
65 Years of Red Devils Football

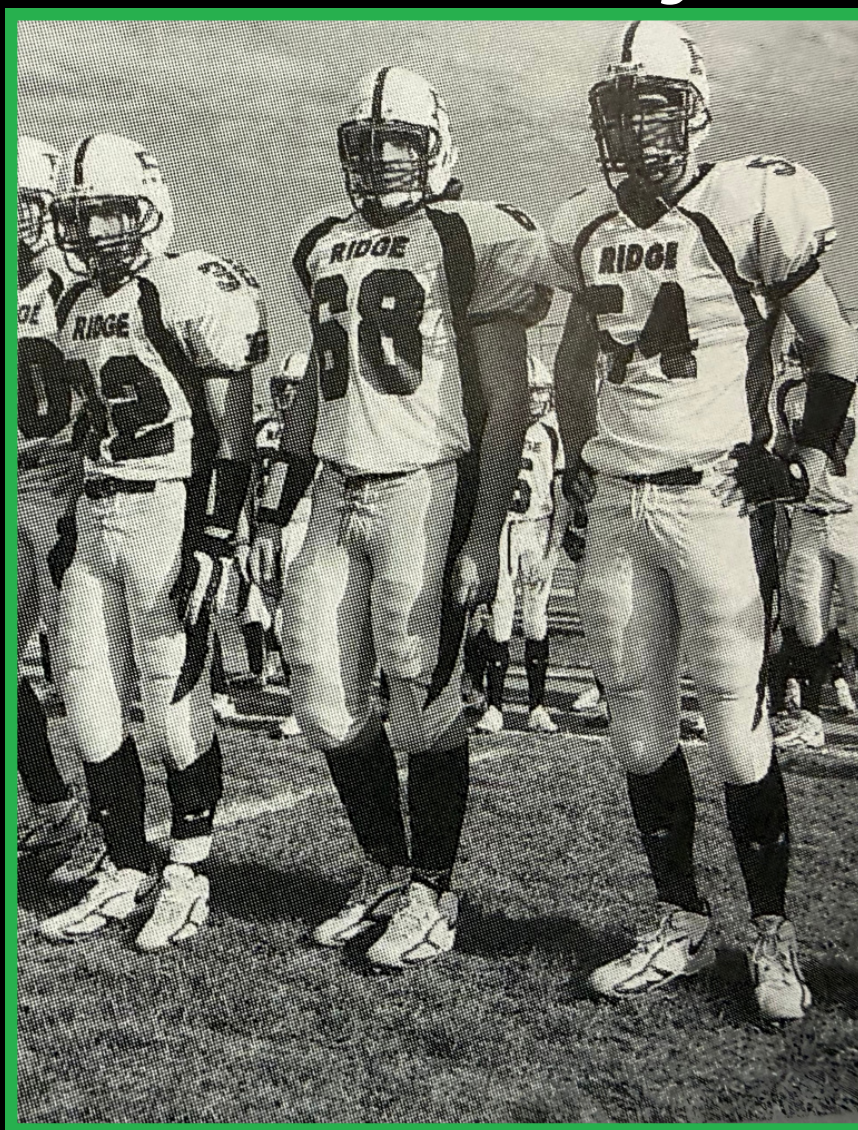
1961



2026

THE STORY CONTINUES

2004 - Today



As Ridge Football moved beyond the championship season of 2003, the program entered a period of change. Over the next two decades, new head coaches would take the reins—each leaving his own mark on the Red Devils while carrying the program forward.

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THE MOTOLLA YEARS

Under Tony Mottola, Ridge navigated the mid-2000s before breaking through with a **9-2 season** in 2008. Among the players who helped lead the Red Devils during this era was 2006 senior captain Jeff Sutherland, who would return years later to lead the program as head coach.



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THE BILL TRACY YEARS

Bill Tracy took over the Ridge program in 2009, leading the Red Devils to a **9–3 record** in his first season. Over the next several years, Tracy and the Red Devils continued building — setting the stage for a **historic season in 2013**.

