
PREFACE

A Message From Coach Stewart

Football is a game that can be very complex with its 22 moving parts while at the same time being so simple. This paradox of learning all of its interconnected layers while not forgetting the simplicity of its fundamentals makes coaching football a great challenge. The successful coaches all have one thing in common: single-mindedness. They have bought into something that they really believe in and became an expert at it.

“Name an offense or defensive scheme and I’ll find a coach who went 10-0 running it

I have seen to many young coaches who have not yet decided which direction they want to go on offense, defense, or just general coaching philosophy. Experimentation is good, but it can be painful and I have seen programs crumble or at the very least have stunted growth while the head coach is searching for a single, sound concept. I encourage shopping around—calling, writing, and visiting coaches you admire. Investigate all aspects of their attacks. Talk it over with your coaches and mentors, think it through. But once you decide, lock on and stick with it through the rough waters that definitely will come as your entire program is learning it.

In my experience, the biggest tests will come from within the inner circle of your program from people who believe they have the program in their best interest. These are people that you trust and they are not intentionally being disloyal, but they were not with you at every step as you formed your vision. You need to have a “contagious” confidence that comes from knowing you have a sound product. The hidden fears of uncertainty will be diminished by the knowledge that is gained by your staff and players as you shape and develop it.

It is OK to add your personal touch in many areas. In fact, it is imperative that you take ownership and make it your own. The head coach must remain true to himself and not try to be someone or something that he is not. The following statement is true in all areas of life, not just football: “Be yourself, not your idea of what you think somebody else’s idea of yourself should be.”

As you take in all of our X’s and O’s, our techniques, and drills.... please remember the most important job that you have as coach: To teach your players to be better sons, husbands, and fathers.

It’s never an easy decision to change offenses or go away from your Wing-T roots. This playbook is not only written in great detail to make *YOUR* learning easier, it comes with a CD-Rom with powerpoints and handouts to make teaching your *PROGRAM* effortless. Finally, as the many testimonials attest, I am always available to answer your questions.

Rick Stewart, January, 2017

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