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www.monmouth.edu
The 2001 Monmouth University Football Media Guide has been prepared to assist media members in their coverage of the Hawks.

We hope that most of your questions will be answered in the pages of this guide. Should you need additional information or assistance, please contact the Monmouth Athletics Communications office. The information on this page covers most media-related questions you should have.

We appreciate your coverage of Monmouth football and look forward to working with you this fall.

INTERVIEWS WITH COACH CALLAHAN

Media wishing to interview Coach Callahan must notify the Monmouth University Athletics Communications office.

WEEKLY PLAYER INTERVIEWS

All player interviews must be requested through the Monmouth University Athletics Communications office, and must be arranged at least 24 hours in advance. Phone interviews are available by contacting the Athletics Communications office. NO HOME NUMBERS WILL BE GIVEN OUT TO THE MEDIA. Please coordinate all requests with the Monmouth University Athletics Communications office.

PRACTICE COVERAGE

Monmouth practices are open to the media, but please call in advance if you plan on attending. Practices during the week (Tues.-Thurs.) are from 3:30 to 5:30. Players and coaches will usually be available after practice. Monday and Friday practices will change weekly. Please contact the Monmouth University Athletics Communications office for the schedule.

POST-GAME INTERVIEWS

Post-game interviews for home games will be conducted in the media room adjacent to the fitness center. Coach Callahan and requested players will be available after a brief cooling off period. Interviews following road games will be subject to the policies set forth by the home teams.

MEDIA CREDENTIALS

Arrangements for media credentials for Monmouth University’s six home football games in 2001 must be made through the Monmouth Athletics Communications office. Requests by accredited media members should be made in writing and submitted on company letterhead to Thomas Dick. Priority of issuance of credentials will be given to daily newspapers and television stations which cover Monmouth football on a regular basis. Credentials must be requested at least 48 hours prior to requested game.

MEDIA WILL CALL

A will call window will be operated on game days at Kessler Field for the distribution of credentials which have not been mailed. Proper ID will be required.

PRESS BOX SERVICES

A media packet will be distributed to your seat prior to kickoff. It will include a game program, flipcard and game notes for each team and the Northeast Conference. If you are missing any material, please contact a member of the Monmouth Athletics Communications office. Quarterly statistics and play-by-play will be distributed during the game. Final statistics and booklets will be distributed as soon as possible following the game.

MEDIA OUTLETs

ASBURY PARK PRESS
3601 Highway 66
Neptune, NJ 07754
(732) 922-6000 ext. 4416
Fax: (732) 643-4012

ASSOCIATED PRESS
International Airport Plaza
U.S. Routes 1 & 9
Newark, NJ 07114
(201) 642-0415
Fax: (201) 643-2526
(609) 392-3525

ATLANTICVILLE
184 Broadway
PO Box 59
Long Branch, NJ 07740
(732) 870-9338

CABLEVISION OF MONMOUTH
1501 18th Avenue
Wall, NJ 07719
(732) 681-8222

CN8... THE COMCAST NETWORK
800 Rahway Avenue
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 851-7492

THE COURIER
PO Box 399
10 Lings Way
Middletown, NJ
(732) 957-0070

ESPN SPORTSTICKER
Harborside Financial Center
600 Plaza Two
Jersey City, NJ 07311-3992
(201) 309-1300
Fax: (800) 336-0383

NEWARK STAR LEDGER
(Colleges)
187 Mill Lane
Mountainside, NJ 07092
(908) 789-3355
Fax: (908) 789-4744

NEW JERSEY NETWORK
PO Box CN 777
Trenton, NJ
(609) 777-5233
Fax: (609) 633-2927

NEW JERSEY NEWS
704 Westwood Avenue
Suite #2
Long Branch, NJ 07740
(732) 263-1355
Fax: (732) 870-8095

OCEAN COUNTY OBSERVER
8 Robbins Street
Toms River, NJ 08753
(732) 349-3218
Fax: (732) 349-8636

THE OUTLOOK
Monmouth University
400 Cedar Avenue
West Long Branch, NJ 07764
(732) 571-3481

WOBM RADIO
PO Box 927
Toms River, NJ 08754
(908) 269-0977
Fax: (908) 269-8831

WMCX
Monmouth University
400 Cedar Avenue
West Long Branch, NJ 07764
(732) 571-3482
The Monmouth Experience

THE UNIVERSITY

Located less than a mile from the ocean on the scenic Jersey Shore, Monmouth University is a private, comprehensive institution of higher learning committed to service in the public interest and to the enhancement of the quality of life. The University aims to provide a learning process and environment which enables men and women to pursue their educational goals, realize their full potential, contribute actively to their community and determine the direction of their lives.

Approximately 5,300 students, including 1,900 graduate students, are currently enrolled. They represent 19 states and 30 nations. Nearly 1,600 students live on campus in 11 residence halls and two garden apartment complexes.

Founded in 1933 as Monmouth Junior College, the University acquired its core campus, the former Shadow Lawn estate, in 1956, and in the following year initiated its baccalaureate curricula. The University’s 149-acre campus, considered to be one of the most beautiful in New Jersey, includes 49 buildings which blend old and contemporary architectural styles. Among these buildings are Woodrow Wilson Hall (the centerpiece building) and the Murry and Leonie Guggenheim Memorial Library, which were added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1978, connecting Monmouth University with New Jersey’s historic past.

Monmouth University offers 43 undergraduate and graduate degree programs and concentrations in six distinct schools — the School of Business Administration, the Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Edward G. Schlaefer School, the School of Education, the School of Nursing and the School of Graduate Studies.

To ensure undergraduate success for students of all skill levels, Monmouth offers integrated advising services through the Life and Career Advising Center (LCAC). The center provides a single, convenient location for comprehensive counseling in academic, career and personal matters. Monmouth places a high value on student retention and in 1990 its programs received nationwide recognition at the National Conference on Student Retention.

Because the need for support is greatest during the freshman year, Monmouth provides a number of services to meet the special needs of new college students. Monmouth’s “Freshman Seminar,” for example, is a one-credit course designed to smooth the transition from high school to college. This elective course covers decision-making, academic and social opportunities and critical skills such as test-taking strategies, time management and study skills.

The Monmouth Early Warning System is a college-wide tracking system which monitors the progress of every new student at Monmouth. Selected faculty members act as first-year advisors to groups of no more than 20 freshmen, providing a critical link between the student and the University’s academic, personal and career matters.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Monmouth boasts 196 regular, full-time faculty members. The school also employs 262 part-time faculty members. The faculty-to-student ratio is 19.4 to 1. The average class size is 22.2.

