



CFL Ottawa Alumni Newsletter

January 1, 2018

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MONTHLY HUDDLE MEETING

Date: Tuesday January 2, 2018

Time: 11:30am - 1:00pm

Business 12:00pm sharp

1400 Clyde Avenue
(Bleeker Mall), Clyde & Merivale
Rd.)

Nepean Ontario K2G 3J2 |
613.224.3873



PLAYER PROFILE
GERRY ORGAN
OTTAWA ROUGH
RIDERS
(1971-1983)



CFL EAST ALL
STAR 1982
THE ONLY KICKER
TO BE AWARDED
OUTSTANDING
CANADIAN 1973
GREY CUPS 1973,
1976
OTTAWA ROUGH
RIDER RECORD
FOR CAREER
POINTS 1,462



Gerry has long combined his involvement in the game of football with his Christian faith and the business community all to the betterment of those he has come in touch with. During his 12 outstanding playing years with the Ottawa Rough Riders Gerry became involved with Athlete's in Action and was instrumental in the creation of the Athletes in Action High School All Star game that has now been running for 43 years here in the Ottawa region. His early involvement in business was as a co-founder of the hugely successful Ottawa Athletic Club.

Next he launched Christian Family Ministries, became a Family Therapist in Guelph Ontario, joined Focus on the Family and served as the Associate Pastor at the Peoples Church on Sheppard Avenue in Toronto. Gerry Served for 10 years as the Executive Director of Christian Business Ministries Canada and had also found the time to publish the very visual and user friendly book "One Goal: A Prayer and Praise Journal" that is filled with quotes, insights, prayers and comments.

Today Gerry continues to proclaim the Christian Faith in both sports and business through his involvement with One Way Ministries.

<http://www.loveottawa.ca/gerry-organ-leads-yeild-ottawa-with-one-way-ministries/>

<http://www.thecodeottawa.ca/>



Crafting The Code

Elizabeth Mabie



Up to 90 percent of homeless and runaway children come from fatherless homes, according to the US Department of Health and Human Services. Numerous studies demonstrate the challenges that father-absent children face. These problems disproportionately affect ethnic communities.

Inspired by local pastor Joseph Kiirya, Love Ottawa is launching The Code, a mentoring ministry for young men. When Kiirya joined the Love Ottawa team, three years ago, he raised two concerns that were burning on his heart: the condition of Ottawa's immigrant community and the plight of single mothers.

"Basically, he hit us right between the eyes, very boldly," says Gerry Organ, a life coach and member of Love Ottawa's executive team. "We were so surprised because that wasn't exactly what we were expecting, nor was it what we had been focusing on."

Kiirya, who immigrated to Canada from Uganda, has been working with Ottawa's immigrant community since 2006, after learning that black men make up almost 10 percent of Canada's prison population.

"The Code is basically the bringing together of all other men, ministries, and people who are involved in mentoring young men."

"Many of them are young people, so, as an immigrant pastor, I felt a special responsibility to do something," Kiirya explains. "With the black community, we only have so much of a future when many of our young people, the leaders of tomorrow, end up in jail."

Not long after Kiirya raised the issue, he brought a small group of single mothers to a Love Ottawa meeting. As they shared their stories, a few shared that their sons who were shot and killed in various circumstances. One mother remarked that she has four young sons with no father figure in their lives. Her oldest, she said, wanted to play football, but she was unable to help him in this time consuming and expensive pursuit.

"As a former football player, I couldn't let that go," says Organ, a former Grey Cup champion who played for the Ottawa Rough Riders.

Organ connected with the young man, Paul, and for the past year and a half has been acting as his life and football coach. Kiirya says the mentorship's positive effects on Paul are evident.

It was this initial connection that sparked work on The Code. The word "code" is an acronym for coaching, optimizing, discipling, and empowering.

"The Code is basically the bringing together of all other men, ministries, and people who are involved in mentoring young men, particularly young black men. I'm coaching these ministries and helping them become what God wants them to be," Kiirya explains.

"You can make a difference by being like a good coach who speaks truth graciously and takes advantage of teachable opportunities."

Through The Code, Kiirya and Love Ottawa hope to erode some of the effects of fatherlessness in Ottawa. They recently connected with Ian Nairn to discuss ways to build the mentorship program, which is still in the early phases. Nairn serves as the National Missions Manager for the men's ministry Promise Keepers Canada. He has decades of experience mentoring young men.



OUR CORE VALUES

Possess passion for the CODE / Persistence in pursuit of the GOAL / The Value of Sons / Clarity is critical / A collaborative and cooperative Spirit / God honouring character and behaviour / Relaxed, healthy relationships with the Team

Nairn says father-absent youth often feel a loss of value and struggle with resentment. Some kids turn to gangs and drugs to find a place to belong. Many also wrestle with suicidal thoughts.

