



Athletics Media Relations
Multipurpose Building
Warrensburg, MO 64093
660-543-4312
FAX 660-543-8034
www.cmsu.edu/athletic

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CONTACT: JOE MOORE, (660) 543-4312

25 ink letters of intent, 13 others commit to join CMSU Mules football next fall

(WARRENSBURG, Mo.) – Twenty-five student-athletes have signed letters of intent to suit up for the Central Missouri State University football team next fall. In addition, 13 former prep stand-outs have committed to play for the CMSU Mules beginning in 2005.

Included in the list of signees are the Kansas City Star Metro Player of the Year (Olathe North High School's Dustin Moomau), the St. Louis Post-Dispatch Offensive Player of the Year (Parkway Central High School's Shawn Scott) and three Simone Award finalists, given to the Kansas City-area Player of the Year (Moomau, Blue Valley North High School's Ryan Copp, and Olathe East High School's Andre Jones). The list also includes nine Kansas City Star all-metro selections, seven Wichita Eagle all-staters, five Topeka Capitol Journal all-state picks, and three Independence Examiner all-area honorees.

One could say Mules head coach Willie Fritz and his staff were after one specific position--athlete.

"We recruited everything," Fritz says. "We're trying to replenish every year, and we really feel we got the best possible athletes at every position."

Fritz said the Mules' coaching staff also took advantage of a new program offered at CMSU.

"With the new state-line grant Central Missouri State has with bordering counties in Kansas, we really stepped up our efforts in recruiting the whole Kansas City metro area, and it shows in the number of highly-touted young men we signed out of the area, on both the Missouri and Kansas sides."

Following is a complete list of the Mules' 2005 Football Signees:

- more -

Peter Brown - Defensive Back

5-11 * 185 * Freshman

Overland Park, Kan. * Blue Valley H.S.

Head Coach: Steve Rampy - Younger brother of Mules' running backs coach Dave Brown, he was a three-year starter at defensive back in high school (two at Basehor-Linwood High School and his senior season at Blue Valley High) ... earned honorable mention East Kansas League and Sun County honors his senior season, and as a junior was a second-team Kaw Valley League selection at defensive back.

Adrian Chapman – Defensive Back

6-1 * 200 * Freshman

Ozark, Mo. * Ozark H.S.

Head Coach: Chris Allison – An all-district 11 selection, he caught 21 passes for 343 yards and five touchdowns, and added 20 tackles (10 for losses) with three interceptions as a senior ... he also earned All-Southwest Missouri Coaches Association team mention as both a wide receiver and cornerback, and was all-state in track in the 4x200- and 4x400-meter relays ... helped Ozark High School to the Missouri Class 4 District 11 title.

Ryan Copp - Wide Receiver

6-2 * 200 * Freshman

Overland Park, Kan. * Blue Valley West H.S.

Head Coach: Scott Wright - A 2004-05 Simone Award finalist for the Kansas City area Player of the Year ... tabbed the East Kansas League Offensive Player of the Year, he earned first-team all-conference honors as a wide receiver and second-team accolades as a kicker ... his list of honors also includes first-team Kansas City Star all-metro, All-Johnson County, Kansas Coaches Association 5A and Topeka Capital Journal and Wichita Eagle All-Class All-State honors, and honorable mention MetroSports all-region accolades.

Lavance Dotson - Defensive Back

5-11 * 175 * Freshman

Kansas City, Mo. * North Kansas City H.S.

Head Coach: Chad Valadez - A nominee for Kansas City Coaches Association and Channel 9 News Scholar-Athlete honors, he was a first-team All-Suburban Six Conference pick and was a Kansas City Star honorable mention All-Metro pick.

Conner Finn - Offensive Line

6-0 * 255 * Freshman

Overland Park, Kan. * Blue Valley Northwest H.S.

Head Coach: Tenny Dewey - A first-team East Kansas League selection, he was first-team all-state on the Wichita Eagle and Topeka Capitol Journal teams ... he added first-team All-Sun County honors and honorable mention Kansas City Star all-metro honors.

Jason Gore - Wide Receiver

5-11 * 185 * Freshman

Olathe, Kan. * Olathe North H.S.

Head Coach: John McCall - Selected to participate in the Metro Classic, he was named first-team Kansas City Star All-Metro and first-team all-state by the Wichita Eagle and the Topeka Capital Journal ... he was also a first-team selection on the All-Sun Football Team, the All-Sunflower League squad, and the All-Olathe team.

Justin Gore - Running Back

5-7 * 170 * Freshman

Olathe, Kan. * Olathe North H.S.

