

MEET THE COACHES OF ANDOVER CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL



Derek Tuttle

Head Coach, Offensive Line / Co-OC

How has the annual golf tournament helped the success of your program?

“The golf tournament has allowed us to put priorities for the kids first--from pregame meals to video equipment to football gear to t-shirts--it has been a lifesaver for taking care of our players’ needs and coaching necessities. Plus, it brings a great tradition to our alumni and families!”

Favorite professional football team?

Denver Broncos



Dean Taylor

Defensive Backs / Safeties

With the Andover Central School being a relatively new school, what has the Community meant to the football program over the past 10 years?

“The Andover Community is very supportive of all sports/activity programs at Central. The Gridiron Club and Booster clubs are a major factor in our success for their contributions and support for our student athletes. Jaguar Football Friday nights are an “event” that school and community pride are celebrated.”

Favorite athlete of all time?

“I’m a sports nut so have to choose by sport- Football-Walter Payton; Basketball-Larry Bird; Baseball-Rod Carew”



Aren Coppoc

Quarterbacks / Co-OC / Head Junior Varsity

What are some of the most important attributes you look at in a high school student athlete to be a contributor on and off the field?

Work ethic and reliability are 2 attributes that are important for high school student athletes. We want to see student athletes who have a great work ethic in everything they do. That includes the classroom, games, practices, in the weight room, etc.

We want to have reliable student athletes so that we know when they are out on the field they will do their job and their responsibility to the best of their ability. It's important for all 11 guys out on the field to know that they can trust everyone else to do their job.

Favorite food?

Double Bacon Cheeseburger



Ernie Hager

Defensive Coordinator, Linebackers

What is your most memorable high school football game memory of Andover Central High School? Wamego 2021 quarterfinal game before traveling back up to Buhler semi final. The way we traveled to Wamego and got off the bus from start to finish was something I will never forget. The kids responded in such a great way with game install during the week leading up to the game. The team vibe during the week of practice was so positive and upbeat. The

game execution by the JAGS on that very cold night was a thing of BEAUTY!!! That game is a very warm feeling in my heart whenever I think back.

Favorite movie?

Any JAG Football WIN!!!! Preferably shutout! But I can never travel past Braveheart!



Fred Sims

Wide Receivers / Special Teams

What is the most rewarding part of coaching?

In my many years of coaching, I have experienced several rewarding moments. The first might actually occur much later after I have coached a particular player. I love getting marriage invitations, birth announcements, etc when players get to their adult life. I love the fact that I was enough of an impact on their early life to be remembered for such occasions. Another rewarding part of coaching is watching a player work really hard

during the summer along with the practices before games and seeing them succeed on game nights. Another rewarding experience is being able to coach players throughout the season and getting to coach in a state championship game. It is so much fun watching young men grow throughout the season and getting a chance to play for the Gold Ball.

Favorite TV show?

The Amazing Race and Hell's Kitchen



Jared McDaniel

Defensive Line / JV Assistant

What is your style of coaching and why has it been successful in recent years?

I am definitely more of a laid back style during practice. I'm not a yeller or fly off the handle type so I would rather simply correct any issues by explaining the correction than going crazy. Sometimes in games I forget I'm not playing the game so that's probably where my more intense moments happen in coaching.

If you could have any vehicle, what would it be?

I love the older convertible type vehicles. The ones that look like a small boat riding down the street. Something from the 50's painted to blind you as the sun hits it.



James Banks

Corners / JV Assistant

What is the most fun part of football practice for you as a coach?

After completing my first football season at Andover Central, the most fun thing about football practice is the preparation in getting ready for Friday nights. Seeing the student athletes win the practice and leaving it all on the practice field; knowing that we are one day closer to the Friday night challenge.

What is your favorite quote?

"Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are."

John Wooden



Nate Alvarez Running Backs / Head Freshman Coach

What inspired you to get into coaching high school football?

I had always missed football since my playing days but I'd say my relationship with the students, the coaching staff, and my love for the game. Andover Central is not just a school, it's a family. From top to bottom, everyone is invested and takes a lot of pride in the school, which made it an easy choice to become part of a great program.

Which sport are/were you best at playing?

I'd have to say wrestling. I was so late in the game starting that I dedicated a larger amount of time to help me be successful. By doing so it helped me get a scholarship to wrestle in college.



Levi Wyrick

Defensive Ends Coach / Assistant Freshman Coach

How has your athletic career at Pittsburg State University prepared you for coaching football at Andover Central High School?

Playing multiple sports in college taught me how to be a determined, diligent, and an unrelenting competitor. I learned the importance of showing up every day and investing in your craft. It pays dividends down the line. When I apply this approach to coaching it allows you a satisfaction in seeing what the kids accomplish and will continue to accomplish.

Favorite pastime?

Hunting, fishing, camping, woodworking and reading.