COACH OF THE YEAR

**Success follows
Tracy to Ridge**



Bill Tracy

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A PERFECT FINISH

**Perfect ending to a perfect season:
Ridge foils Union to capture crown**



Ridge quarterback Conor Hughes got good blocking from his offensive line all day Sunday. JASON TOWLEN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RIDGE 28, LINDEN 14



Ridge's William Vogt runs for yardage against Linden during Friday night's game. ED PAGLIARINI/SPECIAL TO NJ PRESS MEDIA

Ridge's perfect season continues

By Harry Frezza
@thefrez56

BERNARDS — Ridge High School's march toward perfection continues.

The No. 1 Red Devils (11-0) ousted No. 5 Linden, 28-14, Friday night to advance to the North 2 Group V title game against second-seeded Union. The final will be played at a site to be announced Dec. 6, 7 or 8.

Ridge will play in its first final since 2009 when it lost to Phillipsburg in the North 2 IV title game. Ridge won the North 2 Group III title in 2003 after losing to Manasquan in the 2001 Central Group II final. Ridge won an uncontested Central Group II title in 1987.

See PERFECT, Page B5

Ridge completed a historic **12-0** season in 2013, defeating Union 48-13 to capture the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 5 championship and complete the first **undefeated season in school history**. The Red Devils delivered one of their best performances when it mattered most, completing a perfect championship run under head coach Bill Tracy.

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THE ANDY WEST YEARS

Under head coach Andy West, Ridge continued its **tradition of postseason football**, with the Red Devils showing the toughness to compete in close games. In a **22–14 playoff victory over Rahway**, Ridge rallied from a 14–7 halftime deficit behind senior Aidan Stieglitz and a defense that came up big late. West's message was one of confidence — if Ridge played its game, it was capable of beating anyone.



Coach Andy West talks to his Ridge football team during a 22-14 win over Rahway in the first round of state playoffs on Friday.

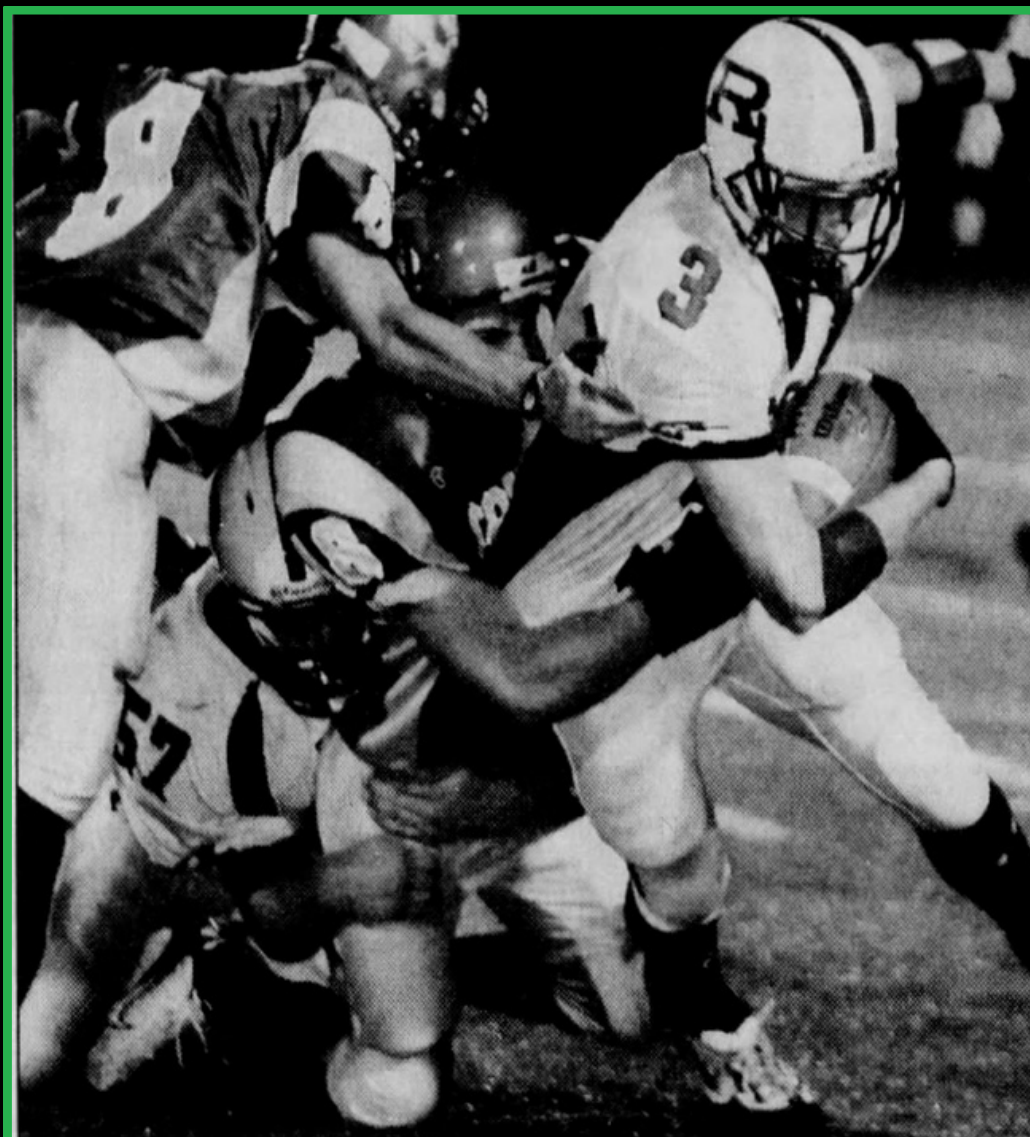
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FROM PLAYER...