LIBRARY

The Guggenheim Library houses 248,000 volumes and 1,300 current periodical subscriptions. The architectural treasure, formerly the summer home of philanthropists Murry and Leonie Guggenheim contains the University’s extensive library holdings and houses many pieces of its impressive art collection.

THE CAMPUS

Steeped in the grandeur and tradition of the age of opulence, Monmouth’s campus is one of the most magnificent in the country. It is set upon the 149-acre site of the former Shadow Lawn estate. The stately campus is located in a quiet, residential, suburban community — and includes among its 49 buildings a harmonious blend of both period and contemporary architectural styles. Monmouth’s dedication to success as a comprehensive teaching university is illustrated by its commitment to improving existing facilities and creating new ones. In the last ten years alone, the university has constructed two new garden-style apartment residence halls, a new School of Business Administration building, and a new fitness center. The University has made extensive renovations to the Residence Dining Hall and the Information Sciences and Technology building (which has recently undergone a $3.75 million renovation). Kessler Field (the football stadium) was built seven years ago, and two new residence halls.

In addition, the University completed a $2.5 million renovation of Edison Science Hall, and opened a new academic last spring.

A National Historic Landmark, Woodrow Wilson Hall serves as the main building on campus. It was designed in a neo-classical French tradition. The mansion, entered in the National Register of Historic Places, now serves as the University’s administrative center. An impressive structure, the 130-room mansion has been described in newspapers throughout the world, is featured in many books on architecture and art and has been used as the backdrop for innumerable print ads and television commercials. In 1981, Wilson Hall served as the setting for the film version of “Amie”.

The Lauren K. Woods Theater, a former carriage house which retains many of its original picturesque features, is among the other gracious older buildings which lend distinctive balance to the modern additions to the campus.

CAMPUS LIFE

There are over 70 organizations at Monmouth, including special-interest clubs, honor societies, community-service groups, fraternities and sororities, student government, campus radio and television stations, yearbook, and an award-winning student newspaper.

The Student Activities Board schedules frequent screenings of classic and recent feature films; live rock concerts, campus speakers and special Comedy Nights with both established headliners and up-and-coming comedians. In addition the University offers a full performing arts schedule featuring national and international music, theater and dance groups.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

ANTHROPOLOGY
ART
BIOLOGY
BUSINESS
Accounting
Economics
Finance
Management
Marketing
CHEMISTRY
CLINICAL LAB SCIENCE
Cryotechnology
Medical Technology
Nursing
Toxicology
COMMUNICATION

COMPUTER SCIENCE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
EDUCATION
ENGLISH
FOREIGN LANGUAGE
HISTORY
INTERDISCIPLINARY
STUDIES
MATHEMATICS
MUSIC
NURSING
POLITICAL SCIENCE
PSYCHOLOGY
SOCIAL WORK
SPECIAL EDUCATION
ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The staff of Academic Support Services program in the Monmouth University Athletics Department is designed to evaluate, guide and track the student-athletes’ academic progress during their educational voyage.

The main goal of the program is to assist and counsel student-athletes in an effort to make continual and satisfactory progress while pursuing their degree of choice. The staff promotes and encourages academic and athletics excellence and is committed to the overall development and growth of the individuals. Upon graduation, student-athletes will be prepared to enter society as a valuable contributor, and bring with them a sense of integrity, responsibility, commitment and self-discipline from their experience at Monmouth University.

LIFE SKILLS

To better prepare student-athletes for the challenges of life beyond the playing field, the NCAA has developed the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program. The Life Skills Program at Monmouth was designed not only to bridge the gap from college life to life after graduation, but will also assist student-athletes with meeting daily challenges in their college years and beyond. Because athletics involvement often prohibits student-athletes from accessing campus services, Life Skills supplements current programming by way of required classes for freshmen and upperclassmen.

Life Skills is a systematic program emphasizing five critical areas of personal growth and development. These five areas encompass academic excellence, athletics excellence, personal development, community service and career development. A committee representative of faculty, staff, coaches and student-athletes worked diligently to tailor-fit the Life Skills Program to the specific needs of Monmouth University's student-athletes.

Two classes for credit are offered each semester through Academic Support Services, involving NCAA Life Skills curriculum. “Freshman Seminar” and “Career Search” are the two, one-credit courses that freshman and upperclass student-athletes are encouraged to take. Classes are predominately taught by athletics department staff members, and taught exclusively to student-athletes. The topics discussed in the Freshman Seminar include study strategies, time management, manners and etiquette, values, media relations, sexual responsibility, diversity and leadership training. In the Career Search course, student-athletes will be trained in job strategies, resume and cover letter writing, interviewing techniques, financial planning and life after sports.

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY

All student-athletes are required to attend all classes. Classes may not be missed because of practice. The only permissible time to miss class is due to team competition or travel.

OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES

The Office of Academic Support Services also provides the following services to all student-athletes during their careers at Monmouth:

- Monitoring of Academic Progress
- General Counseling
- Study Tables
- Academic Meetings
- Tutorial Support
- Class Scheduling and Registration

MONMOUTH ATHLETICS MISSION STATEMENT

It is the role of the Monmouth University Athletics Department to provide student-athletes with the opportunity to develop their full potential while safeguarding their physical welfare in an environment that promotes both high academic standards and development of leadership capabilities. These objectives are best achieved through a broad-based program, which provides equal opportunity for all its student-athletes regardless of race, color, age, sex, disability, religion, ethnic or national origin, or sexual orientation and which is administered in accordance with the highest principles of intercollegiate athletics competition.
How could Dutch explorer Hendrick Hudson know that his “discovery” could result in one of the wealthiest, most beautiful and diverse counties in what would become New Jersey? On September 2, 1609 after gazing upon the land that is today called Monmouth County, Hudson wrote in his log “…this is a very good land to fall in love with and a pleasant land to see.” From beautiful beaches to farmland to outstanding shopping to dining for the discriminating palate, Monmouth County’s got it all. Located in the eastern portion of central New Jersey, Monmouth’s 665-square miles offers so much variety to the discerning resident, visitor and business. Monmouth’s residential neighborhoods and business climate continue to rank high in Money Magazine’s annual poll. Also notable is the County’s strategic placement near New York City and Philadelphia. Boasting an economic engine which is part of New Jersey’s “Wealth Belt,” it’s no wonder people move to beautiful Monmouth County.

LANDSCAPE

The sixth largest county in New Jersey, Monmouth includes white sandy beaches, rich farmlands, rolling wooded hills, wetlands rich in wildlife, and lakes and streams of every size. This extraordinary patchwork of natural environments has been successfully integrated with economic growth and development under the direction of the Board of Chosen Freeholders. The County government provides planning and guidance for both current and future needs.