In fact, according to the US Department of Health and Human Services, 63 percent of youth suicides in the States come from fatherless homes. Yet Nairn says godly men can break this cycle by investing in young people as mentors and father figures.

“You can make a difference by being like a good coach who speaks truth graciously and takes advantage of teachable opportunities. You can make a difference by affirming, encouraging, and blessing their God given gifts and abilities,” he explains.

Nairn has witnessed mentorships build young people’s self-confidence, help them build healthy relationships, teach them to take responsibility, and point them to Jesus.

Just beginning

The Code is still in the experimental stages. They currently work with only two mentors, but they plan to expand gradually in 2017.

“We want to grow slowly because of all the pitfalls and potential conflicts that come out of these relationships,” explains Organ. “We have to do this carefully to make sure that everything from liability to the law is taken into consideration.”

Mentors go through extensive training that takes between three and 12 months. It is a significant time commitment and serious responsibility, but the rewards are evident in the lives changed.



Do right. Do your best. Treat others as you want to be treated.

Lou Holtz



The quest to return the Grey Cup back to RNation will begin on Thursday, June 21 when the REDBLACKS host the Saskatchewan Roughriders at TD Place to kick off their 2018 CFL campaign.

Ottawa's regular season opener falls in Week 2, with the REDBLACKS' first bye week coming in the opening week of the CFL calendar.

In all, the REDBLACKS will play five of their nine home contests under the lights at TD Place on Friday Night Football including their regular season finale on November 2 against the reigning Grey Cup Champions, Toronto Argonauts. "It's always exciting to find out who you are playing and when, so this is like an early Christmas present," said Jeff Hunt, President, OSEG Sports. "Releasing the schedule now is also great news for fans thinking about season tickets as a Christmas present. We can't wait to see RNation out in full force on June 21."

Ottawa will face West Division opposition in four of the first five weeks of the season visiting Calgary (Week 3 – June 28), before hosting the Stamps (Week 5 – July 12) and Lions (Week 6 – July 20). Ottawa will face that Als three times – twice in Ottawa – including a Friday night tilt on August 31 to open Labour Day weekend. The REDBLACKS will visit Hamilton in two of the three meetings this season.

The REDBLACKS' lone afternoon game at TD Place this season will come on Saturday, September 22 when they host the Edmonton Eskimos at 4 p.m. All other Ottawa home games will kickoff at 7:30 p.m. with exception to their Saturday night contest with the Alouettes on August 11 that goes at 8 p.m.

With their first bye week coming in Week 1, the REDBLACKS will have breaks again in Week 11 and Week 16 with home games following all three of their bye weeks.

Pre-season play will open Thursday, May 31 for the REDBLACKS when they host the Alouettes at TD Place before visiting the Toronto Argonauts the following week.

The East Division Semi-Final is set for November 11, with the East Final going November 18. The 106th Grey Cup will be held in Edmonton on November 25.

[Click here](#) for the complete 2018 Ottawa REDBLACKS schedule.

Season tickets for the 2018 season are on-sale now by calling 613.232.6767 x1 or in person at the Box Office at TD Place.

