Max Arnold

Football • McKenzie, TN

app.og1.app/p/maxarnoldjr

CAREER RECORDS

Defensive Graduate Assistant - Nickel Coach — Jacksonville State University
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | 1 seasons | 9W-4L (69.2%)

Special Teams Analyst — Middle Tennessee State University
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | 2 seasons | 6W-18L (25.0%)

QB/WR/DB Coach & Special Teams Coordinator — Grace Christian Academy
TSSAA | 1 seasons | 6W-6L (50.0%)

Defensive Analyst - Linebackers — University of Alabama at Birmingham
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | 2 seasons | 15W-8L (65.2%)

Special Teams Graduate Assistant — University of Louisiana Lafayette
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | 3 seasons | 25W-15L (62.5%)

Defensive Backs Quality Control — University of Tennessee Knoxville
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | 1 seasons | 4W-8L (33.3%)

Biography

One thing I would like you to know about me is that coaching football is much more to me than making a dollar amount or achieving some level of “public status”. For myself, it goes back to a car ride on the way to school with my mom at the age of 6 years old. I had just surrendered my life to God and was baptized the night before and I asked my mother, “What do I do next?” and she told me, “God has given you gifts and passions and its your responsibility to use those gifts to glorify God and lead people to a relationship with Jesus Christ.” It was at that moment I knew I was gifted athletically and I knew people pay attention to athletes and coaches, so I decided right then that I was going to play football as long as possible and then go straight into coaching.

The road hasn’t been easy but its been edifying to experience first hand how God provides our daily bread. In high school, I broke my neck playing football and was told I would never play again. But God provided, and I walked-on to my state university at Knoxville Tennessee, earned a scholarship and was voted a captain. Since entering the coaching ranks I’ve had my apartment hit by a tornado leaving me to live out of my car for months. I’ve worked doubles at a hotel in the off-season, driven over 7,000 rides between Lyft and Uber combined, coached the 5am bootcamp classes at D1 Training before 8am staff meetings, rented my car out on Turo and apartment on AirBnB all to make ends meet in pursuit of doing what I know God has called me to do.

Throughout this profile you’ll see I’ve been blessed to be apart of some really good teams. I’ve gotten to win championships, coach All-Americans, and help set a few records along the way. But all of those things are temporal and fail in comparison to seeing a young man give their life to Jesus Christ. To see a 19 year old boy mature into a 22 year old man who can handle whatever life may throw at them because they’ve secured their life to the Firm Foundation. My

favorite calls are from former players asking me questions about the Bible, life in general, or just simply asking me to pray for them. Because these are the moments that bring me full circle. As God uses these moments to remind me that regardless of what any scoreboard or paycheck says, I am accomplishing what He has called me to do.

Statement

Adversity does not create character, it reveals it. So prepare in such a way that you can be proud of what is revealed.

Achievement

#9 National FEI Special Teams Ranking
Cumulative Special Teams Ranking

#2 National Ranking Punt Return Defense
Allowed Negative 4 Punt Return yards all season

#22 ESPN National Special Teams Ranking
#8 Most Improved Special Teams in the Nation from 2023-2024

#1 Cumulative Special Teams in CUSA
2nd Best Kick Return Defense & Punt Average in MTSU History

Education

Sport Management
University of Tennessee at Knoxville

Career

Special Teams Analyst at Middle Tennessee State University
#22 Ranked National Special Teams
#8 Most Improved Special Teams in Nation

QB/WR/DB Coach & Special Teams Coordinator at Grace Christian Academy
2nd Round Playoffs

Defensive Backs Quality Control at University of Tennessee Knoxville
Coached 3rd Round NFL Draft Pick Rashaan Gaulden & NFL veterans Emmanuel Mosely & Nigel Warrior

Special Teams Graduate Assistant at University of Louisiana Lafayette
2021 Sunbelt Conference Champions
#16 Ranked Team in Nation & Nation's Longest Win Streak (13)
#9 Ranked National Net Punt (43.1)
2022 #9 Ranked National Special Teams
2023 1st in Sunbelt in KOR Defense/Net Punt/Punt Return Defense

Defensive Analyst - Linebackers at University of Alabama at Birmingham
CUSA Western Division Champions
#8 National Ranked Total Defense

Defensive Graduate Assistant - Nickel Coach at Jacksonville State University
Ohio Valley Conference Champions
#15 National Ranked Total Defense

PRINCIPLES

• I coach for Jesus Christ.

• Rules without relationship always leads to rebellion.

• "It is not what a man does that determines whether his work is sacred or secular, it is why he does it." A. W. Tozer

• "If my life is fruitless, it doesn't matter who praises me, and if my life is fruitful, it doesn't matter who criticizes me." John Bunyan

• "Anger does a man more hurt than that which made him angry." Charles Spurgeon

• "Guard your thoughts and there will be little fear about your actions." J. C. Ryle

• "Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow, it empties today of its strength." Corrie Ten Boom

• If you prayed for it, prepare for it. Prepare your heart to celebrate not in sin, but in praise.

