







# LONG NIGHTS, ANTICIPATION, AND HARD WORK: MY TIME AS A FOOTBALL PHOTOGRAPHER

HOW I SPENT MY FRIDAY NIGHTS  
FOR A MAJORITY OF THE FIRST SEMESTER  
BY AIDEN OWEN

During the 2018 season, Coach Klatt made arrangements for the Mead Mavericks football team to have their own staff photographer. Maybe you saw him running along the sidelines working hard to get the right shots. Maybe you have seen some of those shots in The Mav or on Instagram. My name is Aiden Owen, and I'm that photographer.

I was honored that Coach Klatt gave me the opportunity to photograph the home and away games. I wanted to not only provide the coach and players with good photos of the games but also capture the away games for the students, staff, and family members that aren't always able to make it to those games.

As a member of the Marching Band, I'd like to thank Mr. Lemons for letting me change rolls after the halftime show. I was nervous about juggling both, but, with the support of my friends in the band and on the sideline, I was able to make it work.

Now that the season has come to an end, I can reflect back on the amazing times I had.

There is something liberating about stepping onto the turf with my camera. When I go onto that field nothing other than me, my camera, and the players, the camera and I become one.

One thing I learned is that there is absolutely nothing that can truly prepare you for actually being on the field taking photos. There are thousands of hours of video tutorials and hundreds of articles on football photography, but none of them accurately capture the adrenaline I experience on the sideline.

Photography is much more time consuming than I initially thought. Even though the games last less than three hours, I would find myself spending close to 30 hours a week on the photos themselves. By the end of the season, I had amassed 22,881 photos with over 3,500 keepers, taking up over 875 gigabytes of space.

So, without further ado, these are my best photos from my time with the football team.

Cover: Jake Wachter, #23, jumps on Ryan Bullock, #34, after a touchdown in the playoff game vs. Evergreen. The Mavs go on to win that game 56-13

Left: Jake Wachter, #23, takes the ball on an outside run at the homecoming game vs. Skyview. Mead won that game 37-7