LIFESTYLE

Life in Monmouth County is limited only by one’s failure to live it to the fullest. Whether one’s choice of “home” is apartment in the City of Long Branch, a condo high above the ocean in Atlantic Highlands, a townhouse outside of rural Freehold, or a multi-acre estate in Colts Neck, there is something in Monmouth County for every taste and lifestyle. There is so much to do. It’s been said that it would take an entire summer to experience the activity centers and attractions which the County alone provides. Add to that the private sector offerings in recreation and entertainment, and one can be kept busy for a long time to come.

Civic-minded individuals have ample opportunity to spend their time in rewarding activities. Volunteer fire departments and rescue squads offer unique and valuable learning experiences. Local drama groups look for thespians of all ages to put their various talents to work. Outdoor art exhibits and craft shows draw artists and artisans to present and sell their creations. Ethnic folk festivals at the Garden State Arts Center help to preserve the music and dance of many nationalities. The musically inclined can join local and regional bands and orchestras to perform at civic centers and outdoor concerts. The equestrians among us can even revive the exhilaration of “The Hunt” in Middletown.

Shopping, too, can be an experience in Monmouth County. Shopping at a roadside farmer’s stand can provide you with fresh-picked vegetables and delicious fruits or fragrant flowers. Farmers’ markets sell local garden delicacies. For the thrifty budget conscious, there are numerous factory outlets and entire shopping centers devoted to discount stores. The Englishtown Auction is one of the nation’s largest outdoor flea markets. Should you prefer to shop in air-conditioned comfort, you can visit one of our many spacious malls. If you’ll only settle for the best, downtown Red Bank, too, offers the ultimate in quality retail stores.

It’s been said that the finest seafood restaurants in New Jersey can be found in Monmouth County. Here, too, the range varies from modest to opulent and everything in between. Not to overlook the landlubber’s fare, the County also offers fine beef, pork, chicken and vegetarian dining. From quaint country inns to elegant hotels at the shore, Dining guides have consistently awarded many of Monmouth County’s restaurants four and five chef’s hats for outstanding cuisine.

CULTURAL LIFE

Monmouth County may be in the midst of its greatest period of growth and expansion, but it has not lost sight of the finer things in life, namely, its cultural heritage. The performing arts as well as the visual arts are alive and flourishing throughout the County. The most diverse activity takes place at the PNC Arts Center, formerly the Garden State Arts Center, in Holmdel. This contemporary, open-sided structure was designed by Edward Durrell Stone, and seats more than 5,000 inside with room for 4,000 more on the surrounding lawns. The center’s spring-to-fall schedule includes ethnic festivals, popular and rock music performances, classical music, stage plays, TV stars and comedians.

Established primarily to coordinate area cultural activities, the Monmouth County Arts Council sponsors an exciting schedule of performing arts events. The series includes ballet, modern dance, jazz, plays and symphony concerts as well as featured world-renowned artists. Most events take place at the 1,500-seat Count Basie Theater in Red Bank.

The New Jersey State Council of the Arts, sponsor of the Battleground Arts Center in Manalapan, also provides a variety of cultural programs.

The Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove is the hub for a plethora of major activities. The 6,500-seat facility features top-flight entertainers and concert artists on Sat-

The 27 miles of white, sandy beaches provide residents with terrific swimming, surfing and fishing opportunities.
You never know who you will see when you come to Monmouth County.

**RECREATION**

Leisure and recreational opportunities throughout Monmouth County are almost limitless. Pictoresque County Parks, combined with State and National Parks, offer unmatched recreational, cultural and leisure activities for all ages. The 27 miles of white, sandy beaches provide residents with terrific swimming, surfing and fishing opportunities. Numerous bays, lagoons and inland waterways provide space for sail and powerboat enthusiasts.

Two of the 75 top-rated public golf courses in the United States can be found at Hominy Hill and Howell Park. Other County-run golf courses include Pine Brook, Charleston Springs and Shark River. From a modest start of 24 acres, Monmouth County’s Park System has grown to more than 5,000 acres of park lands, golf courses and conservation areas dedicated to recreational facilities for County residents.

Perhaps the longest lasting and most famous of Monmouth County’s claims to fame are its shore communities which have been drawing tourists for over a century. Ulysses S. Grant, Chester A. Arthur, Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson were among the notables to vacation at the County's shores. When the fish are biting, thousands of “inlanders” rush to the many shore towns which offer party boats for bountiful offshore and deep-sea ocean fishing.

The oldest harness racing track in the country is located at Freehold. Thoroughbred racing can be enjoyed at the newly-refurbished Monmouth Park in Oceanport, rated as one of the 10-best places in the U.S. to watch horse racing.

Sports fans will be delighted with all that the area has to offer. In addition to a full slate of athletics events hosted by Monmouth University, the area is also within striking distance of many professional athletics venues.

It is just a 40 minute drive to the Meadowlands Sports Complex which is home to New Jersey’s own New Jersey Devils hockey team and New Jersey Nets basketball team in addition to the MetroStars in Major League Soccer, the National Football League’s New York Jets and New York Giants and Arena Football’s New Jersey Red Dogs. If one goes a bit farther and heads over one of the bridges or through one of the tunnels leading into New York City than can catch the New York Mets or New York Yankees in baseball action, as well as the New York Islanders and New York Rangers in hockey and the New York Knicks and New York Liberty.

Philadelphia which is just an hour away also offers a full compliment of professional sports teams including the Flyers (hockey), Eagles (football), Phillies (baseball) and 76ers (basketball).

The state of New Jersey also fields minor league teams in baseball, basketball and hockey.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Whether you drive or use public transportation, you’ll find getting around in Monmouth County a real pleasure. U.S. and State highways traverse the county in all directions and make travel to New York City, Philadelphia and Atlantic City a breeze. The highways are supplemented by an excellent County road system.

Four private bus companies plus the New Jersey Transit offer express bus service to midtown and downtown Manhattan, Newark and Jersey City. A total of ten local bus routes, operated by the Monmouth Bus Lines, serve local employers and recreational and shopping centers in the County.

**HEALTH**

Monmouth County can easily boast medical care at its very best. Among the six hospitals in the County, every conceivable service is available to the residents.

