

## Adam Merritt – Assistant Coach, Sophomore



Adam Merritt is entering his first season coaching at Kennedy. A native of Springville, Merritt played Defensive End and Quarterback for Springville High School. Merritt played on the school's first winning season in 18 years. Merritt earned 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-District honors as a Defensive End. A well-rounded student-athlete, Merritt earned 4 varsity letters in football, 3 varsity letters in basketball where he was also a two-time team captain, and 4 varsity letters in baseball. Merritt was also named Student Body

President and was a member of the National Honor Society.

After high school, Merritt attended the University of Northern Iowa, Kirkwood Community College, and Upper Iowa University, where he received a degree in Social Science.

Merritt began his extensive coaching career in 2004 at Hudson High School in Hudson, IA. Merritt coached JV boys basketball at Hudson from 2004-2005. He returned to his alma mater in 2005, serving as a volunteer Assistant Coach for the Springville varsity football team. Merritt coached youth football in the Cedar Rapids Metro Youth Football Association in 2006, and in the Springville youth football program in 2007-2008. He served as an Assistant Baseball Coach for Springville Junior High in 2008-2010. Merritt served as Assistant JV/Varsity boys' basketball coach at Springville in 2010-2011. He served as an Assistant Coach for 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball at Franklin Middle School in Cedar Rapids in 2011-2012. Merritt has served as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' track Coach at Harding Middle School from 2012-2016. Merritt has also served as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade football Coach at Harding Middle School from 2008-2015, where he coached three undefeated teams (2008, 2010, and 2015) and had a record of 30-14-1. In his first year as an Assistant Coach with the Kennedy Sophomore football team, Merritt is working with the Defensive Ends, Tight Ends, and Offensive Line.

Merritt is employed at Rockwell Collins as an Environmental, Safety and Health Specialist.

Merritt resides in Marion with his wife, Kristina, a math teacher at Kennedy, and their two sons, Brody (5) and Cade (2).

When asked why he coaches, Merritt said, "Coaching is about helping young people improve themselves not only on the field but off the field as well. I hope to help them build strong character and always be better on the last day of the season than the first. I think sports can teach great life lessons such as responsibility, hard work and team work. I also love sports and love to coach!"