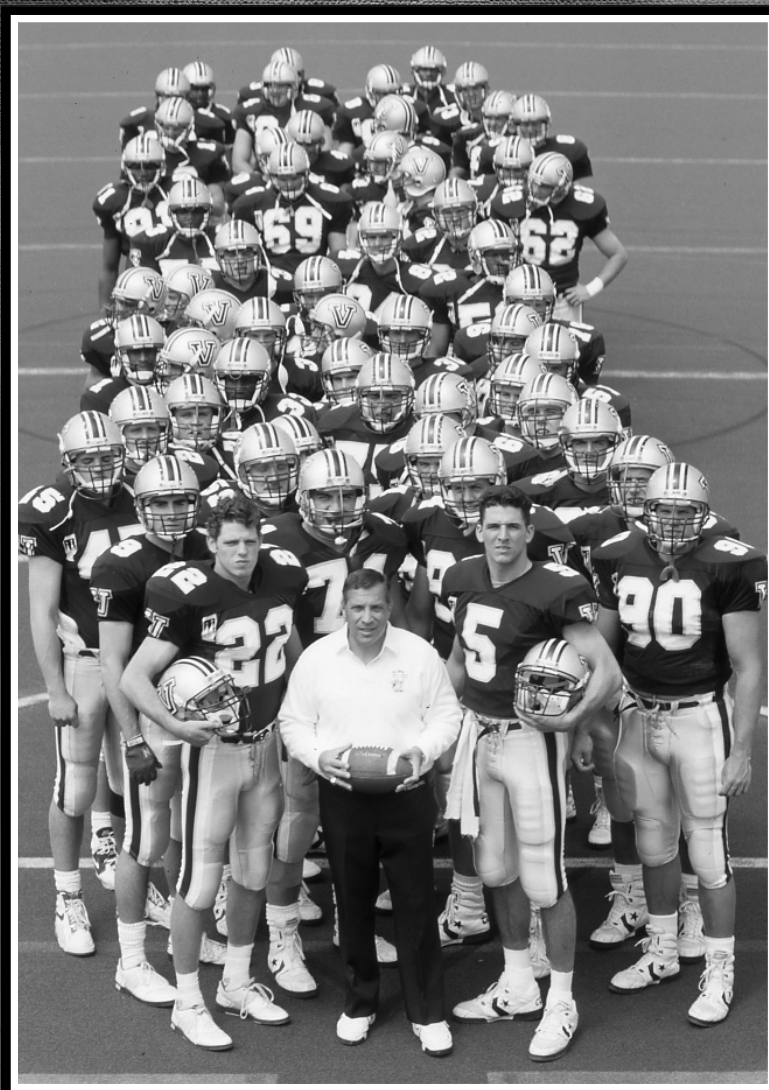


# VILLANOVA



***Yankee Conference***



## Yankee Conference History

**B**y moving to the Atlantic 10 Conference for the 1997 season, Villanova University's nine-year membership of the Yankee Conference and the conference's 50-year football legacy came to a close. Under the direction of head coach Andy Talley, Villanova compiled a lifetime mark of 38-31 in Yankee Conference contests. During their Yankee Conference history, the Wildcats shared the league championship twice, 1991 and 1989, finished second on three occasions, in 1996, 1992 and 1990, and third once in 1988.

The addition of three college football programs in 1993 (James Madison, Northeastern and William and Mary) made the Yankee Conference the largest NCAA Division I-AA conference, with 12 total members. Each one of the 12 schools competed for the conference title, playing an eight-game league slate. For scheduling purposes only, the league was divided into a New England Division (Boston University, University of Connecticut, Univer-

sity of Maine, University of Massachusetts, University of New Hampshire and the University of Rhode Island), and a Mid-Atlantic Division (University of Delaware, James Madison University, Northeastern University, University of Richmond, VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY and the College of William and Mary). Also, each individual school had to play each team in its own division, as well as three teams from the other division each year for a total of eight league contests.

The Yankee Conference originally developed from the New England College Conference of Intercollegiate Athletics. When Northeastern University offered its resignation from that group, the Land Grant institutions appointed a committee to form a new league. On December 8, 1945,