When something happens to our families, we want the best in medical services to help them. Monmouth County provides the best a continuum of care options in treatment, prevention and self-help programs. First-class hospitals are found and support services from radiology to blood work are strategically located near the hospital systems. Free and low-cost lectures are also available from area practitioners and non-profits who help counsel on nutrition, health maintenance, self-improvement and alternative approaches to health. Knowledgeable staffs, accessible care and a diverse choice of practitioners are all available in Monmouth County.

**HISTORY**

During the Revolution, the sun came up one morning to find two British warships, one in flames and the other sinking fast. The “whaleboat raiders” of Raritan Bay had struck again. Under cover of darkness these brave residents of the bayshore area would silently row out to the British fleet, spy on their firepower and manpower and, when possible cripple or set a ship on fire. This is just one example of the many fascinating events which make up Monmouth County’s rich historical heritage.

Numerous museums and other historic buildings through the County house artifacts and accounts of the many facets of the Revolutionary history and beyond. The story of Molly Pitcher, the Battle of Monmouth and Washington’s March on Trenton are just a few of the historical highlights of the area that can be studied and relived with a brief visit.

**WEST LONG BRANCH**

Officially formed in 1908, West Long Branch’s roots date back well into the 1800s. Following a humble beginning as a small farming community, the borough soon attracted a more affluent crowd. Found here were the sprawling estates like Shadow Lawn and one belonging to the Guggenheim family. Even President Wilson was fond of the area, with West Long Branch being one of his favorite places to vacation. Today the borough continues to be a beloved resort, neighboring the Jersey Shore.
For the opening of the Monmouth Hawks’ first football season in 1993, a 3,000-seat grandstand with press box was built. Alumni John and Henni Kantor Kessler, class of 1969 and 1968 respectively, donated $250,000 toward construction. The Monmouth Hawks now boast one of the finest facilities for Division I-AA football in the region.

With state-of-the-art facilities, Monmouth boasts one of the best strength and conditioning programs in the Northeast. In the last four years, strength and conditioning coach Tom Battaglia has been recognized as the Atlantic 10 Conference Strength and Conditioning Professional of the Year (1998) and Northeast Conference Strength and Conditioning Professional of the Year (2000).
The only head coach in the history of football at Monmouth, Kevin Callahan has developed a winning tradition in West Long Branch.

In eight seasons at the helm of the Hawks, Callahan has amassed a 40-36 record and his teams have captured Northeast Conference titles in two of the five seasons the league has sponsored football. The Hawks have suffered just two losing seasons in the past seven years and has been ranked among the top 10 in I-AA non-scholarship football in three of the last five seasons. Along the way, Monmouth has been ranked among the top 20 in total offense on two occasions and in total defense three times. Meanwhile, numerous players have earned conference, regional and national honors.

In 1998, Callahan was recognized for his coaching excellence as he was tabbed the Northeast Conference Coach of the Year after leading the Hawks to their second NEC championship in three years. The team established over 30 new school records that season and featured one of the top offenses and defenses in Division I-AA.

Prior to accepting the head coaching position at Monmouth in August of 1992, Callahan served as assistant coach at Colgate University for eight seasons. While with the Red Raiders, Callahan served as assistant head coach and defensive coordinator, while tutoring the linebackers. He also coordinated recruiting efforts for Colgate.

Callahan mentored 11 All-Patriot League performers during his term as the Red Raiders’ defensive coordinator. Colgate allowed just 111.9 rushing yards per game in 1987 to rank ninth in the country. In 1990, CU was among the nation’s leaders in total defense and set a school record for fewest total yards allowed in an 11-game season.

Callahan groomed his defensive coordinating skills at Wagner College from 1981 to 1983. During his three seasons with the Seahawks, Callahan served as defensive coordinator, linebackers coach and recruiting coordinator. In his three seasons at the Staten Island school, the Seahawks compiled a 25-4-2 record and were ranked in the top 10 in Division III each of his three seasons. In 1983, Wagner reached the quarterfinals of the Division III playoffs.

In 1980, Callahan served as an assistant coach under Frank Maloney at Syracuse University. He served as the assistant offensive backfield coach for the Orangemen.

A native of Elmira, N.Y., Callahan began his coaching career as a graduate assistant for three seasons at the University of Albany from 1977 to 1979. In 1977 he served as the Great Danes’ offensive backfield coach as they advanced to the semifinals of the Division III playoffs. In 1978 and 1979, Callahan served as outside linebackers coach.

Callahan was a four-year standout on the playing field at the University of Rochester. He roamed the Yellowjackets’ defensive backfield from 1973 to 1976. As a senior, Callahan was tabbed Rochester’s Defensive Most Valuable Player and earned Associated Press Little All-America and ECAC All-East honors. He earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Rochester...
Hawk defensive coordinator Andy Bobik is in his eighth season at Monmouth, where he also coaches line backers. He is the last original assistants from head coach Kevin Callahan’s first coaching staff assembled in 1993.

Bobik was the defensive coordinator of Monmouth’s first two squads in 1993 and 1994. In 1995, he served as defensive coordinator at Wagner College and guided the nation’s fifth-best Division I-AA defense that season. While at Wagner, Bobik also served as assistant athletics director. He returned to Monmouth in 1996.

During his tenure, the Hawks have fielded one of the best defenses on the I-AA level, including the eighth-best defense in 1994, the 12th-best defense in 1998 and the top ranked defense in 2000. Last season, the Hawks not only led the nation in total defense, but they were also the head of the class in pass defense and ranked in the top 10 in the country in scoring defense. The Hawks also set a school and Northeast Conference record with 38 sacks on the year; including an NEC and school record 15.5 sacks by Joe Sentipal.

Bobik initially arrived at Monmouth in 1993 after serving six years as defensive coordinator at West Chester (Pa.)

Boyce also possesses offensive coordinator experience from his three-year stint at Shepherd College. While at Shepherd, he served as the offensive coordinator during the 1997 and 1998 seasons. The Rams compiled a 19-3 record during his two years as offensive coordinator, including back-to-back West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships and an appearance in the 1998 NCAA Division II Quarterfinals.

The most recent addition to the Hawks coaching staff, Greg Boyce was named the offensive coordinator in April to fill the vacancy left by Rich Skrosky.

Boyce arrived at Monmouth from Jacksonville (Fla.) University where he served as offensive coordinator and offensive line coach for the 1999 and 2000 seasons under head coach Steve Gilbert.

Boyce began his tenure at Shepherd as the offensive line coach in 1996. His impact on the Shepherd offense was immediate in 1996, as for the first time in school history, the Rams averaged over 200 yards rushing and passing.

Prior to his stint at Shepherd, Boyce spent two years as a graduate assistant offensive line coach at the University of Maryland, where he coached NFL tackle Steve Ingram.