MATTHEW APGAR/COURIER NEWS
Ridge's Jeff Sutherland, right, holds on to the ball as Montgomery's Jose Hidalgo, left, and Eric Karlik try to take him down after a reception during Thursday night's game in Montgomery. Sutherland received blocking help from Jason Rothamel (57).



...TO HEAD COACH

Jeff Sutherland's connection to Ridge Football began long before he became head coach. A member of the varsity program in the mid-2000s, Sutherland served as a **senior captain of the 2006 Red Devils**. Years later, he returned to lead the program he once played for.

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CARRYING THE TRADITION FORWARD

2025Football



Varsity

Row 6: Coach McCarthy, Coach Vena, Coach Sutherland, Coach Arimenta, Coach Giordano
Row 5: J. Gilbert, C. Rinaldi, M. Novello, J. Donley, B. Cunningham, M. Hill, C. Forzani, C. Duly, C. Ryan, E. Thomas
Row 4: H. Wavro, A. Kovalcik, T. Bressler, S. Olsewski, D. Dorman, A. Beasley, K. Aureyre, S. Lemanowicz
Row 3: Z. Blanford, J. Pickell, M. Marchitto, E. Ibrahim, H. Seo, M. Angelillo, Z. Brady, D. Garcia, F. Pravda, M. Fanelli
Row 2: L. Silva, O. Ramos, R. Abubkar, J. Jimenez, C. Griffith, G. Brown, M. Luzzi, S. Coffey, H. Villalba-Ozuna, M. Montalvo
Row 1: N. Manji, M. Wiwi, L. Paolillo, A. Valera, T. Nicholson, N. Engdahl, S. Paul, N. Pfennig, M. Amadon, E. Hess, L. Balderson, M. Kocek

26♦



Seniors

♦97



CAPTAINS

"All we got, all we need" - T. Nicholson, A. Valera, L. Paolillo, & N. Engdahl

The 2025 Red Devils carried forward more than six decades of Ridge Football tradition. Every season adds new names, new memories and new moments to a story that began in 1961.

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THE STORY IS STILL BEING WRITTEN



A new season. The next chapter.