



ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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BUFFALO RELEASES FOOTBALL SIGNEES

24 players from nine states make up Hofher's second recruiting class

BUFFALO, NY – Head football coach Jim Hofher has announced the following players as having signed National Letters of Intent to pursue their academic and athletic careers at the University at Buffalo on the first day of the college football signing period.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Wt.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School/Previous School</u>
Wilshawn Adkins	WR	6-4	200	Fort Lauderdale, FL/Stranahan
Doug Anderwkavich	TE/DL	6-6	265	Queens, NY/Holy Cross
Delando Bradford	DB	5-10	177	Franklin, MI/Groves
Chris Clifton	LB	6-3	237	Amherst, NY/Amherst Central/Erie CC
Rashad Clark#	DL	6-4	240	Los Angeles, CA/Ontario HS/West Los Angeles JC
Bryan Cummings	LB	6-3	215	Cincinnati, OH/Madeira
Joe DiGiorgio	QB/DB	6-1	205	Macomb Township, MI/Eisenhower
Ramon Guzman	FB/LB	6-2	218	Bronx, NY/DeWitt-Clinton
Antonio Jones	WR/DB	6-1	200	Erie, PA/Erie Central
Steven King	RB	6-0	190	Hempstead, NY/Uniondale
Chris McDuffie	RB/DB	5-10	180	Amherst, NY/Williamsville North
Kevin Moodt	OL	6-6	260	Bellport, NY/Bellport
Jared Patterson	RB	6-2	205	Belvidere, NJ/Belvidere
Michael Radon	QB	6-1	175	Buffalo, NY/St. Francis
Stewart Sampsel	QB	6-3	180	Howard, PA/Bellefonte
Tim Schmidt	OL	6-6	270	Apalachin, NY/Owego Free Academy
Ryan Sherwood-Ericsson	RB/DB	6-1	200	Erie, PA/McDowell
Brandon Smith	DB	5-10	175	Miami, FL/Coral Reef
Chad Upshaw	TE/LB	6-4	238	Southport, CT/St. Joseph's
James Vann	DB	6-2	180	Downingtown, PA/Downingtown
Leonard Washington	DL	6-2	230	Copley, OH/Copley
Brian Watson	WR	6-5	210	Elizabeth, NJ/Elizabeth HS/Hun School
Gerry Weissinger	OL/DL	6-5	290	Webster, NY/Webster
Kevin Wiggins	OL	6-2	290	Newark, DE/Newark

#enrolled at UB as a mid-semester transfer

Paul Vecchio – Assistant AD/Communications • **Heidi Roth** – Asst. Director of Athletic Communications •

Gregg Pastore – Asst. Director of Athletic Communications • **Sherry Soules** – Office Manager

Ted Wasko – Athletic Communications Assistant • **Laura Martin** – Athletic Communications Intern

2002 Recruiting Class Capsule Bios

WILSHAWN ADKINS

WIDE RECEIVER • 6-4 • 200

FR. • FORT LAUDERDALE, FL • STRANAHAN HS

Excellent athlete who averaged nearly 20 yards per catch as a senior at Stranahan HS where he played for coach Vince Schiavo...earned three letters...elected to play in the BCAA All-Star game...also excels in the 400-meter dash.

DOUG ANDERWKAVICH

TE/DL • 6-6 • 265

FR. • QUEENS, NY • HOLY CROSS HS

Excelled on both sides of the ball for coach Tom Pugh, earning four letters and serving as captain of the Knights of Holy Cross...had 16 catches for 250 yards as a senior and accumulated four sacks on defense...an All-New York City selection by both the New York *Daily News* and *Newsday*...also earned All-Catholic League honors.

DELANDO BRADFORD

DB • 5-10 • 177

FR. • FRANKLIN, MI • GROVES HS

Earned three letters for coach Brendan Flaherty at corner, free safety, wide receiver and kick returner...helped team to 14-6 record in his final two seasons...had four interceptions in his senior season...first-team All-Area selection as senior...All-League selection two seasons...helped the Falcons to the state playoffs his final three seasons...a standout sprinter on the track team.

RASHAD CLARK

DE • 6-4 • 240

**JR. • LOS ANGELES, CA • ONTARIO HS
WEST LOS ANGELES JC**

Enrolled as a mid-year semester transfer in January and will be eligible for spring practice...played both ways for head coach Rob Hager at West Los Angeles Junior College...an honorable mention All-State player at Ontario HS, earning three letters and earning All-Conference and team MVP honors...participated in the East-West All-Star game...entered the United States Marine Corps following high school graduation before returning to school...will turn 25 in July.

CHRIS CLIFTON

LB • 6-3 • 237

**JR. • AMHERST, NY • AMHERST CENTRAL
ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

First transfer from Dennis Greene's Erie Community College program which finished 8-2 in its first season in 2001...a first-team All-Western New York selection at Amherst Central for coach Kevin Lester and an All-State selection as well...originally attended Rutgers before transferring back home to attend ECC...led the Kats in tackles with over 80 tackles, 6.5 tackles

for loss, a sack, two pass breakups and returned an interception 90 yards for a touchdown versus Hudson Valley.