Boyce also spent one year (1993) as an offensive line/tight end coach at West Liberty (W.Va.) State College and two years (1991-92) as an offensive line coach at Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Montana. Boyce helped lead RMC to the 1991 Frontier Conference title.

During his collegiate playing career, Boyce was a four-year letter winner and two-year starter at Kutztown University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education in 1990. Boyce earned a master’s degree in secondary education/social studies from Kutztown in 1996. Boyce was a standout at Biglerville High School during his prep playing career.
Coaching Staff and Administration

ASSISTANT COACHES

MARK FABISH
Quarterbacks

Mark Fabish, one of the most athletic players in the history of football at the University of Pennsylvania, is entering his second season as the quarterbacks coach at Monmouth after spending two years as the Hawks’ receivers coach.

In his two seasons as a wide receiver coach, Fabish tutored some of Monmouth’s finest receivers, including Anthony Gaella who was tabbed Don Hansen’s Football Gazette Division I-AA Receiver of the Year and a first-team All-American in 1998.

Fabish came to Monmouth following a tryout at the Atlanta Falcons’ mini-camp and a coaching stint as special teams coordinator at Don Bosco Prep High School in Ramsey, N.J., in 1997.

Fabish, a native of Ho-Ho-Kus, N.J., enjoyed an illustrious career at Penn from 1993 to 1996. He ended his career as the Quakers’ all-time leader in career punt return yardage and kickoff return yardage. In 1996, Fabish capped off his career by being selected as an All-Ivy League wide receiver and earning the Edgar Church Memorial Award (voted on by Penn letterwinners and granted to the player who contributed most to the team’s success).

No stranger to winning, Fabish enjoyed long victory streaks as a player on both the collegiate and prep level. From 1993 to 1995, Fabish helped Penn win two Ivy League titles and string together an NCAA-best 24 consecutive victories. As a junior and senior at Bergen Catholic High School in Oradell, N.J., Fabish led the Crusaders to back-to-back undefeated state championship seasons in 1991 and 1992.

Fabish earned a bachelor’s degree in American civilization from Penn in 1997.

CORNELL KEY
Defensive Assistant

Cornell Key is one of the newest additions to the Monmouth football coaching staff. Key will serve as a defensive assistant in his first season. His primary responsibility will be to assist with the coaching of the defensive line. Key joined the coaching staff in the summer after graduating in the spring of 2001.

Key enjoyed a spectacular playing career at Monmouth. The three-year letterwinner became the first Hawk to earn All-Northeast Conference honors on three separate occasions. He was selected All-NEC in 1998 when the league still only recognized one team and in 1999 and 2000 he was a first-team All-NEC choice.

In 2000, he became the first Monmouth player to earn All-ECAC honors since 1997 when four Hawks earned the award. He was also tabbed to the Don Hansen’s National Weekly Football Gazette Division I-AA Mid-Major All-America team following his 2000 campaign in which he recorded 45 tackles and 10.5 sacks.

Key ended his playing career ranked third behind Jason Gmitter and Joe Sentipal on Monmouth’s all-time sack list with 16. Key twice earned Monmouth’s Lombardi Award recognizing the top player on defense. A native of Browns Mills, N.J., Key was a three-year letterwinner at Pemberton High School.

BOB GENERELLI
Running Backs

Bob Generelli is the most recent addition to the Monmouth football coaching staff. Generelli will coach the Hawks’ running backs.

Generelli, who owns nine years of head coaching experience and a 63-28-2 record at the high school level, most recently served as head coach at Raritan (N.J.) High School from 1996 to 2000. At Raritan, he took the football squad to four consecutive playoff berths after the team went winless the year prior to his arrival.

Generelli started his prep coaching career at Middletown South High School during the 1990 and 1991 seasons. In 1991 and 1992, Generelli coached the Monmouth’s tight end corps.

In between his high school coaching stints, Generelli served as a graduate assistant coach at the University of North Carolina in 1994 and 1995 and was a member of the Tar Heel coaching staff that led UNC to a Carquest Bowl title in 1995.

A four-year letterwinner at Montclair State, he helped guide the team to four consecutive league titles. In 1986, he earned All-NJAC honors as a guard.

Generelli is married to MU alum Jill Marasco and they reside in Middletown.

RYAN MONDAY
Tight Ends

Ryan Monday enters his second season on the Monmouth University coaching staff. Monday is responsible for mentoring Monmouth’s tight end corps.

Monday, a Monmouth graduate, joined the staff after spending the 1999 season at Lassiter High School in Marietta, Georgia. At Lassiter, Monday was the outside linebackers coach for the varsity and junior varsity squads. He was also in charge of producing the defensive scouting reports.

Monday started his coaching career at Middletown (N.J.) North High School during the 1997 and 1998 seasons. At MNHS, Monday served as the quarterbacks coach for the varsity squad and assisted in the offensive play calling. He also acted as the defensive coach for the JV team.

Monday was a four-year letterwinner for the Hawks from 1993-96. He amassed 34 tackles and three interceptions in 27 games at free safety and nickle back for the Hawks.

A local product, Monday was a three-time letter winner at Middletown High. He played wide receiver and defensive back for MNHS.

2001 Monmouth Football
J.J. Shutte is entering his second season as the defensive line coach at Monmouth University.

In his initial season in West Long Branch, he mentored All-NEC and All-ECAC performer Cornell Key to 10.5 sacks and was an integral part in Monmouth’s success as the Hawks led the nation in total defense and pass defense.

Shutte arrived at Monmouth after one year as a coach at Ramapo (N.J.) Indian Hills Regional High School. Shutte served as a coach on the freshman squad which posted a 7-2 record. He also served as an assistant coach on IHHS’s state championship varsity wrestling team.

A 1999 graduate of Rutgers University, Shutte played on the Scarlet Knights’ football squad from 1995-97. He played one season as a center and one year as a defensive end. Shutte was also a standout wrestler at Rutgers where he accumulated a career 50-20 record.

Shutte was a four-year letter winner at Lakeland Regional High School. He earned all-county and all-state recognition on numerous occasions as he led LRHS to a 28-8 record during his four-year career.

Scott Van Zile is in his second season as a Monmouth assistant coach. This season Van Zile will mentor the Hawks’ receivers. A former standout at Towson University, Van Zile began his coaching career last season when he became the Hawks running backs coach.

In his first year at Monmouth, Van Zile tutored tailback Matt Merklinger to one of the best seasons in school history, as his 913 rushing yards and 12 rushing TDs both ranked second on Monmouth’s single-season charts.

