

Bears sign 24 players On National Signing Day

Written by Staff Reports

Wednesday, 05 February 2014 16:02

Looking to build on last year's berth in the national title game, the Lenoir-Rhyne Football Team and Head Coach Ian Shields signed the first 24 players for the 2014 season as part of national signing day.

Of the 24 players signed today, 15 hail from the state of North Carolina. The remaining states were players signed from include Florida (five), Georgia (four), Tennessee (one) and South Carolina (one).

The breakdown by positions with the most signees were running back (six), defensive back (five), offensive line (four) and linebacker and defensive line (three each).

Lenoir-Rhyne is coming off one of its best seasons in school history last fall, finishing with a 13-2 record and advancing to the NCAA Division II National Championship game.

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L-R also set the single-season record for victories in a season in 2013 and won its third consecutive South Atlantic Conference Championship this past fall.

The Bears finished the season ranked No. 2 in the nation as well while seven players earned NCAA Division II All-American honors in 2013. On January 14, Shields became the 20th Head Football Coach in Lenoir-Rhyne history.

Lenoir-Rhyne is scheduled to open the 2014 season on Saturday, September 6, against Point (Ga.) at home. Kickoff at Moretz Stadium against the Skyhawks is set for 7:00 p.m.

The 2014 Lenoir-Rhyne Football Recruiting Class

Name, Pos., Ht., Wt., Hometown (High School)

Tyler Bray, RB, 6-2, 185, Belmont, N.C. (South Point HS)

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Chris Bridges, RB, 6-0, 200, Morganton, N.C. (Freedom HS)

Ryan Broskie, OL, 6-2, 280, St. Johns, Fla. (Oakleaf HS)

Andrew Bruce, LB, 6-0, 205, Fort Mill, S.C. (Nations Ford HS)

Cameron Burton, OL, 5-11, 255, Fairview, N.C. (A.C. Reynolds HS)

Kaleb Butler, RB, 5-10, 210, Lebanon, Tenn. (Wilson Central HS)

Charles Clark, LB, 6-2, 185, Wake Forest, N.C. (Heritage HS)

Calvin Edwards, ATH, 5-9, 175, Salisbury, N.C. (East Rowan HS)

Phil Lillie, DB, 5-9, 185, Lake Butler, Fla. (Union County HS)

Mike Mitchell, DB, 5-10, 180, Ocala, Fla. (Vanguard HS)

Ryan Moore, RB, 5-10, 200, Norcross, Ga. (Meadowcreek HS)

Sam Newhouse, DL, 6-2, 240, Garner, N.C. (Wake Forest-Rolesville HS)

Tyler Newhouse, OL, 6-2, 275, Garner, N.C. (Wake Forest-Rolesville HS)

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Tony Patman, OL, 6-2, 280, Commerce, Ga. (Commerce HS)

Elliot Rawls, DL, 6-3, 255, Greensboro, N.C. (Southeast Guilford HS)

Keyon Reed, DE, 6-2, 260, Palm Bay, Fla. (Palm Bay HS)

Devan Robbins, RB, 5-11, 175, Belmont, N.C. (South Point HS)

Chris Shaffer, DB, 6-3, 200, Charlotte, N.C. (Providence HS)

Michael Showers, DB, 6-2, 190, Jacksonville, Fla. (William M. Raines HS)

Weston Simmons, DB, 6-3, Snellville, Ga. (South Gwinnett HS)

Tyree Ward, RB, 5-7, 185, Statesville, N.C. (Statesville HS)

Derick Weber, LB, 5-10, 200, Gastonia, N.C. (Ashbrook HS)

Milton Whelchel, WR, 5-10, 170, Gainesville, Ga. (East Hall HS)

Tyler Williams, QB, 6-0, 185, Fuquay-Varina, N.C. (Fuquay-Varina HS)