

Finding Aid – Coach Rich Rodriguez Personal Football Papers and Statistics 1990-1993

Title: Coach Rich Rodriguez Personal Football Papers and Statistics 1990-1993
Donor: Collection was given to the Glenville State College Archives Department in approximately 2001 by the GSC Athletic Department. There was no deed of gift provided with the materials.
A & M Box #: **GSC20040121**
No. of Boxes: 1
Inclusive Dates: 1990-1993
Bulk Dates: 1990-1993

Description: This collection holds game plans, statistics, play charts, itineraries, and programs from Rich Rodriguez's time as head coach at Glenville State College. This specific material is from the 1990-1993 seasons. The collection was left with the Glenville State Athletic Department by Rich Rodriguez, upon leaving Glenville State College in 1997. Subsequently it was given to the GSC Archives in approximately 2001. These materials were developed by and/or assisted Coach Rodriguez during the revitalization of the Glenville State College football program in the early 90's.

Source: **GSC Archives**
Dates: 1990-1993
Size: 1 box, 4.8 in. (.4 linear feet)
A & M Box #: GSC20040121

Index Names:
Rich Rodriguez, Jed Drenning, Chris George

Index Terms:
WVIAC, Football, Glenville State College, Pioneers

Box Contents:
File Folder 1: 1990 File
File Folder 2: 1991 File
File Folder 3: 1992 File
File Folder 4: 1993 File
File Folder 5: Miscellaneous undated play charts and itineraries

Historical Note: Glenville State College Football Coach Rich Rodriguez

Rich Rodriguez was the Glenville State College football coach from 1990 to 1996. He was a native of Marion County, West Virginia, had played for West Virginia University (WVU), coached at Salem University, and helped with the WVU Mountaineer program. Rodriguez was hired in an attempt to revive a struggling program that had seen poor seasons for several years. During this time, Rodriguez consistently improved the Glenville State College football team, and in 1993, he led the Glenville Pioneers to a 10–3 record, the WVIAC Championship, and the NAIA runner-up. In 1993, he was named the NAIA National Coach of the Year and the West Virginia State College Coach of the Year by the West Virginia Sports Writers Association. This would be his most accomplished season at Glenville State.

The four championships under Rodriguez were Glenville State's first since 1959 and his players set five national career records for Division II football. He also coached three players who earned WVIAC Player of the Year honors. From 1994-1996, the Pioneers shared the WVIAC Championship. Rodriguez completed his career in Glenville with a 43–28–2 record.

Rodriguez went on to help coach Tulane and Clemson from 1997-2000. In late 2000, he was named head coach of the WVU Mountaineers. He coached the Mountaineers during the 2001- 2007 seasons. During this time, he led WVU to bowl appearances five of his six seasons there. For three of those seasons, from 2005-2007, Rodriguez amassed an astounding record of 30-6. Rodriguez's last game at WVU turned out to be very controversial. WVU was headed for a possible National Championship title, but after a disturbing defeat by the unranked Pittsburg Panthers team, the Mountaineers were knocked out of the running. Although the WVU team would go on to win the 2008 Fiesta Bowl against Oklahoma, Rodriguez would not be there.

In December of 2007, he announced his resignation to accept a job as the new head coach of the Michigan State Wolverines, where he has not developed a successful program. The Wolverines 2008 season saw a 3-9 record, which was the worst record in school history and was the first time they had not had a bowl appearance in 33 years. The 2009 season saw the Wolverines record improve to 5-7, but it was still not enough to have a bowl appearance. Rodriguez is still the coach of the Michigan Wolverines, as of May 2010.

Although Rodriguez is credited as being one of the most successful coaches in West Virginia history, many fans of the WVU Mountaineers have not forgiven him for leaving that program. It has since been speculated that Rodriguez's departure was triggered by conflicts with the president of WVU at the time, Michael Garrison.