



# MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY SPORTS INFORMATION

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## GRIFFON FOOTBALL INKS 19 ON SIGNING DAY

*Western stays in-state with recruiting class*

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. - Missouri Western State University head football coach Jerry Partridge has announced the signing of 19 football student-athletes to the 2009 National Letter of Intent.

The Missouri Western Griffons had yet another successful football season in 2008 as they finished the season winning four of their last five games which allowed them to finish with a 6-6 overall record and 5-4 in the MIAA. Western played in a post season game for the sixth consecutive season as they participated in the 2008 Mineral Water Bowl against the Augustana College (S.D.) Vikings held in Excelsior Springs, Mo.

Highlighting those who signed with the Griffons in hopes of continuing the winning tradition is one St. Joseph native and a two Savannah players who helped their high school teams succeed in 2008.

Central High School standout kicker Austin Barnes leads the way with Savannah natives Travis Partridge and Josh Ferge also signing to play at Western next fall.

Western recruited the state of Missouri very well as 16 of their signees will continue playing football in their home state for the next few seasons. Of the three other signees, two are from Kansas and one is from California.

The 2009 Missouri Western football schedule will be released at a later date.

### 2009 Missouri Western football signees

#### Nick Anderson

6-1, 190, Quarterback

(Excelsior Springs, Missouri / Excelsior Springs High School)

"Anderson is a multiple threat athlete with great feat. He is another kid who could play a lot of other positions. He also has an outstanding work ethic in the class room," stated Partridge."

#### Austin Barnes

6-3, 185, Punter/Kicker

(St. Joseph, Missouri / Central High School)

"Barnes has a free swinging strong leg and will be the front runner to replace Jamie Hanson at the punter position in the fall. He will also battle for the place kicker position," commented Partridge.

Three time All-City...three time All-Conference...two time All-District...two time News-Press All-Area...First Team All-State kicker...connected on 19 of 25 field goal attempts in his career...had a career average of 38 yards per punt...majoring in education at Western.

#### Austin Baska

6-3, 240, Defensive Line

(Parkville, Missouri / Park Hill High School)

"Baska is a very talented athlete who will help us on the defensive line in the future," commented Partridge.

#### Jared Cahill

6-4, 250, Offensive Line

(Union, Missouri / Union High School)

"Jared has a very good upside as he was one of the better offensive linemen that we watched on film during the recruiting process," stated Partridge.

#### Tyler Engelhart

6-2, 190, Wide Receiver

(Warrensburg, Missouri / Warrensburg High School)

"Tyler is a big target who catches the ball very well," stated Partridge.

Two-time First-Team All-Conference...First Team All-District...Second Team All-District...AP All-State performer...Second Team AP All-State...KMZU Dream Team...member of the National Honor Society...

#### Leslee Eubank

6-1, 210, Defensive End

(Orrick, Missouri / Orrick High School)

"Eubank is a high energy, physical play maker. He will be a player to watch in the future," commented Partridge.

#### Josh Ferge

6-3, 250, Offensive Line

(Savannah, Missouri / Savannah High School)

"Ferge's high school coach Mike Cole said that Josh was the best offensive lineman he has ever coached," commented Partridge.

Three time Second Team All-Conference offensive line...First Team All-Conference offensive line...majoring in pre-med.

#### Oliver Johnson

6-0, 180, Defensive Back

(Woodland Hills, California / Taft High School)

"Oliver is a tall kid that can cover a lot of ground quickly. He is a very physical player which we need to compete in the MIAA," said Partridge.

#### Reggie Jordan

6-3, 220, Tight End

(Hazelwood, Missouri / Hazelwood Central High School)

"Reggie is a very athletically skilled receiver who helped his high school team win the 6A State Championship this past season," said Partridge.

#### Kevin Jursek

6-4, 215, Defensive End

(Columbia, Missouri / Rock Bridge High School)

"Jursek is one of the best football players in this class," commented Partridge. "He tested very well on his visit and plays with a ton of energy."

#### Dalton Krysa

6-1, 195, Running Back

(Independence, Missouri / Fort Osage High School)

"Krysa rushed for over 6,000 yards during his high school career. "He is a very talented kid who is a winner," stated Partridge.

Was a three time First-Team All-State performer...three time First Team All-Conference...three time First Team All-Area...two time First Team All-Metro...two time Simone Award Finalist...was in Sports Illustrated Faces in the Crowd in 2006...rushed for 6,349 yards in his career...81 career touchdowns...34 receptions for 312 yards...23 kickoff returns for 597 yards and one touchdown...averaged 6.71 yards per carry...member of the National Honor Society...undecided on a major at Western.

#### Jace Lopez

6-3, 245, Defensive Line

(Lee's Summit, Missouri / Lee's Summit West High School)

"Lopez played on a very good high school team. He is a physical football player with very long arms," commented Partridge. Three year letter winner in football...Honorable Mention All-Conference...team won State in 2007.

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## **Jonathan Mitchell**

6-6, 240, Defensive Line

(Union, Missouri / Union High School)

"Jonathan has great lateral quickness for his size. He has a great frame that could help him put on weight at Western" stated Partridge.

## **Andrew Molloy**

5-11, 190, Quarterback

(Carrolton, Missouri / Carrolton High School)

"Andrew is a very athletic kid who could play multiple positions for Western," Partridge stated.

## **Travis Partridge**

6-4, 215, Quarterback

(St. Joseph, Missouri / Savannah High School)

"Travis runs well and brings good size to the quarterback position," stated Partridge.

Second Team All-Conference quarterback...First Team All-District quarterback...Second Team All-Conference punter...captain...majoring in physical education.

## **Jermaine Rollins**

6-3, 245, Defensive End

(Shawnee, Kansas / Shawnee Mission Northwest High School)

"Rollins has a great frame and tested well on his visit. "He will be another kid who will have a big impact later in his career," Partridge commented.

Second Team Sunflower Conference...undecided on a major.

## **Andrew Treat**

6-3, 210, Wide Receiver

(Gower, Missouri / East Buchanan High School)

"Treat has good strong hands. He played at the same high school as Andrew Mead," commented Partridge.

## **Javis Vineyard**

5-10, 175, Running Back

(Kahoka, Missouri / Clark County High School)

"Vineyard helped his high school to the 2A State Championship as they defeated Maryville," stated Partridge. "He tested very well as he ran a 10.9/100 yard and 22.4/200 yard dash. Is a talented athlete with great feet."

Four year letter-winner in football...2nd Team All-State..All-State All-Purpose Back...All-District..All-Conferene...plans on majoring in business.

## **Transfers**

### **Sean Glades**

6-3, 250, Defensive Line

(Galena, Kansas/ Fort Scott Community College)

"Sean has a great motor and tackles very well for a defensive lineman," commented Partridge. "He has passed up some Division IAA schools to play with his brother Matt here at Western."

Was a solid performer on the defensive line in junior college...majoring in criminal justice at Western.