• "Hope for the best, get ready for the worst, and then take what God chooses to send." Matthew Henry

• "My prayer is that when I die, all of hell rejoices that I am out of the fight." C. S. Lewis

---

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

Dalen Cambre
University of Louisiana Lafayette | Football (Men)
Coached for 3 years.
PFF Special Teams All-American
Began career as a walk-on.
Currently with NY Giants

Kenny Almendares
University of Louisiana Lafayette | Football (Men)
Coached 3 years. Won the Lou Groza Award

Brody Butler
Middle Tennessee State University | Football (Men)
Coached 1 year. 1st Team All-Conference. 100% Perfect Snaps.

Alex Wright
University of Alabama at Birmingham | Football (Men)
Coached 2 years. 4th Round NFL Draft Pick.

Jordan Smith
University of Alabama at Birmingham | Football (Men)
Coached 2 years. 4th Round NFL Draft Pick. Was able to personally train Jordan during the Summer 2019. 1st Team All-Conference. Reese's Senior Bowl Selection. 10 sacks in 2019.

Ashton Logan
Middle Tennessee State University | Football (Men)
Coached 1 year. First year starting. Led Nation with 30 out of 67 punts down inside the 20 (45%) with 15 inside the 10 (22%). 2nd best All-Time Punt avg at MTSU (44.7). 3rd best Net

Punt at MTSU through 2004 (40.3). Had 19 punts over 50 yds.

Jacob Fuqua
University of Alabama at Birmingham | Football (Men)
Coached 1 year. 2020
Patrick Mannelly Award Semi-Finalist. 4th Team All-American. 1st Team All-Conference

Thomas Leo
University of Louisiana Lafayette | Football (Men)
Coached 3 years. 1st year starting. Finished 2nd in Nation Punt Return Defense (-4 yds allowed all season). 1st in Conference Net Punt (39.6)

Eric Garror
University of Louisiana Lafayette | Football (Men)
Coached 2 years. In 2022 Led the Nation in Punt Return Yards (442) and TD's (2).

Rhys Byrns
University of Louisiana Lafayette | Football (Men)
Coached 2 years. 2x 1st Team All-Conference.

Rashaun Gaulden
University of Tennessee | Football (Men)
Coached 1 year. 3rd Round NFL Draft Pick

Zac Woodard
Jacksonville State University | Football (Men)
Coached 1 year. 2nd Team All-Conference.

ATHLETIC CAREER

Defensive Back — University of Tennessee Knoxville
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | Football (Men) | 2011 - 2015
Walk-on Quarterback. Earned a Scholarship as a 3 year Letterman Defensive Back. John Stucky Iron Vol Award Winner voted by teammates for best work ethic on the team. Voted Team Captain. 4-Core starter on Tennessee's 2015 Nation's #1 Ranked Cumulative Special Teams Units.

Quarterback, Safety, Punt & Kick Returner, Placekicker, Punter — McKenzie High School
TSSAA | Football (Men) | 2008 - 2010
All-State Defensive Back
Also played Quarterback, Punt Returner, Kick Returner, Placekicker, and Punter on a 3x State Semi-Final Program. (Record: 33-7)

Basketball: All-District Point Guard
Baseball: All-District Short Stop

COACHING CAREER

Special Teams Co-Coordinator — Middle Tennessee State University
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | Football (Men) | 2025 - 2025
#1 Ranked Special Teams in CUSA.
#1 Ranked in Nation Punts inside 20
#1 Ranked KOR Defense in CUSA (16.7ypr)
Zero TDs Allowed. Zero KOR allowed over 25 yds. Zero Turnovers Lost

Special Teams Analyst — Middle Tennessee State University
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | Football (Men) | 2024 - 2025

#22 Ranked National Special Teams
#8 Most Improved Special Teams in Nation

Special Teams Graduate Assistant — University of Louisiana Lafayette
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | Football (Men) | 2021 - 2023
2021 Sunbelt Conference Champions
#16 Ranked Team in Nation & Nation's Longest Win Streak (13)
#9 Ranked National Net Punt (43.1)
2022 #9 Ranked National Special Teams
2023 1st in Sunbelt in KOR Defense/Net Punt/Punt Return Defense

Special Teams Analyst — University of Alabama at Birmingham
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | Football (Men) | 2020 - 2021
CUSA Champions
#23 Ranked National Special Teams

Defensive Analyst - Linebackers — University of Alabama at Birmingham
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | Football (Men) | 2019 - 2019
CUSA Western Division Champions
#8 National Ranked Total Defense

Defensive Graduate Assistant - Nickel Coach — Jacksonville State University
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | Football (Men) | 2018 - 2018
Ohio Valley Conference Champions
#15 National Ranked Total Defense

Defensive Backs Quality Control — University of Tennessee Knoxville
NCAA Division I - National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I | Football (Men) | 2017 - 2017
Coached 3rd Round NFL Draft Pick Rashaan Gaulden & NFL veterans Emmanuel Mosely & Nigel Warrior

QB/WR/DB Coach & Special Teams Coordinator — Grace Christian Academy
TSSAA | Football (Men) | 2016 - 2016
2nd Round Playoffs

ENDORSEMENTS

— Christopher (C.J.) Johnson