

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

ATHLETICS

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TECH FOOTBALL PLACES THREE PLAYERS ON ALL-GSC FOOTBALL TEAM

RUSSELLVILLE, Arkansas – Arkansas Tech Wonder Boys Football placed three players on the All-Gulf South Conference Football Team released by the league on Monday.

The All-GSC team is selected by the league's head coaches and the coaches were not allowed to vote for their own players.

Tech's three players selected were senior offensive left guard **Jonathan Trafford** (Morrillton, Ark.), senior defensive back **Andrew Jackson** (Greenville, Miss.) and junior tight end **Josh Rogers** (Russellville, Ark.).

Trafford was a First-Team selection, while Jackson and Rogers were named Second-Team selections.

North Alabama and GSC champion Central Arkansas led the way with 11 overall selections, while Southern Arkansas has eight players selected and Delta State added seven. West Georgia had six players named, while Harding had five and Ouachita Baptist and Valdosta State each had four players named. Arkansas-Monticello had two players selected, while Henderson State and West Alabama each had one player picked.

Among first-team selections, UCA led the way with seven, while North Alabama had five first-team picks and West Georgia and Southern Arkansas each had four first-team selections.

In addition to having seven first-team selections and 11 overall players named, the Bears also had the league's Coach of the Year, Clint Conque and the league's Freshman of the Year, quarterback Nathan Brown.

With his selection, Trafford becomes the 21st Wonder Boy to be named GSC First-Team All-Conference and becomes Tech's second straight offensive linemen to be named first-team all-league after **Jonathan Hayes** was named last season.

Trafford, who was a four-year starter on the offensive line, started all 10 games for the Wonder Boys in 2005 and graded out at 88 percent for the season and recorded 20 knockdown blocks and was named Tech's Offensive MVP after the Henderson State game.

Rogers, who was a first-team selection last season, falls to the second team this year. On the season, the junior preseason All-American caught 24 passes for 259 yards and scored three touchdowns and averaged 10.8 yards per catch.

Jackson, who like Rogers, was a first-team selection last season, finished his senior campaign with 77 total tackles, which was third on the team and he recorded 8.5 tackles for loss, one sack, had one interception, three pass break-ups and a fumble recovery, which was returned for a 50-yard touchdown in the season finale against Central Arkansas.

Joining Trafford on the first-team offensive unit was Delta State quarterback Scott Eyster, who was named the league's Offensive Player of the Year, UCA running back Kentrel Rogers, Southern Arkansas running back D.D. Holyfield, UCA receiver Aaron Fairouz, North Alabama receiver Anthony Merritt, UNA tight end Chip Long, UNA center Lance Ancar, UCA offensive guard David Farr, Delta State offensive guard Robert Young, SAU offensive guard Kevin Berneathy, UCA offensive tackle Justin Jones and Valdosta State offensive tackle Richard Collier.

Meanwhile, the first-team defensive selections were West Georgia linebacker and GSC Defensive Player of the Year, Kelvin Morris. Other members of the defensive team were UCA defensive lineman Jacob Ford, SAU defensive lineman Chris Herring, Valdosta State defensive lineman Tim Thompson, West Georgia defensive lineman Odell Willis, UCA linebacker Quentin Maxfield, DSU linebacker Michael Eubanks, UWG linebacker Brandon Jamison, UCA defensive back Cory Cangelosi, Harding defensive back Torrance Daniels, UNA defensive back Blake Farris and SAU defensive back Demarea Caldwell.

The first-team special teams selections were Valdosta State kicker Michael Green, UWG punter Jeff Carpenter, UNA return specialist Anthony Merritt and West Alabama's Paul Girton was a blocking team selection.

Joining Rogers on the second-team offense was UNA quarterback Vinnie Saylor, UAM running back John L. Williams, DSU running back Jason Snell, OBU running back Don Rich, UWG running back Abe Felix, UNA receiver Jaron Fountain, OBU receiver Bruce Steele, SAU tight end Johnny Fields, DSU center Ryan Barker, DSU offensive guard Travis Mikel-Allen, OBU offensive guard Luke Woodard, UNA offensive tackle Bret Mask and SAU offensive tackle Ed Primas.

In addition to Jackson, the second-team defense featured UCA defensive lineman Greg Mills, UNA defensive lineman Marcus Jackson, UNA defensive lineman Tim Hunt, VSU defensive lineman Dedrick Morrison, Harding linebacker Scott Dutile, UNA linebacker Donald Tharpe, SAU linebacker Derrick Harris, UWG linebacker John Perkins, UAM defensive back DeMarcus Ledet, UCA defensive back Jasper Johnson and Harding defensive back Jeremy Fairrow.

The second-team special teams unit included Harding kicker Ben Davis, Henderson State's lone selection, kicker Bryan Woodard, OBU punter Craig McFarlin, SAU return specialist Daryl Holyfield, UCA blocking team members Ross Matt and Aaron Fairouz, DSU blocking team member Jake Cantrell and Harding blocking team member Travis DeSisso.

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