

SEVEN YEARS IN THE MAKING

With one game left in the regular season, the Comets face a must-win game tonight to make it to the playoffs

Katelyn Cain | Sports Editor

A win they're in; a loss they're out. After five straight losing seasons, and seven years since a playoff berth, the Comets only have to win tonight against Sycamore to gain a spot in the playoffs, according to offensive lineman, senior Taylor Cole.

Cole said that if the team makes it to the playoffs, it would be a great accomplishment.

"It would be a great accomplishment, especially with how tough the GMC is, and how tough our schedule is this season," Cole said. "Being the first team since I believe 04' to make it to the playoffs would be a great accomplishment."

According to head coach Brian Castner, if the team makes it to the playoffs, he would feel more happy for

the players than for himself.

"I'm more happy for the players [than for myself], who have been told that they are too slow, too small and not tough enough," Castner said. "I'm more happy for them, because we're just one win away."

According to Cole, the differences between this season and past season were the offseason workouts and the close senior class.

"Our offseason work definitely helped...the workouts were really hard," Cole said. "And our senior class was tight. We stayed close together through the ups and downs, and we all trusted each other to do the right thing; make the plays when they needed to be made."

Cole said that if the team makes it to the playoffs, the

team goal would be to focus on each individual game.

"Our team goals would be to take one game at a time and make it as far as we can by working together. Just beat who we have to play, don't think ahead too much. Just take it one week [at a time]," Cole said.

The Comets have also reached another milestone this season, according to Castner, by having the first winning season since 2005, with a record of 6-3. Cole said this was a huge accomplishment for the team and a great feeling.

"It feels really good to be the first winning team since back when I was in sixth grade; especially with the tougher competition in the GMC," Cole said. "But we're not done yet. We still have more wins to come."



Quarterback J.D. Sprague celebrates after Comets recover a fumble during the game versus Oak Hills on Friday, October 14.

photo by Mitchell Matacia

C TRADING PUNCHES

How out of whack is the NCAA?

They are sitting by, watching teams jump conference to conference, they allow Notre Dame and Texas to broker their own TV and network deals that bring in millions of dollars to their schools, but if a football player at Ohio State gets a job to make a few bucks so he can buy a nice shirt to take a girl out on a date he gets suspended for five games.

Is it out of control?

The NCAA is way out of control. The biggest thing is not the larger sports, like football and basketball where most of the issues are, but, smaller programs such as tennis, and swimming, are impacted. The switching of conferences hurts these sports; while a group of Cincinnati football fans will travel to see the football teams to play far away teams such as Boise State or teams in California, who is going to travel that for the small sports? The NCAA is a sanctioned

Joseph Spencer



association over all sports, and they should start working to help all sports.



James Nosek

The only thing that is out of control is the violations by these colleges, coaches and players who are not following the rules. Even though I don't agree with all the NCAA's rules 100% of the time, there are too many violations from pretty much every big football program. But looking at colleges getting TV deals and moving from conference to conference, that's just business so I can't say that's out of control. Maybe people should look past that and look at how many violations there have been in the last year.

Whatever happened to focusing on the actual playing of the game? The NCAA allowing schools to sign TV and network deals is crazy, especially if they don't even let athletes get jobs without flipping out. How can they not let the little things slide, but allow huge problems like signing TV deals? What the NCAA needs to work on is being consistent with their rules. Either not allow any of those things, or allow all of them. Going from conference to conference isn't valid either. If

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you're going to change conferences, it needs to be somewhat close.