

Volume 17 - Season Update - October 2, 2026



A MESSAGE FROM COACH VIGIL



Dear ThunderWolves Family,

Six games into the 2026 season, your CSU Pueblo ThunderWolves are off to a great start. While we're proud of what this team has accomplished so far, we know there is much more ahead.

The work that began in the summer has carried into the season, and every practice, every game, and every challenge has continued to shape this team. Throughout it all one thing will always rings true:

The Pride And Tradition Of Pack Football Will Not Be Entrusted To The Timid Nor The Weak!

We will continue to carry on tradition!

None of this happens without the incredible support of our fans, alumni, former players, and everyone who continues to believe in CSU Pueblo Football. Your energy and commitment to this program are felt by our players and coaches every step of the way. Thank you for standing with the Pack and helping make this journey so special.

As we look toward the second half of the season, the doors of the Packhouse remain open. We look forward to bringing our alumni and ThunderWolf family together to celebrate the proud tradition of CSU Pueblo Football while continuing to build what comes next.

God Bless & Go Pack!

Philip Vigil

HOT START FOR THE PACK



Fourth-ranked Colorado State University Pueblo football looks to continue its unbeaten start Saturday, Oct. 3, as the ThunderWolves travel to Alamosa, Colorado, to face Adams

State in a Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference game. Kickoff is scheduled for 12:05 p.m. at Rex Stadium.

The Pack currently holds a 5-0 overall record and a 3-0 mark in the RMAC following last Saturday's 35-23 Band Day victory over Colorado Mesa at the ThunderBowl.

The victory was the Pack's 14th consecutive regular-season win and extended its NCAA Division II-leading conference winning streak to 28 games. In addition, the Pack's current five-game win streak is tied for the fourth longest active win streak in Division II. CSU Pueblo has also won 17 consecutive road games, the longest active streak in NCAA Division II, following victories at Fort Hays State and Chadron State earlier this season.

CSU Pueblo enters the weekend leading the RMAC in total offense at 498.0 yards per game, passing offense at 311.2 yards per game and third-down conversions at 52.5 percent. The Pack is averaging 38.4 points and 186.8 rushing yards per contest.

Sophomore quarterback Navi Bruzon (Peoria, Ariz./Highland CC) has completed 93-of-141 passes for 1,533 yards and 16 touchdowns, with three interceptions. He is completing 66 percent of his passes and has added 118 rushing yards and three touchdowns on the ground. He ranks second nationally in Division II in passing touchdowns, points responsible for (114), and passing yards and is third nationally in Division II in passing yards per game (306.6) and total offense per game (330.2).

Receivers Marcellus Honeycutt, Jr. (Aurora, Colo./Eastern Washington) and Dedrek Taylor-Akins have combined for 50 receptions, 944 receiving yards and nine touchdowns. Sophomore running back Russell Patton (Denver, Colo./MLK Jr. Early College) leads the rushing attack with 321 yards and two touchdowns, while Jaedon Matthews has added 231 yards and a score.

On defense, CSU Pueblo leads the conference in scoring defense, allowing 17.6 points per game. The Pack has recorded 16 sacks and six interceptions while limiting opponents to a 52.9 percent completion rate.

Following Saturday's contest, the Pack will have an open date on Oct. 10 before returning to the ThunderBowl to host New Mexico Highlands for Homecoming 2026 and Hall of Fame Day on Saturday, Oct. 17, at 2 p.m., in the ThunderBowl.

HOMEcomings 2026



CSU-Pueblo homecoming week is October 12th through the 17th. The 17th annual Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet is one of three on-campus events held during CSU Pueblo's Homecoming weekend celebration set for October 16-17, 2026. The Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held in the Occhiato Student Center Ballroom on the CSU Pueblo campus on October 16. Our homecoming game against New Mexico Highlands will follow October 17th at 2pm.

HALL OF FAME



Six former student-athletes, a coach from a national championship team, a contributor and a women's basketball team will be part of the 17th induction class for the CSU Pueblo Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2026.

The ceremony will be highlighted by the induction our beloved Coach, the late great **Donnell Leomiti**, Offensive Lineman **Scott Gallas** (Football, 1977-1980) and record setting Wide Receiver **John Trahan** (Football, 1981-1984).

