

Nate Byham has landed his first Power 5 coaching job. The former Franklin High and Pitt star will be the new tight ends coach at Stanford.

“(I’m grateful for the opportunity to work with the best tight ends in the country,” said Byham, who has been on the staff at the University of Albany since 2014.

“I’ve been putting his name out to power 5 schools for five years. I’m glad (new Stanford head coach Troy Taylor) wasn’t scared off because he was an FCS coach. Nate will be a rock star for that staff,” said Albany coach Greg Gattuso. “I’m so happy for Nate and his family.”

Taylor signed on as Stanford’s new head coach this week. He replaced David Shaw, who resigned in November. The Cardinal was a perennial Top 10 team in the first part of Shaw’s tenure but had floundered in recent seasons with only 14 wins in the last four years.

Stanford also hired Bobby April out of Wisconsin as his defensive coordinator this week.

Dave Wannstedt, his coach at Pitt, was pleased with Byham’s appointment at Stanford. “You’ll be a great addition to the staff both on and off the field,” Wannstedt tweeted.

Byham first served as a volunteer assistant at Albany and became the team’s tight ends coach and run games coordinator in 2015. He was named associate head coach /co-offensive coordinator /offensive line in 2022.

Byham, now 34, was an all-state-type tight end at Franklin and an all-Big East player at Pitt. He was drafted by the San Francisco 49ers and also played for Tampa Bay in the NFL, but a knee injury cut his pro career short.

Paul Zeise, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette columnist, said, “This is a great step for Nate, who has really worked his tail off both coaching and recruiting to get this opportunity. He is going to be a great coach at the power 5 level.”