

# University of Delaware Honorary Degree

**MATTHEW NAGY**  
DOCTOR OF SCIENCE  
*honoris causa*

**Outstanding college and professional quarterback**, you were recruited to play football at the University of Delaware under UD's legendary football coach Tubby Raymond. Week after week, game after game, you pushed yourself to the utmost, racking up more than 20 passing records during your time as quarterback for the Fightin' Blue Hens. You entered the record books for career completions, yardage, touchdowns, and more, besting records set earlier by fellow UD alumnus and former NFL Most Valuable Player Rich Gannon. While some of your records were later broken by another UD alum, former Baltimore Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco, others still stand some two decades later.

In your senior year, you led UD to the 2000 NCAA Football Championship Subdivision semifinals. That same year, you were a first team All-Atlantic 10 selection and earned third team All-American honors from The Sports Network.

After graduating from UD with a bachelor's degree in health and physical education, you played professional ball in the Arena Football League with the New York Dragons, Carolina Cobras, Georgia Force, and Columbus Destroyers. During those six seasons, you recorded more than 18,000 passing yards and 374 touchdown throws and were named second team All-Arena.

**Lauded and successful coach**, after gaining coaching experience at several high schools, you went on to spend five seasons coaching for the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles, serving in your last two years with the team as the offensive quality control coach. You then moved to a coaching position with the Kansas City Chiefs, starting as quarterbacks coach and being promoted in 2017 to offensive coordinator. Under your leadership, the Kansas City offense improved from twentieth in the nation in 2016 to fifth in 2017 and the team took home the AFC West Division championship.

In 2018, you were selected by the Chicago Bears to be their head coach. In your first season, you led the team to a 12-4 regular season finish and the NFC North championship—the team's first since 2010. In so doing, you became only the second coach in Bears' history to have a winning season and qualify for playoffs in their debut season. The Associated Press football writers named you NFL Coach of the Year in 2018.

**Innovative and inspiring leader**, as a player, you were praised for your confidence and dedication. As a coach, you have been described as intelligent, creative, innovative, positive, passionate, caring, and fun. You encourage your players and coaches to enjoy themselves and the sport, and you urge them to be true to themselves. You succeed in drawing out the best from your players and coaches.

As the great coach Vince Lombardi said, "The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand."

Matt Nagy, as a player and as a coach, you have always demonstrated dedication and determination. You haven't won every game, but you have always given your own best and encouraged the best from others.

Therefore, under the authority of the Board of Trustees of the University of Delaware, I have the pleasure and honor of conferring upon you, Matt Nagy, the degree of Doctor of Science *honoris causa* and do declare you entitled to all the rights, honors, and privileges to that degree appertaining throughout the world. In testimony thereof, I am pleased to present to you this diploma.

*John R. Cochran, Chair*  
*June 1, 2019*