BRYAN CUMMINGS

LB • 6-3 • 215

FR. • CINCINNATI, OH • MADEIRA HS

A four-year letterman and captain for coach Tim Viox who helped the Mustangs of Madeira to 14 wins in his final two years...set the career mark with 457 tackles in his career, including 140 stops as a senior...also had 1,160 yards rushing as a fullback and earned All-Cincinnati honors as a senior...also a standout on the baseball (catcher, right fielder) and wrestling teams (state qualifier).

JOE DIGIORGIO

QB/DB • 6-1 • 205

FR. • MACOMB TOWNSHIP, MI • EISENHOWER HS

Named to Detroit *Free Press* Dream Team and as one of the state's Top 50 players after passing for 2,186 yards, rushing for 930 yards and excelling at safety...threw for 25 touchdowns and ran for 18 as a senior and played 42 consecutive games with the varsity for coach Bob Lantzy...the Eagles were 25-3 in his final two years and advanced to the state finals all three seasons...Macomb County Player of the Year and an All-State selection...also a two-year offensive MVP on the baseball team as a center fielder and shortstop.

RAMON GUZMAN

FB/LB • 6-2 • 218

FR. • BRONX, NY • DEWITT-CLINTON HS

A four-year letterman for coach Ed Gardella who stood out on both sides of the ball...rushed for 1,076 yards (with a 10.3 yard average) on offense while registering 125 tackles...an All-New York City selection and the runner-up as the *Daily News* Player of the Year...also earned three letters in track and one in wrestling for the Governors of DeWitt-Clinton.

ANTONIO JONES

DB • 6-1 • 200

FR. • ERIE, PA • ERIE CENTRAL HS

Versatile athlete who averaged 16.6 yards per catch on offense and made 82 tackles on defense for coach Pat DiPaolo as a senior...career leader in receptions and kickoff return average (32.4)...also holds school records in the 110 high hurdles and the long jump...a two-time All-City selection and an All-Allegheny County pick as a senior.

2002 Recruiting Class Capsule Bios

STEVEN KING

RB • 6-0 • 190

FR. • HEMPSTEAD, NY • UNIONDALE HS

A two-time All-County and All-Conference selection for coach Greg Johnson for the Knights of Uniondale...rushed for 1,188 yards as a senior on just 130 carries (9.1 average) and was selected to play in the Outback Bowl featuring the best of Long Island vs. New York City...named team MVP...also has lettered in basketball and track, where he has also twice been an All-Conference selection.

CHRIS McDUFFIE

RB • 5-10 • 180

FR. • AMHERST, NY • WILLIAMSVILLE NORTH

A four-year letterwinner for coach Mike Mammoliti at nearby Williamsville North...set school record for most yards in a season (1,512) and career (4,663) as well as total tackles...an All-State and All-Western New York selection who was a Connolly Cup (top player in WNY) finalist as a senior...was twice named captain for the Spartans at Williamsville North...cousin of current UB safety J.J. Gibson and is third McDuffie to play at UB, following brothers Steve (1994-96) and Teddy (1997)...had 14 touchdowns as a senior and also was part of state finalist 4x100-meter relay team in track as a junior.

KEVIN MOODT

OL • 6-6 • 260

FR. • BELLPORT, NY • BELLPORT

An All-State and All-Long Island selection by *Newsday* for coach Joe Cipp, Jr...helped the Clippers earn the Long Island title and post a 21-1 record over his final two seasons...an All-Conference and All-State selection who has been selected to play in both the Outback Bowl (Long Island vs. NYC) and the Governor's Bowl (New York vs. New Jersey)...led an offensive line that saw Clipper backs rush for 2,803 yards on the ground and rush for 37 touchdowns...also earned two letters in lacrosse.

JARED PATTERSON

RB • 6-2 • 205

FR. • BELVIDERE, NJ • BELVIDERE HS

A four-year letterwinner who ran for 1,829 yards and scored 26 touchdowns for coach Tony Villante at Belvidere...excellent speed as evidenced by his winning the Group I state championship in the 100 meters...a first-team All-West Jersey selection and second-team All-State pick...set school career record with over 3,200 yards on the ground.

MICHAEL RADON

QB • 6-1 • 175

FR. • BUFFALO, NY • ST. FRANCIS HS

A three-year letterwinner for coach Jerry Smith who claimed the

Connolly Cup as Western New York's top player after his senior season...set school career records for passing yardage (4,390), completions (307) and touchdowns (50) while setting single-season marks in yards (2,408), completions (163) and touchdowns (22) as a senior...earned Don Majkowski Award as top area quarterback and was All-Western New York and second-team All-State...also a part of the WNY All-Academic team...led team to a 7-3 mark as a senior while accounting for 29 touchdowns.