While at Towson, Van Zile played on both sides of the ball. A versatile player, Van Zile played wide receiver as a freshman and senior. He started in the defensive secondary during his sophomore and junior campaigns. A student of the game, Van Zile twice earned Patriot League Academic Honor Roll recognition.

A native of Butler, N.J., Van Zile earned a bachelor’s degree in sport management from Towson in 1999.

Van Zile entered college as one of New Jersey’s top athletes. Along with being a team captain and an all-area selection on both offense and defense for Butler High School’s undefeated state champion football team in 1994, he was a state regional champion in both the long jump and javelin.

Tom Battaglia is quickly becoming recognized as one of the leading strength and conditioning coaches in the East.

Battaglia began working as the coordinator of strength and conditioning at Monmouth University in 1998. He has already made quite an impact in West Long Branch. In January 2000, he was tabbed as the Northeast Conference Strength and Conditioning Professional of the Year by the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA).

Battaglia came to Monmouth following a successful stint as strength and conditioning coordinator at Fordham University. In 1998, Battaglia earned Atlantic 10 Conference Strength and Condition Professional of the Year honors by the NSCA.

Battaglia, a native of Jersey City, N.J., began his career as an assistant strength and conditioning coach at his alma mater, Purdue University.

Battaglia is married to the former Teresa Bendix. The have two sons, Thomas and Alec.
Coaching Staff and Administration

PRESIDENT & ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

DR. REBECCA STAFFORD
University President

Dr. Rebecca Stafford became the sixth President of Monmouth University on July 1, 1993. She is the first woman to head the 68-year-old private, comprehensive institution.

Dr. Stafford, a native of Kansas, has a diverse background of over 35 years' experience - including two previous presidencies - in both the public and private sectors of higher education. From 1983 to 1991, she was president of Chatham College, a private institution in Pittsburgh. Before joining Chatham, Dr. Stafford headed Bemidji State University in Minnesota. In the public sector again, she was also executive vice president of Colorado State University.

A 1958 magna cum laude graduate of Radcliffe College, Dr. Stafford earned both Master of Art and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Harvard University. She spent the year prior to joining Monmouth as visiting scholar in Harvard’s department of sociology.

Dr. Stafford began her career at Harvard, lecturing and doing research in sociology and directing special projects in the School of Education and for the university’s Health Services. She left in 1970 to accept a faculty appointment at the University of Nevada in Reno. At Nevada, Dr. Stafford rose to the rank of professor of sociology and department chair and finally, to dean of the College of Arts and Sciences before resigning in 1980 to accept appointment as president of Bemidji State University.

At Bemidji State, and at three other institutions at which she held senior administrative office, Dr. Stafford initiated strategic planning and developed models, which continue in use. Because of this pioneering work, she was chosen by Carnegie Mellon University to teach fiscal planning and management in its College Management Program.

Dr. Stafford also served as consultant to the United States International University on Academic Planning. She is a frequent speaker on education as well as on management-related topics, particularly as they pertain to women. She has also written extensively for scholarly journals.

Dr. Stafford serves as a member of the Five State Regional Board of First Union National Bank and as a trustee of Monmouth Medical Center.


Dr. Stafford is married to Willard Van Hazel, a retired attorney.

DR. MARILYN McNEIL
Athletics Director

Dr. Marilyn McNeil was named the Director of Athletics at Monmouth University on April 15, 1994. The sixth person to hold this position at Monmouth, McNeil is one of just 24 female athletic directors on the NCAA Division I level.

Dr. McNeil, who was honored as the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletic Administrators (NACWAA) District II Administrator of the Year in 1996, is a member of the NCAA Division I Management Council.

Dr. McNeil is active on the national level of intercollegiate athletics. During the 1994-95 session, she served as president of NACWAA. In 2001, she became the Chair of the NCAA Committee on Women’s Athletics and the Management Council Liaison to the National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. In the past, she has served on the Committee on Student-Athlete Welfare, Access and Equity, and on the NCAA Council Committee on Financial Aid and Amateurism.

A native of Canada, Dr. McNeil arrived at Monmouth from California Polytechnic State University. While in San Luis Obispo, she served as associate athletics director and senior woman administrator at Cal Poly from 1987 to 1994. At Cal Poly, she assisted in the administration of 17 sports and in the institution’s transition to Division I athletics and Division I-AA football. Dr. McNeil also coached the Mustangs’ women’s basketball squad from 1979 to 1986.

Dr. McNeil was awarded her Bachelor’s Degree in physical education from the University of Calgary in 1968. She continued her education at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, where she earned a Master’s Degree in physical education in 1974. She completed her formal education in 1993 after receiving a doctoral degree in higher education administration for Washington State University.

As an undergraduate student at Calgary, Dr. McNeil was a member of both the women’s basketball and volleyball teams. She served as head coach of women’s basketball at Calgary from 1975 to 1979 and was honored as the Canadian Coach of the Year in 1979. Before her stint at Calgary, Dr. McNeil served as the volleyball coach at McGill from 1968 to 1971 and as basketball, volleyball, track and curling coach at Vanier College in St. Laurent, Quebec, from 1971 to 1975.

Dr. McNeil resides in West Long Branch with her husband, Henry Byzinski, and their children, Tasha (20) and Derek (16).

MU DIRECTORS OF ATHLETICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marilyn McNeil</td>
<td>1994-present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayne Szoke</td>
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<td>Joe Biedron</td>
<td>1987-90</td>
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<td>Jim Colclough</td>
<td>1982-86</td>
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<td>Godfrey Buzzelli</td>
<td>1980-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Boylan</td>
<td>1956-80</td>
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2001 Monmouth Football
Coaching Staff and Administration

**ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT STAFF**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**JOAN MARTIN**
Senior Associate Athletics Director

**JEFF STAPLETON**
Associate Athletics Director

**KAREN EDSON**
Associate Athletics Director for Business Affairs

**PATTI ADORNA**
Associate Athletics Director for Academic Support

**DAN SULLIVAN**
Associate Athletics Director for Marketing & Promotions

**MARILYN PARKER**
NCAA Faculty Representative

**SUPPORT STAFF**

**THOMAS DICK**
Director of Communications

**CHRIS TOBIN**
Assistant Director of Communications

**GREG DECO**
Equipment Manager

**TINA SEVASTAKIS**
Assistant Director of Academic Support

**MAUREEN WORTH**
Assistant to the Director

**ELAINE ARAUZ**
Department Secretary

**CHARLENE SICILIANO**
Department Secretary

2001 Monmouth Football
Coaching Staff and Administration

SPORTS MEDICINE

FRAN RAGGAZINO, ATC
Coordinator of Sports Medicine

ERIN VICKERS, ATC
Assistant Athletics Trainer

KRISTIN TANGUAY, ATC
Assistant Athletics Trainer

MONMOUTH MEDICAL STAFF

DR. VINCENT DESTASIO
Team Physician

DR. HARRY BADE
Team Physician

DR. BRIAN TORPEY
Team Physician

DR. GREG FOOS
Team Physician

DR. GORDON DONALD
Team Physician

DR. GREG BORDIUK
Team Podiatrist

2001 Monmouth Football
Monmouth University is coming off a 2000 season that may not look very impressive on paper - a 5-6 record and a 4-4 finish in the Northeast Conference. But just the same, those associated with the Hawks’ football program are excited about the 2001 campaign. The reason for the excitement is Monmouth’s strong finish which saw the Hawks win four of their final six contests, including three in impressive fashion. The Hawks were also just four or five plays from another winning season and a possible 6-2 league mark.