www.redblacks.com





2018 HOME GAMES

PRE-SEASON
THURS MAY 31

VS  7:30 PM

FRI AUG 31

VS  7:30 PM

THURS JUN 21

VS  7:30 PM

SAT SEP 22

VS  4:00 PM

THURS JUL 12

VS  7:30 PM

FRI OCT 5

VS  7:30 PM

FRI JUL 20

VS  7:30 PM

FRI OCT 19

VS  7:00 PM

SAT AUG 11

VS  8:00 PM

FRI NOV 2

VS  7:30 PM

OTTAWAREDBLACKS.COM

Pre- Season WEEK 2

THU MAY 31
7:30 PM EST



MTL

@

OTT



WEEK 2

THU JUN 21
7:30 PM EST



SSK

@

OTT



WEEK 3

THU JUN 28
9:00 PM EST



OTT

@

CGY



WEEK 4

FRI JUL 6
7:30 PM EST



OTT

@

MTL



WEEK 5

THU JUL 12
7:30 PM EST



CGY

@

OTT



WEEK 6

FRI JUL 20
7:30 PM EST



BC

@

OTT



WEEK 7

SAT JUL 28
4:00 PM EST



OTT

@

HAM



WEEK 8

THU AUG 2
7:00 PM EST



OTT

@

TOR



WEEK 9

SAT AUG 11
8:00 PM EST



MTL

@

OTT



WEEK 10

FRI AUG 17
8:30 PM EST



OTT

@

WPG



WEEK 12

FRI AUG 31
7:30 PM EST



MTL

@

OTT



WEEK 13

FRI SEPT 7
10:00 PM EST



OTT

@

BC



WEEK 14

SAT SEPT 15
9:30 PM EST



OTT

@

SSK



WEEK 15

SAT SEPT 22
4:00 PM EST



EDM

@

OTT



WEEK 17

FRI OCT 5
7:30 PM EST



WPG

@

OTT



WEEK 18

SAT OCT 13
5:00 PM EST



OTT

@

EDM



WEEK 19

FRI OCT 19
7:00 PM EST



HAM

@

OTT



WEEK 20

SAT OCT 27
4:00 PM EST



OTT

@

HAM



WEEK 21

FRI NOV 2
7:30 PM EST



TOR

@

OTT

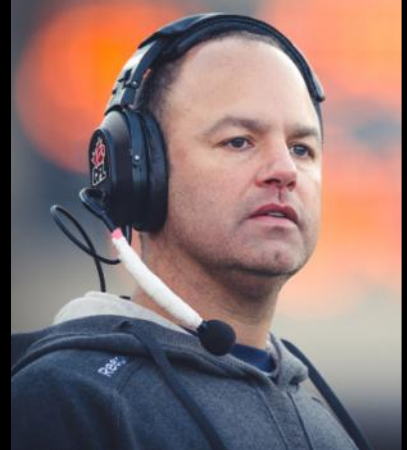


ALOUETTES DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR NOEL THORPE JOINS THE REDBLACKS

Noel Thorpe, the Alouettes' former defensive coordinator, will be coaching again next season in the CFL. The Ottawa Redblacks announced the hiring of Thorpe on Monday as their DC. He replaces Mark Nelson, who remains with the team as their linebackers coach.

Thorpe along with Montreal head coach Jacques Chapdelaine were fired in September with the team at 3-8. Montreal lost its final seven games under general manager Kavis Reed, missing the playoffs a third straight season.

"We are thrilled to add Noel to our coaching staff," Ottawa head coach Rick Campbell said in a release. "He has a proven track record of building first-rate defences in the CFL. We're always looking to add first-rate coaches and players to strengthen our team, and Noel fits the bill."



Thorpe will be reunited with Campbell, with whom he worked at Edmonton, along with GM Marcel Desjardins, the Als' former assistant GM under Jim Popp.

This is a first-class organization with great leadership and a commitment to excellence," Thorpe said in a release.

REDBLACKS HIRE WINSTON OCTOBER AS RECEIVERS COACH

The Ottawa REDBLACKS have hired Winston October as the team's new receivers coach, the club announced on Monday.

"Winston is an experienced player and coach and we're happy he chose to join the REDBLACKS," said REDBLACKS GM Marcel Desjardins.

October, who as a player suited up for the Montreal Alouettes, Edmonton Eskimos and in the NFL with Washington, comes to Ottawa after coaching the receivers at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.

"The REDBLACKS did a great job explaining the positives of coming to Ottawa and the talent we have here. It really made it a no-brainer for me to come in and do my part to bring another Grey Cup to the city. I'm really excited to get started," said Coach October.

October signed with the Montreal Alouettes in 1999 after a collegiate career with the University of Richmond. He joined the Eskimos in 2001 and played with the club until 2004, winning a Grey Cup in 2003.

Following his playing career, October coached the secondary at the Virginia Military Institute before spending five years as receivers coach there. He moved to the College of William and Mary in 2014.





Scout Miles Gorrell leaving the Redblacks

Post Media News December 7, 2017



Miles Gorrell was hired as a Redblacks scout in March 2013, making him one of the team's first football-operations staffers. Jean Levac/Postmedia

One of the very first football-operations staffers with the Ottawa Redblacks is leaving the organization. Miles Gorrell, a scout hired by the Redblacks in March 2013, is departing "to pursue other opportunities," the Canadian Football League club announced Thursday.

Gorrell previously served as a scout for the CFL's Toronto Argonauts. A former University of Ottawa Gee-Gees offensive lineman, he played 19 CFL seasons with the Calgary Stampeders, Ottawa Rough Riders, Montreal Alouettes, Hamilton Tiger-Cats and Winnipeg Blue Bombers. He was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 2013.

Gorrell's departure follows the Redblacks' announcement that the contracts of assistant coaches Derek Oswalt, Ike Charlton, Travis Moore and Bryan Chiu would not be renewed and the hiring of Noel Thorpe as defensive co-ordinator.

FORMER RIDERS COACH SET TO TAKE OVER AT U of T

Posted on December 24, 2017 by [Justin Dunk](#)



Greg Marshall is about to be named head coach of the University of Toronto football team, per sources.

