

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

ATHLETICS

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ARKANSAS TECH'S BAILEY DICKSON NAMED TO WHATABURGER CACTUS BOWL EAST TEAM

KINGSVILLE, Texas – Arkansas Tech's **Bailey Dickson** was one of 42 players named to the East All-Star squad for the 13th annual Whataburger Cactus Bowl game on Friday, Jan. 6, 2006, in Javalina Stadium on the campus of Texas A&M-Kingsville. Kick-off for the 2006 game is set for 6:35 p.m. CST.

Dickson was one of nine players from the Gulf South Conference selected to play for the East squad in the all-star game. The other GSC players selected were Valdosta State offensive tackle Richard Collier, North Alabama defensive back Blake Farris, West Georgia linebacker Kelvin Morris, North Alabama defensive end Lee Vickers, Valdosta State defensive end Tim Thompson, Southern Arkansas defensive end Chris Turner, Southern Arkansas defensive tackle Chris Herring and West Georgia punter Jeff Carpenter.

The Whataburger Cactus Bowl features the top NCAA Division II players in the nation and the proceeds from the game will once again go to the Shriners Hospitals for Children. This year's game will be televised live by Fox Sports Southwest and covered by the Fox Sports Network nationally for the sixth consecutive season.

With his selection, Dickson becomes the fifth Wonder Boy football player named to the Cactus Bowl all-time. Former Wonder Boys who have played in the event include: **Jonathan Hayes** (2004), **Tommy Edwards** (2003), **Todd Mathews** (1999) and **D.J. Krane** (1999).

Dickson, a senior center from Stuttgart, Ark., was the anchor on the Wonder Boys offensive line this past season. He finished his Tech career playing in 40 games, making 23 starts, including making 18 consecutive starts from 2004-05. In his senior year, he graded out at 89 percent and recorded 20 knockdowns and was Tech's punt and kick snapper for the past two-and-a-half seasons. In addition, the Tech coaches named Dickson as Tech's Special Teams MVP after the Southern Arkansas and West Alabama games and he was named the Offensive MVP after the Ouachita Baptist game.

For more information on the 2006 Whataburger Cactus Bowl, go to <http://www.cactusbowl.org>

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