Excitement also stems from the fact Monmouth is home to the NCAA I-AA’s top defense. A fact that will keep the Hawks in contention to win every game this season.

Head coach KEVIN CALLAHAN welcomes back 39 letterwinners and 15 starters looking to improve on last year’s results.

Callahan enters season No. 9 as the head man in West Long Branch this fall, and the fans are looking for yet another winning season. Callahan and his staff’s goal is clear for this season: To win the Northeast Conference.

“The season as new offensive coordinator MIKE STOIA will keep the Hawks in contention to win every game this season.

Based on how we finished last season and the solid effort the guys put forth in spring practice and in offseason workouts we should be in contention for the title,” Callahan said. “We are looking forward to reestablishing ourselves in the Atlantic Athletic Conference.

The offense will have some new wrinkles this season as new offensive coordinator GREG BOYCE will have a chance to tinker with the Blue and White attack. Boyce was greeted by a well-stocked cupboard with nine starters returning, including five offensive linemen and a full backfield.

“Offensively, we showed a lot of improvement in spring practices,” Callahan said. “We need to pick up where we left off when we begin preseason workouts in the fall.”

Center MARK DI PISA (6-4, 270, Jr.), guard ERIC BURASZESKI (6-1, 260, Sr.) and tackle MATT HERDMAN (6-2, 260, Sr.) make up a veteran interior line. Quarterback BILL RANKIN (6-1, 200, Sr.), tailback MATT MERKLINGER (6-0, 210, Sr.), fullback JAY WOLFSTIRN (5-11, 215, Jr.) and wideout URIEL RILEY (6-4, 215, Sr.) are returning starters at the skill positions. Guard MIKE STOIA (6-2, 255, So.) and center JON DeANGelo (6-1, 260, Jr.) also started in 2000.

OFFENSIVE LINE

LEFT TACKLE
77 MATT HERDMAN (6-2, 260, SR.)
79 Ed Helfrey (6-4, 320, So.)

LEFT GUARD
70 JEFF GALLO (6-2, 275, SO.)
54 Len Bacon (6-2, 230, So.)

CENTER
60 MIKE DI PISA (6-4, 270, JR.)
63 Jon DeAngelo (6-1, 260, Jr.)

RIGHT GUARD
64 ERIC BURASZESKI (6-1, 260, SR.)
74 Mike Stoia (6-2, 255, So.)

RIGHT TACKLE
57 MIKE VITURELLO (6-4, 300, SO.)
72 Dan Iskra (6-3, 250, RFr.)

The offensive line has bulked up since last year. The projected starting lineup for 2001 averages 273 pounds across the board - a 20-pound per man increase from last year’s starting corps.

Herdmann and Buraszeski are early season candidates for All-NEC honors. Herdmann earned first-team honors in 2000 and Buraszeski came on strong towards the end of the season. Di Pisa started all 11 games last season and will be backed up by DeAngelo who is making the transition from playing guard last season.

MIKE VITURELLO (6-4, 300, So.) and JEFF GALLO (6-2, 275, So.) both saw a lot of action as freshmen and are penciled in to start at right tackle and left guard, respectively.

ED HELFREY (6-4, 320, So.) is Monmouth’s largest player on the line and will join LEN BACON (6-2, 230, So.), DAN ISKRA (6-3, 250, RFr.) and Stoia in pushing the veterans for playing time.

RECEIVERS

UWIDE RECEIVER
84 URIEL RILEY (6-4, 215, SR.)
31 JIRMAK GORON (5-9, 180, SO.)
85 Billy Lynn (5-9, 170, So.)
2 Jay Roach (5-10, 180, Sr.)
4 Raheem Byrom (5-11, 185, Jr.)
86 Dan Unkel (6-0, 185, Jr.)
10 Aleem Barnhardt (5-7, 170, So.)

TIGHT END
94 MATTHEW SOSNOVIK (6-4, 245, So.)
89 Pete Raspetzi (6-3, 240, So.)
88 Chris Damian (6-2, 235, So.)

With the loss of Eji Maxilom, Monmouth will be looking for a go-to receiver with the leading candidates being Riley, JIRMAK GORON (5-9, 180, So.) and BILLY LYNN (5-9, 170, So.).

Riley, the lone returning starter among the receiving corps, ranked third on the squad with 17 receptions last season. His 6-4 frame gives Hawks’ quarterbacks a good target and the former basketball player possesses great athleticism.

Gordon and Lynn emerged as solid passing options as freshmen and give the Hawks’ a formidable receiving duo for the next three seasons. Gordon caught nine passes last year for 146 yards and was spectacular at times. Lynn caught 14 passes for 144 yards and has good hands.

Speedster JAY ROACH (5-10, 180, Sr.), who has played an important role on defense each of the last two seasons, has moved to offense to give the Hawks another deep threat.

RAHEEM BYROM (5-11, 185, Jr.) also possesses great speed. He should contribute on special teams as well as on offense.

The Hawks have three strong candidates looking to replace the departed Bryan Peck at tight end. MATTHEW SOSNOVIK (6-4, 245, So.), PETE RASPETZI (6-3, 240, So.) and CHRIS DAMIAN (6-2, 235, So.) all saw action as freshmen, but combined to catch just four passes. Sosnovik is considered the best receiver among the group.

Raspeti and Damian are more viable options as blockers.
Bill Rankin will look to add stability at a position that saw three starters in the last three seasons.

Walker, who appeared in just four games last season, gave coaches a glimpse of the future as he rushed four 47 yards on just seven carries in Monmouth's victory at St. John's.

DOUG STETZ (6-0, 200, So.) is also moving up the depth chart at tailback and could move into the rotation.