The 61-year-old has spent the last four years at Queen's as the Gaels defensive coordinator and he has pro coaching experience with Saskatchewan, Edmonton, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Hamilton. In 2011, Marshall was named the head coach of the Roughriders, but was fired after starting the season 1-7. He won a Grey Cup as a coach with Edmonton in 2003.



The Oregon State product was a defensive lineman and Philadelphia drafted him in the seventh round in the 1978 NFL draft, he played two games for the Baltimore Colts that year. Marshall signed with the Ottawa Rough Riders in 1980 and spent nine seasons there producing 71 careers sacks and winning the CFL's Most Outstanding Defensive Player award in 1983 which earned him a \$2,000 [Canada Savings Bond](#). He was a two-time CFL all-star too.

Marshall brings a pro pedigree to Toronto which is a program in need of a turnaround after going 17-39 over the last seven seasons. U of T hasn't made the playoffs since 1995 and their last Yates and Vanier Cup championships came in 1993.

**"COMING TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING.
KEEPING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS.
WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS."
-- HENRY FORD**





3 Ways to Reduce Stress and Feel Happier on Your Weekend

By Daniel Palmer on December 10, 2017

By the time the weekend hits, all you want to do is grab a few beers, throw on a hoodie, and watch sports. Next Saturday, when you grab your hoodie, instead of grabbing the beers, think about these 3 great ways to reduce stress and feel happier this weekend:

Spend half of a day without looking at your phone –We know, we’re insane. But breaking your digital habit is possible, especially if you leave your screen at home for a few hours. Don’t be a slave to your device, take some time to chill out with family and friends.

Do something that makes you laugh –When was the last time you checked out a comedy show? How about a movie night with your other half or some buddies? Laughing can help strengthen your immune system, which helps you fight off colds and sickness, and lowers activity in the “stress” areas of the brain. This is the easiest health tip you’ll ever get, so take advantage!

Leave your work at the office –Easier said than done, right? But if you don’t make time to relax, you’ll burn out. Health Canada recommends a maximum of 40-48 hours of work a week, but the higher end is red-lining it and shouldn’t be consistent. That means you need AT LEAST a whole day, ideally two, where your brain volume is turned way down.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CFL OTTAWA ALUMNI MEMBER? WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP

- * EXCLUSIVE ANNUAL REDBLACKS LUNCHEON in March - Coaches & MGT Update CFLOAA members about the team, drafts & the season ahead.
- * HALF PRICE on REDBLACKS SEASON TICKETS! | 40% OFF REDBLACKS SWAG!
- * FIELD LOUNGE ACCESS before REDBLACKS games; food, friends & fun!
- * 40% OFF ADDIDAS APPAREL AT ADDIDAS OULET STORES ACROSS CANADA.
- * MEMBERSHIP IN THE CFL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.
- * ANNUAL ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMNENT - Great prizes and reduced green fees.
- * MONTHLY NEWSLETTER talking everything football, alumni, CFL, CFLAA and local football!
- * Monthly 'Huddle' Meetings - get together for lunch with former teammates and talk football!
- * ACCESS TO CFLAA EMERGENCY & SUPPORT FUNDS.
- * Access to the Canadian Sports Concussion research project | neuro cognitive Evaluation.

**BEING A PART OF A LEGACY ~ MEN THAT ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT THE GAME ,
FAMILY AND FRIENDS..PRICELESS.**



OTTAWA ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Please note that your privacy is important to us and your information will be kept in the strictest of confidence. Contact information will be only used for internal distribution in order to keep you informed of alumni events and offerings.

Name _____ Partner / Spouse _____

Years with the Ottawa Rough Riders _____

The Ottawa Renegades _____

The Ottawa Redblacks _____

ANY CFL TEAM Name (s) / Years & Position

i.e. Hamilton -Player (4yrs), BC - Coach (2yrs)

Primary Contact Information

Mailing Address _____

Telephone (Home) _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Business Contact Information

Mailing Address _____

Telephone (Home) _____ Cell _____

Email _____

The 2018 dues are \$35.00 and cover the calendar year or you may pay \$90.00 and cover your membership fees for 3 years. Please see attached for Membership Privileges.

1. Please make your cheque payable to THE CFL OTTAWA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.
2. Address your cheque Attention Dan Dever 43 McLaughlin Crescent Kanata, Ontario K2L 2P9
3. If you do not have an Alumni ID card please provide us with a passport photo electronically or physically and we will ensure you receive your Alumni Photo ID Card.
4. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT DAN AT 613.254.5420 or email danwdever@msn.com

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