

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

ATHLETICS

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ARKANSAS TECH'S CHRIS JOHNSON NAMED HONORABLE MENTION ALL-AMERICAN BY DON HANSEN'S FOOTBALL GAZETTE

RUSSELLVILLE, Arkansas – Arkansas Tech Wonder Boy fullback **Chris Johnson** has been named an Honorable Mention All-American by Don Hansen's *Football Gazette* on Tuesday.

The All-American honor follows Johnson's selection as a Don Hansen *Football Gazette* First-Team All-Southeast selection earlier this month. Other Wonder Boys named All-Southeast selections were junior tight end **Josh Rogers** (Russellville, Ark.) and senior defensive back **Andrew Jackson** (Greenville, Miss.) and senior linebacker **Mike Houston** (West Memphis, Ark). Jackson and Rogers were second-team selections and Houston was a third-team choice.

This year marks the 18th year that the Football Gazette has selected NCAA Division II All-America team. The national publication selected All-Region teams for the fourth consecutive season this year and the first-team and second-team All-Region players from the four geographic regions (Northeast, Southeast, Northwest and Southwest) made up the national ballot, which was voted upon by a 25-member national panel.

Johnson, a 5-foot-10, 240-pound fullback, was one of 12 GSC players named All-American. Other GSC players named All-Americans were North Alabama center Lance Ancar (first-team offense); UNA cornerback Blake Farris (first-team defense); UCA safety Cory Cangelosi (second-team defense); UNA return specialist Anthony Merritt (second-team defense); UCA receiver Aaron Fairouz (third-team offense); Valdosta State's Tim Thompson (third-team defense), while honorable mention honors went to Harding safety Torrance Daniels; Delta State quarterback Scott Eyster; UCA defensive end Jacob Ford; UCA linebacker Quentin Maxfield; Ouachita Baptist punter Craig McFarlin; UNA receiver Anthony Merritt; and UCA running back Kentrel Rogers.

A total of 155 players earned some form of *Football Gazette* All-America honors, while a total of 68 players from 150 of the football-playing schools in Division II earned *Football Gazette* All-America accolades. GSC member North Alabama and North Dakota led the way by placing three players apiece on the first-team All-America squad.

Johnson, a senior from Dardanelle, Ark., was a four-year letterwinner for the Wonder Boys and started all 10 games this past season and played in 44 career games. This past season, Johnson rushed 37 times for 185 yards and averaged 5.0 yards per carry and scored five touchdowns. In addition, he caught 10 passes for 50 yards. For his career, he finished with 80 carries for 349 total yards and scored six touchdowns on the ground and caught 21 passes for 164 yards and two touchdowns.

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