Wolfstirn has played in all 21 games in his first two seasons in West Long Branch and is a triple-threat for the Hawks as a blocker, rusher and receiver.

A pair of returnees will also be vying for time as backup fullback. KENNETH EDMUNDS (5-10, 220, Sr.) played in nine games last season. Edmundson, who is a standout shot putter on the Hawks' track and field team, enters the fall as the No. 2 man.

JEFF SCORAS (6-0, 195, RFr.) impressed coaches in the spring and will push Edmundson for playing time.

Back as the incumbent starter at quarterback is Rankin, who threw for 1,355 yards and nine touchdowns last season. Rankin, who played in all 11 games, including starting the last 10, will look to join the likes of Dan Sabella and John DiPasquale who earned All-Northeast Conference honors as Monmouth quarterbacks in 1997 and 1998.

CHAD SMITH (6-0, 200, Jr.) enters the fall as the No. 2 quarterback. Smith, who led the team in rushing as a freshman in 1999 with 595 yards, ran for 161 yards last season.

Merklinger should prove to be one of the most exciting returnees. The second-team All-Northeast Conference performer had one of Monmouth's best seasons at tailback as he rushed for 913 yards and 12 TDs. Merklinger was the Hawks' top receiver in 2000, hauling in 29 catches for 254 yards and two TDs.

Fullback JAY WOLFSTIRN (5-11, 215, Jr.) will be three-prong threat as a blocker, rusher and receiver.

Merklinger should prove to be one of the most exciting returnees. The second-team All-Northeast Conference performer had one of Monmouth's best seasons at tailback as he rushed for 913 yards and 12 TDs. Merklinger was the Hawks' top receiver in 2000, hauling in 29 catches for 254 yards and two TDs.

Fullback Jay Wolfstirn will be three-prong threat as a blocker, rusher and receiver.

TYQUAN WALKER (5-8, 170, So.) and CHAD SMITH (6-0, 200, Jr.) are highly talented reserves at tailback and there should not be much drop off when they are called on to replace Merklinger. Smith, who led the team in rushing as a freshman in 1999 with 595 yards, ran for 161 yards last season.

Smith has three 100-yard rushing performances in his career and needs just 244 yards to become Monmouth's third player to reach the 1,000-yard career rushing plateau.
Season Outlook

2001 Edition

The decision to move from a 4-3 to a 3-4 defense allowed Monmouth coaches to unleash a monster on the opponents. Rather than sitting behind returning starters John Schultzel, DiBella and Mike Normand, Sentipal was given an opportunity to play and was expected to see plenty of action in the defensive line rotation.

**Linebackers**

**Left Outside Linebacker**
- Hazem Ibrahim (5-10, 225, Jr.)
- Tom Schultzel (6-4, 215, So.)

**Left Inside Linebacker**
- Mike DiBella (6-1, 230, Jr.)
- Sean Hefferson (6-0, 230, So.)

**Right Inside Linebacker**
- Joe Sentipal (5-11, 220, Jr.)
- Colin Sumter (6-2, 220, Jr.)

**Right Outside Linebacker**
- Danny Barker (5-11, 220, So.)
- Fred Williams (6-0, 200, RFr.)

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**Defensive Backfield**

**Left Cornerback**
- Keith Harper (6-1, 170, So.)
- Joe Billups (6-1, 195, So.)

**Free Safety**
- Aaron Edwards (6-1, 210, Sr.)
- Sam Abu-Issa (5-11, 185, RFr.)

**Strong Safety**
- Justin Rosato (6-0, 195, So.)
- Kevin Hutchison (6-4, 210, So.)

**Right Cornerback**
- Michael Pitts (5-11, 190, Jr.)
- Kevin Faulkner (5-8, 175, Jr.)
- Ryan Peterson (6-0, 170, So.)
- Steve Andriola (6-0, 190, Fr.)

**Free Safety**
- Hazem Ibrahim (5-10, 225, Jr.)
- Danny Barker (5-11, 220, So.)

In 2000, Ibrahim played in all 11 games and racked up eight tackles and three sacks. Barker saw action in nine games.

With the exception of Colin Sumter (5-12, 220, Jr.), the prospective backups at linebacker are relatively tested. Tom Schultzel (6-4, 215, So.), Sean Hefferson (6-0, 230, So.) and Fred Williams (6-0, 200, RFr.) are also in competition for playing time.

Although the Hawks led the nation in passing defense, Coach Bobik will be looking to improve on their eight interceptions from last season. The return of Edwards is a good start towards the improvement. Edwards, who needs 60 tackles to become Monmouth's career leader, has five career interceptions, including three in 1999.

Rosato is coming off a successful 2000 campaign in which he was a finalist for NEC Defensive Rookie of the Year honors and will start at strong safety. Rosato was tied for the team lead with two interceptions and tallied 45 tackles on the year.

Pitts is Monmouth's best returning cover man and will put his skills to use as the starting right corner. He ranked fifth on the squad with 52 tackles and added two interceptions and three pass breakups.

Keith Harper (6-1, 170, So.) is ready to assume a starting role at left corner after coming off the bench to played in all 11 games as a freshman. Harper tallied 20 tackles on the year and had one interception.

Sophomores Kevin Hutchison (6-4, 210, So.) and Joe Billups (6-1, 195, So.) both came on strong at the end of last season and will be called on in the nickel and dime defenses. Hutchison played in seven games at safety and is a big hitter off the bench. Billups adds depth as a cover man.

Redshirt freshman Sam Abu-Issa (5-11, 185, RFr.) and junior Kevin Faulkner (5-8, 175, Jr.) could be contending for a starting job in the defensive backfield by the end of the season.

The kicking game is a major question mark job for the Hawks who lost a pair of All-NEC performers in punter Darrell Nick and kicker Chris Mandell.

Ryan Peterson (6-0, 170, So.) was a perfect 3-for-3 on field goal attempts and 2-of-2 on point-after-touchdown attempts in relief of Mandell last season, will assume the placekicking duties. Peterson will also continue to handle the kickoffs. Incoming freshman Steve Andriola (6-0, 190, Fr.) will serve as the backup.

Peterson came out of spring practice with an edge over Nicholl in the competition for the punting job.

Roach was a playmaker on special teams. In addition to his three blocked kicks, Roach averaged 27.5 yards per kickoff return, including an 82-yard TD vs. Jacksonville.

Joe Sentipal pinned his ears back in 2000 and set a Monmouth and NEC record with 15.5 sacks.

Jay Roach gives Monmouth a game breaker on kickoff returns.