



## **Pete Shinnick** **University of West Florida**

After a collegiate coaching career spanning more than 25 years, Pete Shinnick came to the University of West Florida in 2014 as the school's first football head coach.

The two years that followed his hiring were some of the most progressive in the country. He hired an extremely talented staff that included two former college head coaches and numerous former college standout players.

The 2016 season saw the program compile a 5-6 record, marking the most wins by a first-year Division II program in a decade. The Argonauts also collected the school's first win over a ranked opponent, defeating #16 Florida Tech at home before a sellout crowd on national television. UWF played before capacity crowds at Blue Wahoos Stadium three times and ranked 18th in the NCAA with a 6,328 average.

UWF had four players earn all-GSC honors, led by first team selections defensive back and wide receiver. Other awards included the GSC Defensive Freshman of the Year, all-region honorees, and second-team all-conference plaudits. The Argos were equally as impressive in the classroom, with players earning CoSIDA Academic All-District and Academic All-GSC mention. An additional 23 student-athletes were named to the league's Academic Honor Roll.

Shinnick's career has included stints as a head coach at Azusa Pacific and UNC Pembroke, and he will lead the UWF football program in its first season in 2016.