

20 Years Ago This Season

Valedictory

**1987
(7-4, PL 2-2)**

Coach: Frederick H. Dunlap

Captains: Kenny Gamble, Kyle Warwick

6	at Duke	41
31	Bucknell *	28
19	William & Mary	7
27	at Cornell	3
7	at Holy Cross *	49
6	Lehigh *	7
22	at Army	20
6	at Syracuse	52
35	at Lafayette *	14
39	at Princeton	15
38	Boston University	0
	* Patriot League game	

Andy Kerr Trophy, Offensive MVP
Kenny Gamble

Hal W. Lahar Trophy, Defensive MVP
Greg Manusky

By Jim Leach

The 1987 season marked the end of an era at Colgate: the last of Fred Dunlap's 12 seasons as head coach. Dunlap had undergone double bypass surgery two games into the previous season. Despite his heroic efforts to coach from the press box and then return to the sideline during his recuperation, and the team's determination to win for their coach, the '86 campaign was a struggle.

A 1950 Colgate graduate, Dunlap had served as athletic director and head football coach since returning to the Chenango Valley in 1976. The athletic director presented the football coach with a challenging schedule in '87, including outings against Division I-A opponents Duke, Army and Syracuse.

Dunlap had Division I-AA's premier running back, senior Kenny Gamble, anchoring his offense with the talented receiver Buddy Brown; future All-America Greg Manusky and Matt Jaworski as linebackers teamed with end Kyle Warwick, tackle Tony Khalife and defensive back Sheldon Spicer to form the heart of a veteran defense. But several other positions were works in progress: quarterbacks Gary Aurora, Damon Phelan and Dave Goodwin would each have their chance taking snaps from two inexperienced centers, and freshman kicker Rory Crump was an untested replacement for the graduated veteran Mike Powers.

The team flew to Durham to open the season against Duke and Coach Steve Spurrier's touted "Air Ball" offense. Duke scored early and often, leading at half-time 24-0 and cruising to a 41-6 final. Boarding the plane for the trip back to upstate New York, co-captain Gamble quietly exhorted his disheartened teammates: "Keep your heads up, Can't get that one back. Lots of games ahead."

Crump would be tested in the team's second outing, a Patriot League contest at home versus the Bucknell Bison. He had already missed on three point-after attempts when Dunlap called on him for a field goal that would break a 28-all tie. With 1:27 remaining, Crump delivered. Jaworski sealed the win with an interception on Bucknell's ensuing drive. Co-captain Warwick made eight tackles, including two sacks, Manusky had ten and Jaworski eleven to nullify Bucknell's running attack.

The team next avenged a 1986 loss at William and Mary when the Raiders surprised the

Returning home to face Lehigh, the defense led by Manusky, Jaworski, fellow linebacker John Mody, Khalife and Spicer held the Engineers to seven points. But the offense could manage only six in a game in which neither team reached 220 yards in total offense.

Dunlap had moved Phelan to wide receiver after the loss at Holy Cross, but brought the junior back to orchestrate the offense when the Raiders traveled to Michie Stadium to face Army. He connected with eight receivers for 263 yards and two touchdowns, and leaped over an Army defender to land in the end zone for a third TD on the ground. The

offensive line cleared the way for Gamble to gain 188 yards on the ground, and Crump kicked a 17-yard field goal that provided the margin of victory, 22-20. Dunlap had his offense run the wishbone during spring and pre-season, primarily to prepare the defense for Army, and the tactic paid off. Manusky had 20 tackles and Jaworski 15 to lead a defense that held Army to 39 yards passing.

There was little time to savor the victory; Colgate traveled to Syracuse the following Saturday to play the Orange indoors. Gamble amassed 204 all-purpose yards, and Phelan and Goodwin combined for 180 yards passing, but a Syracuse team that would finish third in the nation rolled 52-6. Slim solace that Colgate still holds a 31-29-5 advantage in a series that dates to 1891.

The Raiders closed the 7-4 season and Dunlap's head coaching career against three I-AA opponents, defeating Lafayette (35-14) and Princeton (39-15) on the road before returning home to shut out Boston University 38-0.

Gamble won the first Walter Payton Award as the best player in Division I-AA. He, Manusky and Jaworski would go on to play in the NFL. Admirers of Fred Dunlap would give the stands where Colgate's fans are seated (and standing) today. You'll find Fred with Marilyn in the maroon section.

Greg Manusky

recovering from an injury suffered against Bucknell, set a new career I-AA record for all-purpose yardage. Khalife recovered a fumble, sacked the quarterback, and recorded seven tackles as the defense held William and Mary scoreless after the first quarter.

At Cornell's Schoellkopf Field the following week, it was Phelan who quarterbacked the Raider offense in a 27-3 victory over the Big Red.

Phelan and Aurora each struggled in week five against a strong Holy Cross team at Fitton Field in Worcester. Freshman Goodwin, who would emerge as a star in future seasons, took his first snaps in the closing two series. Holy Cross prevailed, 49-7.

Tribe
19-7 on
Home-
coming
Weekend
in Hamilton.
Aurora was
named ECAC
Rookie of the
Week for his 279
yards passing, and
Gamble, though still