Donnell Leomiti (Football Coach, 2007-2020) - One of the first hires when CSU Pueblo restarted football, Leomiti coached Pack defensive backs when the program resumed in 2008 and was the recruiting coordinator for the first 10 seasons. In 2017, he was the co-defensive coordinator before gaining the full reins of the defense in 2018. He coached nine All-Americans, 15 All-Region selections, and 38 All-RMAC picks. During his tenure, the ThunderWolves led NCAA Division II in interceptions in 2011, 2014, 2018, and 2019. The secondary on the 2014 NCAA Division II National Championship team was something special. All four of the starting defensive backs were named All-RMAC, while three went on to earn All-American honors. The 2014 defense finished the season first in the nation in scoring defense (12.8), passes intercepted (29), defensive touchdowns (7), and turnovers gained (43). Leomiti, who played collegiate football at the University of Colorado, passed away in 2020 due to pancreatic neuroendocrine carcinoma that was diagnosed in the fall of 2013. Leomiti's wife, Lauren, was inducted into the CSU Pueblo Athletics Hall of Fame in 2019.

Scott Gallas (Football, 1977-1980) - The catalyst to bring the then 1980 University of Southern Colorado Indians to the national stage in his senior season, Gallas blocked for the likes of CSU Pueblo Hall of Famers Bill Gower and Mick McCall. A four-year starter on the offensive line, he was an All-American selection and a two-time RMAC

pick. Gallas was a team captain as a senior. He also lettered in track and field as a discus thrower for then USC. After graduating from USC, Gallas coached in the Denver area, including 23 seasons at Northglenn.

John Trahan (Football, 1981-1984) - Before the resumption of football at CSU Pueblo in 2008, Trahan was the school's career leader in receiving (126 receptions for 2,244 yards and 16 touchdowns). A three-time All-Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference selection, Trahan led the league in receiving in 1982 with 41 catches for 917 yards and 10 touchdowns. His 12 pass receptions (vs. Colorado Mesa in 1982), 207 receiving yards (vs. Colorado Mesa in 1982), and three touchdown receptions (vs. Fort Lewis in 1982) rank among the top three single-game efforts in the Pack record book. Trahan's efforts in 1982, when the then-Indians advanced to the NAIA playoffs, earned him NAIA All-American honors. After graduating, Trahan worked and coached in the Denver area.

Hall of Fame inductees will be recognized during the 2 p.m. homecoming football at the CSU Pueblo ThunderBowl on October 17 against New Mexico Highlands.

CSU PUEBLO 2026 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Make plans to come out to support the Pack at home games. Come early for tailgating and help continue making the Thunderbowl the most feared place to play in the RMAC.

[2026 Football Schedule](#)

PACK FOOTBALL ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Max Fine
2017-2022

maxfine13@outlook.com

(will provide contact info for alumni features so people can connect)

Position in college: Wide Receiver

Degree(s) in: Bachelors in Business Management and Minor in Exercise Science

Current Occupation and Residence: Assistant Manager at Four Horseman. Gilbert, Arizona

Family Members: Monica (mom), Rex (dad), Chase (brother) & Shane (brother)

Favorite Memory: Dirty Dozens

Value CSU Pueblo Added to Me as a Person: It added strength to my character, it forced me to conquer difficult tasks. It molded into who I am today!

Career Accomplishments/Honors:

2018 RMAC CHAMPS

2021 CSU- PUEBLO WR OF THE YEAR

2022 All-NFFCC SECOND TEAM WR



We want to keep everyone connected; please fill out the questionnaire below to be featured in an upcoming Alumni Spotlight!

Alumni Spotlight Questionnaire



NOTE: If you know of any football alumni that is not receiving this newsletter, and would like to, please reply to this email with their best email address and we will add them to the database!

We will utilize this platform to be able to give you an inside look into our program. We are excited to be able to connect with you throughout the year. CSU Pueblo is a special place, and it is largely due to the support of the Alumni like yourself. We want to continue to bridge the gap between USC & CSU Pueblo and bring all those that love this great university together.

I want to personally invite you back into our program. I want you to know that you are more than welcome to be around our facility, our staff, at practice, and as always, at our games. I know that I do not know many of you, but I look forward to changing that in time. In the meantime, please know that I will do my very best to carry on the legacy of this historic program.

Thanks for keeping up with YOUR Thunderwolves Football team each week! Your support pushes our program forward and I want to personally thank you!

We hope the recap and preview in this newsletter each week gives you all the information you are looking for within YOUR football program! We hope to see you at a game soon! GO PACK!

Please feel free to contact me any time on my cell 936-221-6737. Would love to connect with you.

-Philip Vigil

Please consider supporting Pack Football. We need you to continue the legacy of this great program. To support Pack Football please click on the link below.

Support Pack Football