Head Coach: John McCall - Named honorable mention all-state by the Wichita Eagle, he was a Kansas City Star all-metro selection ... added first-team accolades on the All-Sun Football Team, the All-Sunflower League squad, and the All-Olathe team.

Robert Hicklin - Tight End

6-6 * 230 * Freshman

St. Peters, Mo. * Fort Zumwalt South H.S.

Head Coach: Don Morris - Named his teams outstanding defensive end, he was a second-team All-GAC South pick at both wide receiver and D-end.

Matthew Jacobsen – Wide Receiver

5-11 * 185 * Junior

Shawnee, Kan. * Butler County C.C.

Head Coach: Troy Mornel – An honorable mention all-conference wide receiver for Butler County as a sophomore in 2004, he helped lead the team to a pair of National Junior College Athletic Association championship games, and to the national title in 2003 ... he played for head coach Scott Drebold at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, where he was first-team All-Sunflower Conference as a kick returner, and second-team all-conference as a wide receiver and defensive back his senior year ... he also earned letters in track & field in high school.

Andre Jones - Running Back

6-0 * 205 * Freshman

Olathe, Kan. * Olathe East H.S.

Head Coach: Jeff Meyers - A Simone Award finalist as Kansas City Area Player of the Year, he was the 2004 Sunflower League Specialist of the Year and a first-team 5A all-state pick by the Wichita Eagle and the Topeka Capitol-Journal ... also a Kansas Coaches Association Class 6A first-team all-state pick, he is a member of the Kansas State Elite 11 All-State football team, and was a first-team All-Sunflower League pick on both offense and defense, and a Kansas City Star first-team all-metro selection.

Layne Kreter - Defensive End

6-3 * 230 * Freshman

Owensville, Mo. * Owensville H.S.

Head Coach: Randy Crowe - A two-year team captain and All-Four Rivers Conference pick at Owensville High ... he added all-district kudos as both a running back and defensive end as a senior, and was chosen Four Rivers Conference Defensive Player of the Year ... also was a first-team Central Missouri All-Area pick, first-team all-state as a defensive end and second-team all-state as a running back ... an honor student, he was also first-team all-conference in basketball as a junior.

Kor'Ree Manson - Defensive Back

5-9 * 165 * Freshman

Fenton, Mo. * Rockwood Summit H.S.

Head Coach: Mike Bellers - Elected by his peers as a team captain in 2004, he was a first-team All-Suburban South defensive back as a senior ... added second-team all-conference honors as a wide receiver, and was also named third-team all-state.

Kevin Maschmeyer - Offensive Line

6-3 * 315 * Freshman

Hazelwood, Mo. * DeSmet H.S.

Head Coach: Pat Mahoney - Earned first-team all-conference honors as both an offensive and defensive lineman and was named first-team all-state on the O-line by the Missouri Sports Writers and Sportscasters.

Dustin Moomau - Quarterback/Defensive Back

6-1 * 195 * Freshman

Olathe, Kan. * Olathe North H.S.

Head Coach: John McCall - The Kansas City Star Metro Player of the Year, he rushed and passed for more than 1,000 yards as a senior ... a Simone Award finalist (Kansas City Player of the Year), he was a first-team Class 5A all-state selection by the Kansas Coaches Association, the Wichita Eagle, and the Topeka Capital Journal ... a member of the Kansas State Elite 11 All-State team, he was also chosen first-team All-Sun Football Team, All-Sunflower League, and All-Olathe, and has been selected to participate in the Kansas Shrine Bowl and the Metro Classic.

Justin Neiswenter - Punter

5-11 * 193 * Freshman

St. Charles, Mo. * Frances Howell H.S.

Head Coach: Larry Branson - Earned all-conference, all-metro, all-district, and all-state honors as a senior punter at Frances Howell High School ... as a junior he also was an honorable mention all-conference pick.

Dalton Rader - Offensive Line

6-3 * 285 * Freshman

Kearney, Mo. * Kearney H.S.

Head Coach: Mark Thomas - Played in just two games as a senior before suffering a foot injury and missing the remainder of the season ... started at offensive guard on Kearney's 2003 Missouri Class 4 State Championship team.

John Samia - Defensive Back

5-11 * 190 * Freshman

Blue Springs, Mo. * Blue Springs H.S.

Head Coach: Kelly Donohoe - Chosen first-team All-Suburban Big 7 Conference and All-District, he also was tabbed an honorable mention Independence Examiner all-area pick and Kansas City Star all-metro honoree.