STEWART SAMPSEL

QB • 6-3 • 180

FR. • HOWARD, PA • BELLEFONTE HS

Excellent two-way athlete for coach Tom Gravish at Bellefonte HS...threw for 1,836 yards and 18 touchdowns as a senior and also set a school record with 13 interceptions as a free safety...a first-team All-Conference selection and a two-year captain of the Red Raiders...has also played on the basketball team.

TIM SCHMIDT

OL • 6-6 • 270

FR. • APALACHIN, NY • OWEGO FREE ACADEMY

A second-team All-State selection for coach Tim McDonald at Owego Free Academy...chosen to participate in the Ernie Davis All-Star Game and as a senior was an All-Tioga and All-Metro selection...a member of the Academic All-Star team, he has also earned two letters on the Indians basketball team.

RYAN SHERWOOD-ERICSSON

RB/DB • 6-1 • 200

FR. • ERIE, PA • McDOWELL HS

A versatile athlete who excelled on offense, defense, and special teams (third-team All-State as a punter)...helped McDowell to a 7-4 record as a senior for coach Jon Cacchione while setting a school record for rushing yards...had 1,050 rushing yards as a senior while earning All-Conference and All-Metro honors for the Trojans...had the top scholastic throw in the country in the javelin last year (228-10) while winning the PIAA Class AAA championship.

BRANDON SMITH

DB • 5-10 • 175

FR. • MIAMI, FL • CORAL REEF HS

An All-Dade County selection for coach Earnest Perkins at Coral Reef High School...also an outstanding return man for the Baracudas, he was named his team's Outstanding Defensive Back while earning two letters...a teammate of current redshirt line-backer Richard Sanders on the Bulls.

2002 Recruiting Class Capsule Bios

CHAD UPSHAW

TE • 6-4 • 238

FR. • SOUTHPORT, CT • ST. JOSEPH'S HS

A versatile athlete who had 25 receptions for 490 yards and three touchdowns for coach Joe Dellavecchia at St. Joseph's...a *Connecticut Post* All-Area selection, he earned three letters in football while also earning All-Conference honors in both basketball and baseball...son of former Major League baseball player Willie Upshaw, who spent most of his career with the Toronto Blue Jays.

JAMES VANN

DB • 6-2 • 180

FR. • DOWNINGTOWN, PA • DOWNINGTOWN HS

Defensive leader of coach Jack Helm's Downingtown team that posted a 20-4 record in his final two seasons...had 10 career interceptions for the Whippets, including three as a senior, two which he returned for touchdowns...a three-year letterwinner who earned All-Area kudos and second-team Philadelphia *Daily News* All-Suburban honors.

LEONARD WASHINGTON

DL • 6-2 • 230

FR. • COPLEY, OH • COPLEY HS

An All-State and All-Northeast Ohio selection for coach Dan Boarman at Copley HS...had 12 sacks and 34 tackles as a senior, including 17 tackles for loss as a defensive end...earned two letters while being selected first-team All-Suburban Cleveland...has also earned All-Conference honors in basketball.

BRIAN WATSON

WR • 6-5 • 210

FR. • ELIZABETH, NJ • ELIZABETH HS

THE HUN PREPATORY SCHOOL

Emerging player who has competed in football for less than two seasons...played for coach Dave Dudek at the Hun School in Princeton, NJ...has also participated in basketball at Hun as well as earning several letters in high school...led the Hun School with 28 receptions for 616 yards (22.0 per catch) and scored five touchdowns...had eight sacks and an interception on defense.

GERRY WEISSINGER

OL • 6-5 • 290

FR. • WEBSTER, NY • WEBSTER HS

Hulking offensive lineman who helped Webster to the Class AA New York State Championship last season while starring at tackle and nose guard for coach Anthony Bianchi...also helped the basketball team to a Section V title and was an All-County selection in the shot put, earning two letters in track and field...plans to major in Biomedical Engineering...former teammate of current redshirt freshman Mike Schifano.

KEVIN WIGGINS

OL • 6-2 • 290

FR. • NEWARK, DE • NEWARK HS

Named the Delaware Lineman of the Year after leading Newark to back-to-back state championships as a junior and senior...a two-time All-State selection for coach Butch Simpson, earning two letters and serving as captain as a senior...has also participated in basketball and rugby in his prep career.

2002 UB Recruiting Breakdown

By State/Country

New York.....	9
Pennsylvania.....	4
Ohio	2
Michigan.....	2
Florida.....	2
New Jersey.....	2
Connecticut.....	1
California	1
Delaware.....	1

By Position*

Defensive Backs	7
Running Backs.....	5
Offensive Linemen	4
Defensive Linemen.....	4
Linebackers.....	4
Quarterbacks.....	3
Wide Receivers.....	3
Tight ends	2

*some players slated in multiple positions

By Previous Schools

High School Seniors	22
Junior College Transfers.....	2