

## Coach Chuck Shuff

### 1974 - 1975 – Won 12, Lost 7, Tied 1

### Shuff named Tiger football coach

Charles A. Shuff, 33, head football coach at Fremont Ross High School for the past six years, today was hired as the new Washington High School head football coach and athletic director for the Massillon public school system.



In a special meeting of the Massillon board of education this morning, Shuff was given a three-year contract. His beginning salary will be \$15,000 and he will be placed on the administrative salary schedule.

Shuff indicated he would consider bringing two or three of his present Fremont Ross assistants with him, if they are so inclined.

But first, he said, he will return to Fremont and submit his resignation, hoping to take the Massillon job on or about March 1. He said he is not sure if his family will move here immediately.

Chuck Shuff - Massillon Record					
Year	Won	Lost	Tied	Points	
				Mass.	Opp.
1974	6	4	0	277	136
1975	6	3	1	168	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>187</b>
<b>Winning Percentage</b>					
<b>0.632</b>					

Massillon, Shuff said, his first objective will be to meet and confer with the present assistant coaches. Then he will make a decision about whether to ask his past assistants to follow him.

Shuff's composite record in nine years of head coaching is 51-36-3. His record at Oak Harbor High School was 3-7 in 1965, 5-4-1 in 1966, and 8-2 in 1967. At Fremont Ross his states are 1-9 in 1968, 2-7-1 in 1969, 5-4-1 in 1970, and 9-1 in 1971, 1972 and 1973.

His 1973 team was ranked seventh in Ohio by the Associated Press, sixth by United Press International and was Buckeye Conference champion. His 1972 Little Giants eleven was fourth in the state by the AP and UPI and was Buckeye Conference co-champ. His 1971 squad was ranked seventh in the state by AP and UPI.

In 1972 Shuff was named Buckeye Conference Coach of the Year and Associated Press Northwest Ohio Coach of the Year. He was selected by the Fremont Jaycees as their 1972-73 "Educator of the Year."

Shuff said his offensive head football coach in 1965, formations at WHS will depend on his analysis of personnel, but he said he basically has used a Wing-I formation with a split end. On defense he likes a "slanting 50" arrangement.

He said the defense resembles that which Bob Commings used here, and the offense isn't radically different, either. This would be an advantage, since the three junior high schools employ the same patterns of play as the varsity.

A 1958 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, he played on the Yellow Jackets' undefeated Central Buckeye League grid champion teams in 1956 and 1957 and was captain of the latter. His coach was the late Ben Wilson.

Shuff received his bachelor of science in education degree in 1962 from the University of Cincinnati. He was a two-year football letterman under coaches George Blackburn and Chuck Studley, and later graduate assistant under Studley. He received his master's degree in education from UC in 1963. It was in secondary school administration.

From 1963-65 he was an assistant football coach under Wilson at Warren Harding. He also was head baseball coach in 1964 and head track coach in 1965, and taught physical science and biology.

Moving to Oak Harbor as head football coach in 1965, Shuff also taught physical education and driver education. He started a wrestling program there in 1966-67, and was head track coach for three years, taking 16 boys to state competition in that period.

In 1968 he moved to Fremont Ross as head football coach and driver education department chairman. He was the school's third football coach in three years. The previous two mentors had 3-7 records in 1966 and 4-6 in 1967.

Shuff has coached several players who were named All-Ohio, and seven who participated in the Ohio North-South All-Star Game. He was a regional nominee to coach in that game the past three years and this year was selected to be an assistant coach.

The new coach has a professional high school teacher's certificate and is qualified to teach general science, biological science, health and physical education and driver education. He has taken a total of six credit hours of graduate study in driver education at Bowling Green University. His total years of teaching experience are 11 ½, including one year as graduate assistant at the University of Cincinnati. At Fremont Ross his present salary is \$14,000.



On his application, Shuff said he wants the WHS job "since I feel that this is a definite advancement over my present position and will bring me a step closer to my goal of college coaching."

He is a member of several professional groups, including the Ohio High School Football Coaches and Track Coaches Associations, the Ohio Education Association and the Fremont Education Association.

He and his wife Marty have three children: Donna, 9; Chris, 7; and Chuck, 2

## **Coach Chuck Shuff Places Emphasis on Fundamentals, Discipline, Agility and Mental Alertness as Tigers Seek Their First Play-off Title**

By James C. DeLong, Team Historian  
1974

With the departure of the popular Bob Commings to the University of Iowa as head coach of the Hawkeyes, Massillon Washington High went to the Buckeye Conference of northwestern Ohio for the third time since 1964 in naming Charles A. (Chuck) Shuff of Fremont Ross as the new mentor here.

Coach Shuff's teams have always been fundamentally sound. He places much emphasis on discipline and agility and expects total concentration from his players. In his prior two head coaching assignments he has been required to completely rebuild perennial losers.

Chuck's basic offense is run from the I formation, however he also employs the Wing-T and other formations. Defensively, Shuff prefers the "Oklahoma angle". However it differs from the angle defense used here since 1970 by former coach Bob Commings.

