



## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND – COLLEGES KEEP ADDING FOOTBALL

College football has seen historic levels of growth. A dozen schools will be either adding a varsity team, reviving a dormant varsity program, or upgrading a team to varsity level within the next three seasons. This comes on the heels of nearly 50 colleges and universities instituting or re-instituting football programs over the last 10 years.

**The latest school to join this list is the Duluth-based COLLEGE OF ST. SCHOLASTICA**, which, beginning in 2008, will field a varsity football team for the first time in its history (NCAA Division III).

A task force formed by the 94-year-old college conducted a year-long examination to study the efficacy of starting football before its affirmative recommendation. According to the school newspaper, *The Cable*, approximately two-thirds of St. Scholastica's 1,985 students favored adding football.

"We do expect that having football will open the door to hundreds of high school graduates that might not have otherwise considered us," says St. Scholastica's Executive Director of Communications, **BOB ASHENMACHER**.

**Six colleges will begin varsity competition when the 2007 season kicks off.** Alabama's **FAULKNER UNIVERSITY** and Indiana's **MARIAN COLLEGE** will add football programs for the first time, both competing at the NAIA level. Three others institutions will revive dormant programs – North Carolina's **UNC-PEMBROKE** (last season in 1951) returns as a NCAA Division II competitor, while Alabama's **BIRMINGHAM SOUTHERN** (last season in 1939), and Pennsylvania's **SAINT VINCENT** (the summer training camp base of the Pittsburgh Steelers, who's last season was in 1961) will join the NCAA's Division III ranks.

Also, Washington D.C. school for the deaf **GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY**, which has fielded a club team for the past 12 years, will compete once again at the NCAA D-III level.

Other schools with football programs in the works include **CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY** of North Carolina (NCAA DI-FCS in 2008), and **OLD DOMINION** (DI-FCS in 2009) – who will take the field for the first time since 1940. Meanwhile, **GEORGIA STATE** has hired former NFL head coach **DAN REEVES** to head its study on adding the sport.

Following is a list of colleges that have initiated/will initiate football programs since 2000:

<u>COLLEGE</u>	<u>START DATE/LEVEL</u>	<u>COLLEGE</u>	<u>START DATE/LEVEL</u>
Shenandoah (VA)	2000-NCAA, Div. III	<b>UNC-Pembroke (NC)</b>	<b>2007-NCAA, Div. II</b>
Paul Quinn College	2000-NAIA	<b>Birmingham Southern (AL)</b>	<b>2007-NCAA, Div. III</b>
Southern Nazarene	2000-NAIA	<b>Gallaudet (D.C)</b>	<b>2007-NCAA, Div. III</b>
Florida Atlantic	2001-NCAA, Div. I-AA	<b>Saint Vincent (PA)</b>	<b>2007-NCAA, Div. III</b>
Christopher Newport (VA)	2001-NCAA, Div. III	<b>Faulkner (AL)</b>	<b>2007-NAIA</b>
Southern Maine	2002-NCAA, Div. III	<b>Marian (IN)</b>	<b>2007-NAIA</b>
Florida International	2002-NCAA, Div. I-AA	<b>Campbell (NC)</b>	<b>2008-NCAA, Div. I-FCS*</b>
Coastal Carolina	2003-NCAA, Div. I-AA	<b>Dordt (IA)</b>	<b>2008-NAIA</b>
Southeastern Louisiana	2003-NCAA, Div. I-AA	<b>Kentucky Christian (KY)</b>	<b>2008-Independent</b>
St. Paul's College (VA)	2003-NCAA, Div. III	<b>College of St. Scholastica (MN)</b>	<b>2008-NCAA, Div. III</b>
Huntingdon	2003-NCAA, Div. III	<b>Old Dominion (VA)</b>	<b>2009-NCAA, Div. I-FCS*</b>
Southern Virginia	2003-NAIA	<b>Lincoln (PA)</b>	<b>2009-NCAA, Div. II</b>
Webber International	2003-NCAA, Div. III	<b>University of the Incarnate Word (TX)</b>	<b>2009-NCAA, Div. II</b>
North Carolina Wesleyan	2004-NCAA, Div. III		
Ohio Dominican	2004-NAIA		
Seton Hill (PA)	2005-NAIA		
Maritime (NY)	2005-NCAA, Div. III		
Brevard	2006-NCAA, Div. II		
Dixie State (UT)	2006-NCAA, Div. II		
LaGrange	2006-NCAA, Div. III		

\* Formerly NCAA Division I-AA