

Championship-Winning Coach to Lead Union High Football Program

Grand Rapids Public Schools announced today that championship-winning coach, Don Fellows, will lead the Union High football program.

Fellows comes to Union High School with extensive experience coaching at the high school and collegiate levels, including his most recent position as head coach of Grand Rapids Christian High (GRCH) varsity football where he led the team to a state championship win in 2012 and posted the winningest record of all time at GRCH.

“This is a game-changer for the Union High School football and the district’s varsity football program as a whole,” said Ronald Gorman, Interim Superintendent. “After years of winless seasons, we knew that in order to transform the Union High football program, we needed the best, most talented coach to lead the team — and we believe we have just that with Coach Fellows.”

Coach Fellows, a two-time NAIA All-American quarterback for Huron University, worked as an Assistant Coach for Lapeer West High School, Traverse City West High School, and Muskegon High School. He served as head coach for Mesick High School, Mona Shores High School, and Grand Rapids Christian High School. At the collegiate level, he was offensive coordinator for Los Angeles Valley College, and running back coach, offensive coordinator, recruiting coordinator, and assistant head coach for College of the Canyons. His overall head coaching record is 92-54, including the aforementioned state championship in 2012, ten straight playoff appearances, and four OK Conference Titles during his tenure at Grand Rapids Christian High.

“I want to thank the GRPS administration for the opportunity to lead the Union High School Football program,” said Coach Don Fellows. “My staff and I are excited to work with the players and community to build an elite program in West Michigan.”

The hiring of Coach Fellows comes on the heels of several consecutive, no-win seasons for the Union High varsity football team and is part of a broader effort by the district to strengthen and restore the varsity football programs.

“We have remarkably talented athletes with the heart, passion, and drive to win football games,” said Kurt Johnson, Executive Director of Athletics. “Now, we have a coach with a proven track record of not just winning games and developing student-athletes, but also rallying students, parents, and the community to support our team.”

Coach Fellows officially accepted the head coach position in mid-March, just before the Executive Order went into effect closing schools. The district and Coach Fellows both agreed that the focus needed to be on the development and launch of the Continuity of Learning Plan and waited until now to make the formal announcement.

“Union High School has a dynamic team of teachers, leaders, and support staff who have significantly improved academic achievement and increased graduation rates by more than 50% over the last few years,” said Aaron Roussey, Principal of Union High School. “We welcome Coach Fellows to the Redhawk family and look forward to him being part of the Union High success story working with students on and off the field.”

The following is “The Don Fellows File”:

Born: Pontiac, MI (May 7th, 1975)
 Hometown: Waterford, MI
 High School: Waterford Kettering ('93)
 College: Huron University, SD ('97) BS, History Education
 Wife: Patti Fellows
 Children (2): Jolie, Grayson

Career Resume

YEARS	TEAM	POSITION
1993-1996	Huron University	Quarterback
1997	Bern Grizzlies	Quarterback, Assistant Coach
1997	Lapeer West High School	Assistant Coach
1998	Traverse City West High School	Assistant Coach
1999	Mesick High School	Head Football Coach
2000	Muskegon High School	Assistant Coach
2001-2003	Mona Shores High School	Head Football Coach
2004	Los Angeles Valley College	Offensive Coordinator
2005	College of the Canyons	Running Backs Coach
2006	College of the Canyons	Offensive Coordinator and Recruiting Coordinator
2007-2009	College of the Canyons	Assistant Head Coach/Offensive & Recruiting Coordinator
2010-2019	Grand Rapids Christian High School	Head Football Coach

Career Breakdown

Head Coach Record 92-54
 Overall Coaching Record 162-81

Career Highlights

- 80-30 at GRC- most wins all-time (80) & best winning % all-time (73%)
- 2012 State Championship at GRC
- 10 Straight Playoff appearances at GRC (most in school history)
- 4 OK Conferences Titles at GRC (most in school History)
- Academic Team All State 9 Times at GRC
- Coached 28 All-State H.S. Football Players
- 2005 & 2008 #1 Ranked Jr. College Team in the Country
- 2008 Led Cal JC in Scoring per game (45.9) Total Offense per game (499.9)
- 2007 Led Cal JC in country in Scoring per game (45.1) Total Offense per game (471.1)

- 2005, 2007 & 2008 Bowl Wins
- Coached 10 1st Team All Americans in Junior College
- Coached 4 Time Offensive MVP in Junior College ('05, '06, '07 & '08)

Playing Highlights

- Huron University
 - 2 Time NAIA All-American Quarterback 1994 & 1995
 - 12,451 Career Total Passing Yards
 - 118 TD Career Passing TD's
 - 636 Yards Passing in 1 game – NAIA National Record 1995
 - 57.1 Pass Attempts per game- NAIA National Record 1995
 - Led NAIA in Total Passing-1994 (3942yds in 10 games) & 1995 (4050yds in 10 games)

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