

ASSISTANT COACHES



WHITNEY BELL
DEFENSIVE LINE
(Ferris State, 2005)

Former FSU stand-out and current arena football player Whitney Bell returns to Ferris State and will coach the defensive line this season.

A Sault Ste. Marie native, Bell wrapped up his FSU career in 2004.

In 2008, Bell played fullback for the Arena Football League's Grand Rapids Rampage after being signed off the Chicago Rush practice squad. He ran for

two touchdowns in five games and also had 5.5 tackles as Grand Rapids reached the AFL Playoff Semifinals.

Bell previously spent two seasons (2005-06) with the arenafootball2's Green Bay Blizzard, totalling 13.5 tackles, 3.5 sacks and one fumble recovery in 15 games. He attended training camp with the Canadian Football League's British Columbia Lions in 2007 and was a member of the club's practice squad in 2006.

Bell was twice (2003-04) recognized as a first-team All-GLIAC performer and was named to the Football Gazette's All-Northwest Region Second Team for the second straight year as a senior at Ferris. In 2003, Bell achieved *Football Gazette* All-America Second-Team kudos. A 2004 *Don Hansen's Football Gazette* All-America Third Team and 2004

honorable mention All-America pick by *D2Football.com*, Bell led the Bulldogs with 14.5 tackles for minus 69 yards which included a team-best 7.5 pass sacks for a loss of 54 yards in his final campaign. He compiled a team fourth-place 60 total stops (35 solos) as an 11-game starter in 2004. Bell racked up 225 career total tackles (133 solos) in 42 appearances, which consisted of 41.5 tackles for minus 180 yards. The lineman also notched 16.0 sacks for 99 yards to rank 14th among Ferris State's all-time sack leaders.

Bell was an all-state pick in football as a senior at Sault Area (Mich.) High School, and a two-time all-Big North Conference selection. He also participated in hockey and basketball in high school.



CHRIS REESE
DEFENSIVE BACKS/
VIDEO COORDINATOR
(Western State,
2005)

Chris Reese returns for his third year with the Bulldog staff and was recently promoted to defensive backs coach for the 2008 campaign.

Reese spent the past two seasons (2006 & 2007) as a defensive assistant coach at Ferris and worked primarily with the safeties while also assuming various scouting and video-related duties.

In 2007, he helped

tutor All-GLIAC Second Team cornerback Terrell Heggins after working with a first-team all-league defensive back in Jim Skodak during the 2006 campaign.

Prior to Ferris State, Reese played collegiate football under head coach Jeff Zenisek at Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) member Western State from 1999 to 2004 in Grand Junction, Colo.

In 2003, Reese placed third among the team's leading tacklers with 64 stops, including 39 solo hits as a defensive back. He also had a pair of interceptions and five pass breakups as the Mountaineers posted a 4-4 mark in RMAC play. Reese saw action in 11 games as a junior and played in eight contests his final season.

Reese graduated from Western State in 2005.



PHIL FORTIER
Volunteer
Assistant Coach



BOB MAYNARD
Volunteer
Assistant Coach



ALLEN CURTISS
SPECIAL TEAMS/RB
(Western Michigan,
1982)

Allen Curtiss starts his first season at Ferris State in 2008 and will serve as the special teams coordinator & running backs coach.

Curtiss previously spent the last 20 years at Bluffton (Ohio) University where he was the linebackers coach and recruiter for the Beavers.

For four out of the last eight years, he

guided the Bluffton defense to a No. 2 ranking in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference in both pass defense and total defense.

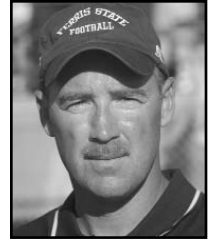
In 2000, Curtiss led the Bluffton defensive unit to three shutout victories on their way to an HCAC co-championship. It marked just the fifth time in Bluffton history that the defense had totaled three shutouts in the same season. After coaching the defensive line from 1988 through 1999, Curtiss took over the linebacking corps in the 2000 season and produced a first-team All-HCAC linebacker the last eight seasons.

Curtiss and his wife, Phyllis, have both a son, Eric, and daughter, Carrie.

He graduated from Western Michigan in 1982.



MIKE WISSINK
Team Building
Coordinator/Chaplain



MAX HUNTOON
Volunteer
Assistant Coach



RICK WILLIAMS
KICKERS/PUNTERS
(Michigan St., 1977)

Entering his 16th year as Ferris State's placekicking and punting coach is Rick Williams, who assumed his current duties in August 1992.

In his tenure, Williams has tutored two All-Americans along with several all-conference performers. Most recently, he played an instrumental role in orchestrating the development of two-time (1998-99) All-

America and All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference kicker-punter Doc Proctor. Williams also holds the distinction of helping former FSU standout kicker Jason Lipke achieve All-America and all-conference first-team status in 1995. Williams also coached first-team all-league punter Eric Stevens during the 1995 season.

A Class A-I golf pro, Williams has also assisted the program with various equipment-related duties. The Alma, Mich., native graduated from Greenville (Mich.) High School where he served as team captain in both football and basketball while achieving Most Valuable Player accolades in track and field.

Rick and his wife, Jan, have two children – a son (Rick) and a daughter (Shawn), who's married to former FSU assistant coach Ken Conlin.



DR. MELISSA DENIEL
Team Physician