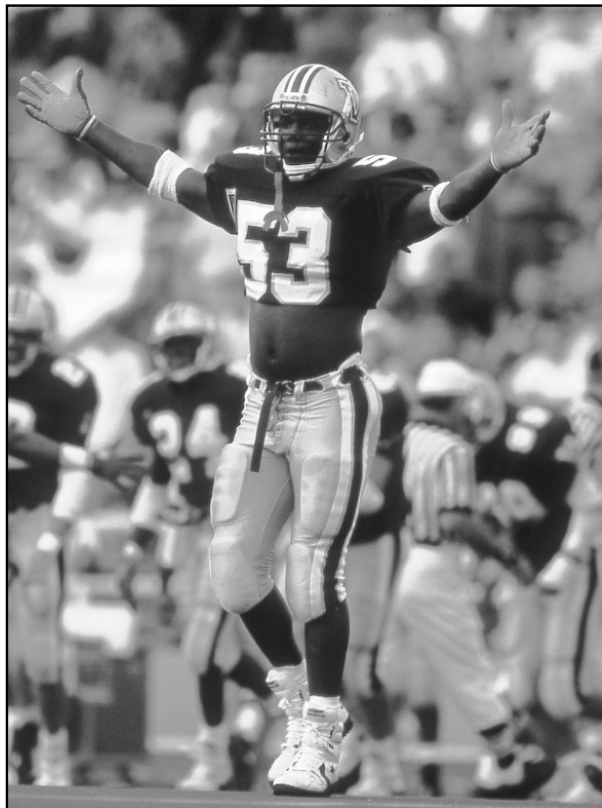
that committee recommended an athletic conference formed by the six New England Land Grant colleges, namely; the University of Connecticut, University of Maine, Massachusetts State College (now the University of Massachusetts), Rhode Island State College (now the University of Rhode Island), the University of New Hampshire and the University of Vermont.

On August 24, 1946, representatives from the schools met. A preamble and code of the Yankee Conference were adopted, and became effective on December 3, 1946. The first league championships were conducted in the 1947-48 season.

In 1978, with the creation by the NCAA of Division I-AA Football, the Yankee Conference disbanded in all sports with



In 1991, Bill Lacey was a first team All-Yankee Conference selection.

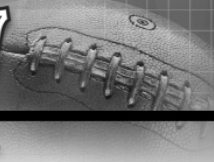


Delmon Robertson was a member of the 1992 Wildcat team that represented the Yankee Conference in the NCAA I-AA playoffs.

the exception of football. Vermont, which had dropped football in 1974, dropped out of the league. As a result, the Yankee Conference, after already adding Boston University in 1973, was six members strong.

In 1984, the University of Delaware and University of Richmond joined the league, and became eligible for the league title in 1986, while the Villanova University Wildcats came on board in 1985. They became eligible for the league title in 1988.

The Yankee Conference was one of the original conferences to receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Division I-AA Playoffs in 1978. Since the birth of NCAA Division I-AA, Boston University went to the playoffs five times (1980, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1994); Rhode Island three times (1981, 1984, 1985); Massachusetts three times (1978, 1988, 1990); Delaware six times (1986, 1988, 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996); Villanova four times (1989, 1991, 1992, 1996); Maine twice (1987, 1989); New Hampshire twice (1991, 1994); James Madison twice (1994, 1995), William & Mary twice (1993-1996) and Richmond (1987) once.



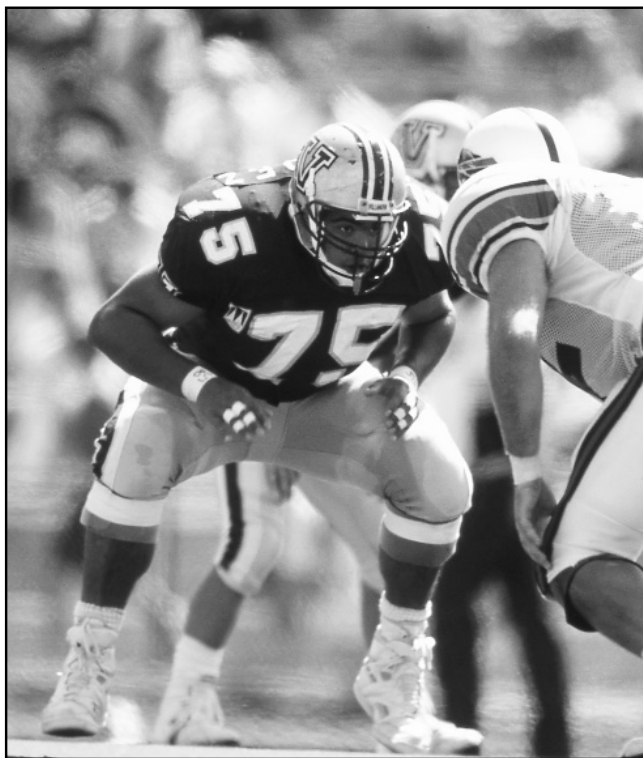
## Past Yankee Conference Champions



One of the greatest players in Villanova history, linebacker Curtis Eller was selected to the Yankee Conference 50th Anniversary team.

