



College Intent Recognition Ceremony

Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School

February 7, 2018

Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin's athletic program is grounded in the history, traditions and enduring core values of our school community – justice, respect, integrity, community and excellence.

Our athletes are student-athletes. The purpose of their participation in athletics is to excel in the competitive arena while experiencing formation and development in every aspect of their lives. By our students' participation in this arena, they will be prepared for the wider arena of life's opportunities and challenges as they assume their leadership role "to transform the world, as Jesus did, by living the truth in love."

MATTHEW ARKO, Football
John Carroll University, University Heights, OH



Matt Arko will join the Blue Streaks next fall to continue his football career at nearby Division III John Carroll University, a member of the Ohio Athletic Conference.

"It is a great environment and really feel at home there," said Arko, who began playing football when he was seven years old. "And they are giving me a chance to continue playing football."

A two-year letterwinner for the Lions, Arko was named second-team all-North Coast League and honorable mention all-District his senior year. A linebacker, he recorded 70 total tackles with two sacks and ran back an interception for a 21-yard touchdown in a win over Padua on Senior Night.

Matt, who is on the NDCL Merit Roll and plans to major in business/marketing, is the son of Trisha and Eddy Arko of Mentor.

GABRIEL BRKIC, Football
University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK



Boomer Sooner! will replace ND-CL as a cheer for kicker Gabe Brkic who chose the University of Oklahoma to continue his career. He will join Lincoln Riley's 12-2 squad that won the Big 12 Championship and played in the Rose Bowl in 2018.

Brkic, an all-Ohio selection his junior and senior years, turned heads with his booming kickoffs along with long field goals like the 53-yarder he kicked in NDCL's game against Alliance and two 47-yarders he kicked, including the game winner, to give his squad the OT win in the Blue-Grey All-American game at AT&T Stadium in Dallas. He also took over punting duties for the Lions in 2017 and averaged nearly 40 yards per punt.

Unlike many of his teammates who came up through the peewee football ranks, Brkic didn't start playing football until his freshman year at NDCL.

The son of Gordana and Nate Brkic, Gabe resides in Chardon.



CHASE BROWN, Football
University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH



Defensive end Chase Brown will join Luke Fickell's University of Cincinnati squad after signing with the Bearcats to continue his football career.

"I chose Cincinnati because I enjoyed my experience when I visited," stated Chase. "I felt like Cincinnati could provide me with everything to help me succeed."

The 6-2, 215 pound Brown, who started playing football in the Euclid Youth League when he was six years old, was all-district and all-North Coast League in 2017. He recorded 82 total tackles including seven sacks as a senior. As a junior, he accounted for 70 tackles with four sacks and two forced fumbles en route to being named all-league.

The son of Joyce Wittman, Chase lives in Euclid.

EMANUEL MALONE, Football
Amherst College, Amherst, MA



The perfect mix of high academics and athletics finds NDCL football standout Manni Malone headed to Division III Amherst College to join the Mammoth's program.

"The academic opportunity will give me a great start in life because it's such a prestigious school," noted Manni, who is interested in studying either medicine or business. "The environment fit me."

A three-year starter for the Lions, Manni started playing football at age five for the West Geauga Wolverines. At NDCL, Manni piled up awards as he was a three-time all-Ohio pick, including a first-team nod in 2016 and '17, and three-time all-North Coast League selection. The defensive lineman totaled 94 tackles with nine sacks in 2017 after recording 124 tackles with six sacks and two interceptions in 2016.

Academically, Manni owns a 4.0 GPA, is a member of the National Honor Society, is an academic letterman and maintains First Honors.

The son of Liz and Pat Malone, Manni lives in Chardon.



JOSHUA PERONI, Football
Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, MI

Josh Peroni, whose football life started in kindergarten playing flag football at the Munson YMCA is headed to Michigan to start his college experience after signing with Division II Hillsdale College, a member of the Great Midwest Athletic Conference.

“The main factor is the quality of the education,” said Josh, a running back and defensive back, on his choice. “But, also, the ability to play immediately as a freshman at multiple positions was a plus. And my parents and grandpa will be able to come to games.”

A three-year letterwinner at NDCL, Peroni earned all-state, all-district, all-area and all-North Coast League honors the past two seasons. In 2017, he made a stir with his return abilities, returning a punt for a 61-yard touchdown against Cleveland Heights and taking back a kickoff for a 95-yard score against Walsh Jesuit.

Peroni, who plans on majoring in finance/investment banking, is a member of the National Honor Society, has two academic letters and maintains Second Honors.

A native of Chardon, Josh is the son of Gwynn and Victor Peroni.

CHARLIE TOMAN, Golf
Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN



Two-time OHSAA champion Charlie Toman capped off his record-setting senior year by inking with Valparaiso University, a member of the Missouri Valley Conference, in the early signing period in November.

Charlie, who has his sights on the PGA, set an OHSAA State Tournament North Star G.C. record by shooting a 66 on the first day en route to his second state title as he helped the Lions to a runner-up finish. He also won the title as a freshman in 2014. In addition, Charlie owns almost 100 career wins and reached the 2016 U.S. Junior Amateur, shooting five under to qualify.

In addition to his excellence on the links, Toman shines in the classroom as well where he earned a National Honor Society membership and has received academic honors every year.

Toman is the son of Graziella and Timothy Toman of Chardon.