Justin Scott - Defensive Back

5-11 * 180 * Freshman

St. Louis, Mo. * Ritenour H.S.

Head Coach: Rick Shelton - An honorable mention All-Suburban North pick at both wide receiver and defensive back as a junior and senior ... he is nominated for U.S. Army All-American, and last spring earned all-state honors in track & field as part of Ritenour's 4x100-meter relay team.

Shawn Scott - Running Back

5-8 * 165 * Freshman

St. Louis, Mo. * Parkway Central H.S.

Head Coach: Mark Goldenberg - Rushed for 2,219 yards and 30 touchdowns as a senior at Parkway Central High School to be named St. Louis Post-Dispatch Offensive Player of the Year ... earned first-team all-state, All-Metro, all-conference, and all-district honors, and was chosen Offensive MVP of the Suburban South Conference.

Eric Shaffer – Placekicker

5-11 * 180 * Freshman

St. Charles, Mo. * Frances Howell H.S.

Head Coach: Larry Branson – An all-conference selection as a senior, he was ranked third at the Ray Guy Combine placekicking skills camp (out of 180 participants)

Randy Shepard - Defensive Back

5-10 * 180 * Freshman

Kansas City, Kan. * Olathe North H.S.

Head Coach: John McCall - An honorable mention Wichita Eagle Kansas Class 5A all-state pick, he has been selected to participate in the Metro Classic ... a first-team All-Sun Football Team, All-Sunflower League, and All-Olathe selection, he also is a Kansas City Star all-metro honoree.

Buddy Silkwood - Defensive Line

6-4 * 270 * Freshman

Blue Springs, Mo. * Blue Springs H.S.

Head Coach: Kelly Donohoe - A first-team All-Suburban Big 7 Conference and all-district pick, he added honorable mention Independence Examiner all-area accolades as a senior.

Marc Tiernan - Linebacker

6-3 * 225 * Freshman

Lake St. Louis, Mo. * Wentzville Holt H.S.

Head Coach: Todd Vaughn - A four-time team captain, he earned all-conference and All-East Central District honors as a junior and senior ... following his senior season he also was a second-team all-state selection ... a solid student-athlete, he also was a five-time All-Conference Academic Team selection while lettering in football, wrestling, and track at Wentzville Holt High School.

Spencer Webb - Placekicker

5-10 * 130 * Freshman

Olathe, Kan. * Olathe North H.S.

Head Coach: John McCall - Lettered three years at Olathe North High School ... as a senior he was first-team All-Sunflower League and honorable mention all-state ... helped lead Olathe North to three consecutive conference titles and to the 2002 Kansas State Championship ... added a pair of letters in golf.

Luke Whitworth - Quarterback

6-4 * 210 * Freshman

Blue Springs, Mo. * Blue Springs H.S.

Head Coach: Kelly Donohoe – Tabbed as an honorable mention All-Suburban Big 7 Conference and Independence Examiner all-area quarterback as a senior ... he also added all-district honors and honorable mention Kansas City Star all-metro and Missouri Class 6 Coaches Association all-state accolades.

Also committing to play for the Mules beginning in 2005 are:

David Freed – Wide Receiver/Defensive Back

Sugarland, Texas * Stephen F. Austin H.S.

Mike Franklin – Running Back/Cornerback

Sedalia, Mo. * Smith-Cotton H.S.

Tyrell Brown – Enforcer

Lee's Summit, Mo. * Lee's Summit North H.S.

Jace Butterworth – Wide Receiver

Monet, Mo. * Monet H.S.

James Cockrell – Wide Receiver

Wentzville, Mo. * Wentzville Holt H.S.

Greg Guzman – Quarterback

Wichita, Kan. * Kapaun Mt. Carmel H.S.

Sean Kite – Athlete

Kahoka, Mo. * Clark County H.S.

Mike Krysl – Fullback

Hillsboro, Mo. * Hillsboro H.S.

David Mazaar – Quarterback

Rockwood, Mo. * Rockwood Summit H.S.

Gabe Montgomery – Linebacker

Nixa, Mo. * Nixa H.S.

Ike Okenwa – Linebacker

St. Louis, Mo. * Parkway North H.S.

George Perry – Defensive Line

Waynesville, Mo. * Waynesville H.S.

Derek Walster – Quarterback

Ozark, Mo. * Ozark H.S.

Central Missouri State finished the 2004 campaign with a record of 7-4, 5-4 and fourth in the MIAA. The Mules boast a record of 36-10 over the past four seasons.