| Year | Champion(s)                          |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 1996 | William & Mary                       |
| 1995 | Rhode Island, Delaware               |
| 1994 | James Madison, New Hampshire         |
| 1993 | Boston University, William & Mary    |
| 1992 | Delaware                             |
| 1991 | VILLANOVA, Delaware                  |
| 1989 | VILLANOVA, Connecticut, Maine        |
| 1988 | Delaware, Massachusetts              |
| 1987 | Richmond, Maine                      |
| 1986 | Delaware, Connecticut, Massachusetts |
| 1985 | Rhode Island                         |
| 1984 | Rhode Island, Boston Univ.           |
| 1983 | Boston Univ., Connecticut            |
| 1982 | Massachusetts, Boston Univ.          |
| 1981 | Rhode Island, Massachusetts          |
| 1980 | Boston University                    |
| 1979 | Massachusetts                        |
| 1978 | Massachusetts                        |
| 1977 | Massachusetts                        |
| 1976 | New Hampshire                        |
| 1975 | New Hampshire                        |
| 1974 | Maine, Massachusetts                 |
| 1973 | Connecticut                          |
| 1972 | Massachusetts                        |
| 1971 | Connecticut, Massachusetts           |
| 1970 | Connecticut                          |

| Year | Champion(s)                       |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 1969 | Massachusetts                     |
| 1968 | Connecticut, New Hampshire        |
| 1967 | Massachusetts                     |
| 1966 | Massachusetts                     |
| 1965 | Maine                             |
| 1964 | Massachusetts                     |
| 1963 | Massachusetts                     |
| 1962 | New Hampshire                     |
| 1961 | Massachusetts                     |
| 1960 | Connecticut                       |
| 1959 | Connecticut                       |
| 1958 | Connecticut, New Hampshire        |
| 1957 | Connecticut, Rhode Island         |
| 1956 | Connecticut                       |
| 1955 | Rhode Island                      |
| 1954 | New Hampshire                     |
| 1953 | New Hampshire, Rhode Island       |
| 1952 | Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire |
| 1951 | Maine                             |
| 1950 | New Hampshire                     |
| 1949 | Connecticut, Maine                |
| 1948 | New Hampshire                     |
| 1947 | New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maine |



During his senior season in 1994, Jose Ramirez was named first team All-Yankee Conference.

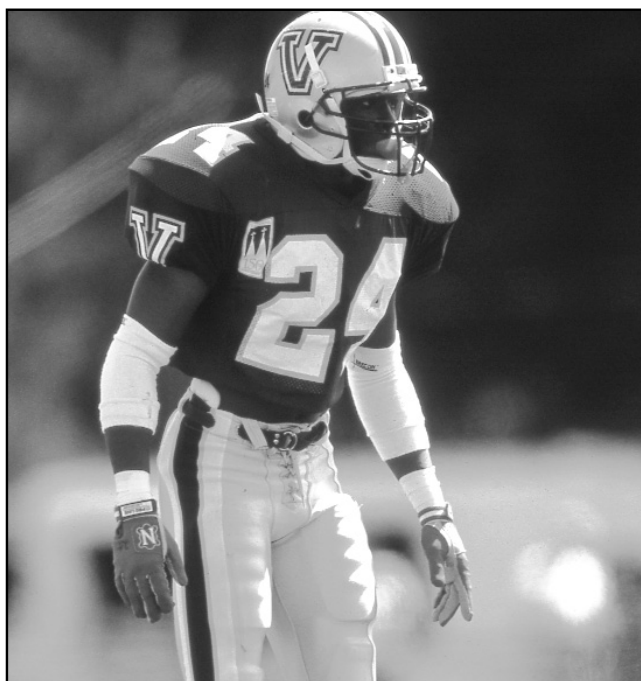


## 50th Anniversary Team

*The Yankee Conference 50th Anniversary All-Time Team was selected by a vote of current and former directors of athletics, head coaches, sports information directors and members of the media.*

| Offense |                                |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| QB      | Greg Landry (UMass, 65-67)     |
| RB      | Rene Ingoglia (UMass, 92-95)   |
| RB      | Paul Lewis (Boston U., 81-84)  |
| WR      | Bill Brooks (Boston U., 82-85) |
| WR      | Mark Didio (UConn, 88-91)      |
| TE      | Brian Forster (URI, 83-87)     |
| OL      | Bill Durkin (UMass, 90-93)     |
| OL      | Scott Hough (Maine, 86-89)     |
| OL      | Bruce Kimball (UMass, 75-78)   |
| OL      | Bob Speight (Boston U., 78-87) |
| OL      | Jeffrey Williams (URI, 73-76)  |
| PK      | John Coursey (JMU, 93-96)      |
| RS      | Barry Bourassa (UNH, 89-92)    |

| Defense   |                                        |
|-----------|----------------------------------------|
| DL        | Brian Corcoran (UMass, 91-94)          |
| DL        | Mike Foley (UNH, 92-95)                |
| DL        | Steve Furness (URI, 69-71)             |
| DL        | Ed McAleney (UMass, 72-75)             |
| LB        | Steve Doig (UNH, 78-81)                |
| <b>LB</b> | <b>Curtis Eller (Villanova, 89-92)</b> |
| LB        | Eric Johnson (UR, 89-92)               |
| LB        | Dwayne Sabb (UNH, 88-91)               |
| DB        | Chris Helon (Boston U., 91-94)         |
| DB        | Brian Jordan (UR, 86-88)               |
| DB        | Mark Seals (Boston U., 85-88)          |
| DB        | Kevin Smith (URI, 87-90)               |
| P         | Gene Vadas (Delaware, 88-91)           |



Devian Logan was a member of the Villanova team that won a share of the 1991 Yankee Conference championship.