Shuff represents the 13<sup>th</sup> change in the Massillon head coaching ranks since the start of the "modern era of football" here in 1932. In the past 42 seasons, the average coaching tenure here has been relative brief – just three and one-half years – however this has resulted from the fact that Massillon has sought a man on his way up for the head coaching position here. This method has paid off as nine Tiger mentors have advanced to college posts. Massillon has rolled up 359 victories as opposed to 49 losses and 15 ties since 1932.

The following 14 lettermen form the nucleus of the veteran material performing for the Tigers in 1974.

### **OFFENSE**

Mark Matie, tight end; Chris Rick, tackle; Joe Studer, center; Greg Wood, quarterback; Mark Streeter, tailback; Mark Pifer, wingback; Bill Harmon, fullback.

### **DEFENSE**

Russ Nicewander, tackle; Gary Waldrop, middle guard; Dennis Bricker, linebacker; Tim Gutshall, linebacker; Thee Lemon, cornerback; Keith Herring, safety; Todd Keller, punter.

Six new assistant coaches have joined Coach Shuff's 1974 Tiger grid staff. The entire group of assistant coaches are:

Jim Letcavits (Kansas) – Split ends, windbacks and defensive ends,  
Chuck Utterback (Bowling Green State) – Offensive guards and centers,  
Nick Vrotsos (Alabama) – Offensive guards and centers,  
Frank Thomas (Ashland) – Quarterbacks, monster back and offensive coordinator,  
Joe Seisel (Bowling Green State) – Tight ends, linebackers and defensive coord.  
Ron Curtis (Ohio University) – Running backs and defensive secondary,  
Gave Gray (Ashland) – Head Sophomore squad coach,  
Don Green (Malone College) – Asst. Soph. squad coach,  
Steve Stohla (Baldwin Wallace) – Asst. Soph. squad coach,  
Gary Wells (Akron University) – Asst. Soph. squad coach.

## **DEFENSE HOLDS KEY**

### **Overall Improvement of Tiger Grid Machine Paramount for Success In '75 Campaign**

By James C. Delong, Team Historian  
1975

IF the Massillon Washington Tigers intend to play a role in the 1975 Ohio scholastic title chase an overall team improvement must take place over the performance of Coach Chuck Shuff's first eleven here of 1971'

Although the Tigers won six games in 1974, Canton McKinley represented the only major power on the schedule that they were able to defeat.

In the four losses to Youngstown Ursuline, Upper Arlington, Niles McKinley and Warren Harding, the Tigers were found wanting on both offense and defense. In these four games, the offense produced an average of but eleven points, a game while the defense yielded a whopping 25 point average per contest.

The 1975 campaign finds the Tigers fairly well fortified with offensive material, however the defense is questionable. Early development of defensive players is of prime importance.

Four individuals are available for the present season that saw extended service on defense in 1974. They are Jeff Lab, end; Steve Easter, tackle; Mark Matie, tackle; and Tom Grizzard, linebacker.

Offensively the Tigers have five players available who started in the 1974 season's finale against Canton McKinley. They are Mike Lauber, tackle; Carl Christoff, guard;



Anthony Grizzard, tailback; and Bill Harmon, fullback. In addition, Don Nagle, who started seven games at center, and Todd Schumacher, who saw considerable action at guard, are ready for full time duty.

Fifteen lettermen are on the 1975 squad. They are as follows:

#### OFFENSE

Bill Bammerlin, split end; Mark Matie, tight end; Lauber, tackle; Ed Genet, tackle; Christoff, guard; Schumacher, guard; Nagle, center; Todd Keller, quarterback; Grizzard, tailback; Keith Harmon, swingback; and Bill Harmon, fullback.

#### DEFENSE

Lab, end or linebacker; Easter, tackle; Alan Rogers, defensive back; and Harold Dorsey, defensive back.

The make-up of Coach Shuff's staff of assistants has changed this year with the departure of Ron Curtis, Dave Gray and Steve Stohla, Curtis joined Coach Bill Hess's staff at Ohio University while Gray was named as head coach at West Holmes. Stohla who served as volunteer coach in 1974 will not coach this year.

Joining the Massillon staff for 1975 are Donald Graham and Dale Walterhouse, Graham, former head coach at both Clyde and Alliance, will replace Curtis, while Walterhouse, who formerly served on the Tiger staff under former Massillon coaches, Leo Strang, Earle Bruce, Bob Seaman and Bob Commings from 1958 through 1970, will take over for Gray on the Sophomore squad staff.

The nine individuals who form Coach Shuff's staff of assistants are as follows:

Jim Letcavits (Kansas) – Split ends, swingbacks and defensive ends,  
Chuck Utterback (Bowling Green State) – Offensive and defensive tackles,  
Nick Vrotsos (Alabama) – Offensive guards, centers, and middle guards,  
Frank Thomas (Ashland) – Offensive coord., quarterbacks, and monster backs,  
Joe Seisel (Bowling Green State) – Defensive coord., linebackers and tight ends,  
Don Graham (Ashland) – Running backs and defensive secondary,  
Don Green (Malone College) – Head Soph. squad coach,  
Dale Walterhouse (Otterbein) Asst. Soph. squad coach,  
Gary Wells (University of Akron) – Asst. Soph. squad coach.