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# Gardner-Webb Football Signs 17 New Recruits for 2014-2015 Season

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Office of University Communications

February 7, 2014

## *Head Coach Carroll McCray Offers Insight*

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb football announced a 17-man recruiting class Wednesday, the first day of the NCAA recruiting period for the sport.

The 2014 haul capped the first full recruiting cycle for head coach Carroll McCray, who recently completed a successful first season in charge of the Runnin' Bulldogs. As the faxes rolled in on Wednesday, success was evident once again for McCray and his staff.

“We are certainly pleased with this group of young men who have chosen to be a part of our family,” said McCray. “We targeted a smaller pool than usual for this class – with a small outgoing class of seniors and a number of veterans returning for us next season. We were able to secure a very high percentage of our top targets and made sure we blanketed our local area and the southeast region. The quality of today’s group is a credit to our university, the staff and the student-athletes already in our football program.”

Gardner-Webb scoured the southeast for its entire class, with all 17 coming from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Alabama. The Runnin' Bulldogs signed nine from North Carolina, three from South Carolina, three from Florida and one each from Georgia and Alabama.

Five members of the class played high school football within an hour drive of Gardner-Webb’s campus, including two Cleveland County products – nose guard Josh Ramseur (Shelby, N.C. / Burns HS) and receiver Ralph Jolly (Shelby, N.C. / Shelby HS).

Ramseur (5-11, 290) earned Class 3A All-State honors in 2013 from NCPreps.com and was the Cleveland County Player of the Year as a junior in 2012. Jolly (6-2, 180) helped the Golden Lions to a Class 2A State Championship this past season, catching 45 passes for 936 yards and five scores.

Eight of Wednesday’s signees earned All-State honors during their prep careers and one – standout quarterback Tyrell Maxwell (Cordova, S.C. / Edisto HS) played in the Shrine Bowl.

The 6-foot-2, 205-pound Maxwell recorded 8,905 yards of total offense and accounted for 93 touchdowns in his final three high school seasons – playing at the same high school that produced former Gardner-Webb All-America return man and NFL draft pick Terry Guess.

Maxwell garnered scholarship offers from BCS programs Missouri and Georgia Tech as a defensive back following his junior season. He is rated as the nation's No. 31 dual-threat quarterback prospect by ESPN.com in the Class of 2014.

Outside linebacker Matthew De La Vega (Miami, Fla. / South Miami HS) enrolled at Gardner-Webb in January and will participate in spring practice. The 6-foot-1, 230-pound standout was a Class 8A All-State selection following his senior season in 2012 at South Miami – when he recorded 11.0 tackles for loss, 7.0 sacks and forced six fumbles.

### **2014 Gardner-Webb Football Recruiting Class**

Kerry Bernard \* 5-9 \* 190 \* RB \* Orlando, Fla. / Dr. Phillips HS

Trey Brice \* 6-0 \* 180 \* WR \* Gastonia, N.C. / Ashbrook HS

Matthew De La Vega \* 6-1 \* 230 \* DE/LB \* Miami, Fla. / South Miami HS

Kenyatta Dunbar \* 5-11 \* 205 \* LB \* Edgefield, S.C. / Strom Thurmond HS

Charlie Eudy \* 6-4 \* 250 \* DL \* Oakboro, N.C. / West Stanly HS

Laron Glenn \* 6-2 \* 265 \* DE \* Charlotte, N.C. / West Mecklenburg HS

Donte' Gordon \* 6-0 \* 230 \* LB \* Buford, Ga. / Buford HS

Jacob Henderson \* 5-10 \* 180 \* WR \* Waxhaw, N.C. / Marvin Ridge HS

Willie Jackson IV \* 6-2 \* 200 \* WR \* Mobile, Ala. / Faith Academy

Ralph Jolly \* 6-2 \* 180 \* WR \* Shelby, N.C. / Shelby HS

Khalil Lewis \* 5-10 \* 190 \* RB \* Hilton Head Island, S.C. / Hilton Head HS

Tyrell Maxwell \* 6-2 \* 205 \* QB \* Cordova, S.C. / Edisto HS

Kirk Messick \* 6-2 \* 200 \* LB/SS \* Wilmington, N.C. / Hoggard HS

Jeffrey Pegues \* 6-0 \* 195 \* LB \* Charlotte, N.C. / Mallard Creek HS

Paul Schumacher \* 5-10 \* 170 \* P/PK \* West Palm Beach, Fla. / The King's Academy

Clay Shelton \* 6-4 \* 285 \* OL \* Oak Ridge, N.C. / Northwest Guilford HS

Josh Ramseur \* 5-11 \* 290 \* NG \* Shelby, N.C. / Burns HS

### **Geographic Class Breakdown**

**North Carolina (9):** Tre Brice (Gastonia); Charlie Eudy (Oakboro); Laron Glenn (Charlotte); Jacob Henderson (Waxhaw); Ralph Jolly (Shelby); Kirk Messick (Wilmington); Jeff Pegues (Charlotte); Clay Shelton (Oak Ridge); Josh Ramseur (Shelby).

**South Carolina (3):** Kenyatta Dunbar (Edgefield); Khalil Lewis (Hilton Head); Tyrell Maxwell (Cordova).

**Florida (3):** Kerry Bernard (Orlando); Matthew De La Vega (Miami); Paul Schumacher (West Palm Beach).

**Alabama (1):** Willie Jackson IV (Mobile).

**Georgia (1):** Donte' Gordon (Buford).

For full bios on the recruited players, [click here](#).