

Football Team Adds New Coach

Todd Strop

By Lehleih Garyu



Todd Strop was born and raised in Northwestern Wisconsin and has been coaching football since 1992. Coaching only two and a half weeks as defense coordinator here at Concordia University he proclaims that we're in for a real treat this football season. Strop has been coaching football for 20 years and says his passion for the game feels like new every time he's on the field. He enjoys the great new challenges and hard work that comes along with coaching. Coach Strop's past career was spent coaching as defense coordinator for the University of Minnesota Duluth, head coach at the University of Wisconsin Stout and defensive coordinator at the University of South Dakota.

Strop says he has a lot of experience to offer this year and can confidently say that his defensive line will deliver strong aggressive plays. Especially with his two most expansive, high skilled level defense players (Zach Moore #90 and Chris Campbell #74), Coach Strop says we can expect wins this season. Although Strop has only been coaching

here a very short period of time, he has had the great opportunity to work with skilled, motivated and ready to win athletes, as he calls our football players here at Concordia. So far Strop says he can see the players are excited to be coached and are very hard working young men. Strop plans on building good relationships with the players and through discipline, hard work, and aggressive practices guarantees a season filled with high skilled players. The most exciting outlook about coaching, Strop says, for him is doing the same thing now he loved doing when he was 5 years old. Originally wanting to be a professional football player, Todd enjoys his career as a football coach simply because it is the game that he loves the most. When coach Strop is not coaching and has down time, he enjoys water skiing at Blueberry Lake in Wisconsin. As a father of three he also enjoys spending time with his children and being involved with their sports as well. To motivate his players coach Strop likes to use his favorite quote, "Winning is not a sometime thing, it's an all-the-time thing".

Golden Bear Baseball

Key Player To Watch: Greg Larpenter

By Savannah Nolen

Greg Larpenter was named a key player to watch for the 2013 baseball season, as voted by the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference head baseball coaches. This is an impressive honor for Larpenter as this is only his second year with the Golden Bears—having previously transferred in as a junior for the 2012 season. This honor comes as no surprise to his teammates, as Larpenter is known among his teammates as being, "The guy on the team that everybody looks up to," according to senior teammate, Griff Kilber. Senior first baseman, David Hines explains Larpenter as being, "Someone who puts in more than most players." Hines continued by stating, "Everyday he gets better at something because he not only works hard at practice, but he works even harder outside of practice." This statement can be proven to be true based off of Larpenter's impressive results from the 2012 season. He played error-free baseball, earning him ABCA/Rawlings and NSIC Gold Glove Honors, making him one of only three outfielders that the honor is awarded to. Larpenter previously led the Golden Bears with six sacrifice bunts, and notched himself in at the second spot on the team with 39 runs scored and most doubles on the team at 17, with two triples as well. As humble as he is talented, Larpenter explains that his skills come from putting in more work than what is expected of him. "Going to practice every day isn't enough. By the time we start hitting, especially in the winter you maybe get 30 swings at practice. You have to go into the pole barn and swing on your own as well as the weight room." He explains, "I am far from being one of the best players in the conference, but it is all about putting the work in."



Photo by Concordia University

Putting in that extra work is what put him as one of the key players to watch for the upcoming Golden Bear baseball season, and what will hopefully contribute to another winning season for the team.

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