

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

ATHLETICS

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ARKANSAS TECH WONDER BOYS FOOTBALL SIGNS 27 TO NATIONAL LETTERS OF INTENT

RUSSELLVILLE, Arkansas – Arkansas Tech University Head Football Coach and Athletic Director **Steve Mullins** announced the signing of 27 high school players to National Football Letters of Intent on Wednesday, the first official day that high school players are allowed to sign letters of intent to play college football.

The group of 27 signees includes 19 high school players from the state of Arkansas.

This year's signees are as follows:

Chris Anuszek of Little Rock, Ark. (Mills High School): Anuszek is a 6-foot-4, 290-pound offensive and defensive tackle, who will play on the offensive line at Tech. Recorded 26 pancake blocks this past season and was named a 2005 All-State selection and was a two-time All-Conference honoree. In addition, he was a two-time winner of the Central Arkansas Strong Man competition.

Letroy Ayers of Longview, Texas (Longview High School): Ayers is a 5-foot-11, 270-pound defensive lineman with 5.0 speed in the 40-yard dash. Credited with 24 solo tackles, 20 assisted tackles, 11 tackles for loss, two forced fumbles, one pass break-up and one fumble recovery last season. Was named a First-Team All-District selection and helped Longview to a 13-1 record and a conference championship.

Major Baker of Amite, La. (Amite High School): Baker is a 5-foot-11, 155-pound wide receiver and cornerback with 4.35 speed. This past season as a senior at Amite H.S., Baker caught 17 passes for 273 yards and scored five touchdowns and carried the football 19 times for 145 yards and scored a touchdown on the ground.

Eric Bonnett of Hamburg, Ark. (Hamburg High School): Bonnett is a 6-foot-1, 175-pound wide receiver that runs the 40-yard dash in 4.5 seconds. Caught 37 passes for 576 yards and scored three touchdowns and also amassed 250 return yards this past season for Hamburg H.S. Helped lead Hamburg to a 7-5 record this past fall and was named an All-Conference selection.

Joe Bryant of Stuttgart, Ark. (Stuttgart High School): Bryant is a 5-foot-11, 175-pound cornerback with 4.5 speed in the 40-yard dash. As a senior this past season, Bryant, who played for Coach Bobby Bolding, earned First-Team All-Conference and All-State Honorable Mention honors at Stuttgart. Had three rushes for 35 yards, threw one pass for 45 yards and had 31 receptions for 494 yards and scored two touchdowns.

Antoine Fisher of LaPlace, La. (East St. John Parrish High School):

Fisher is a 5-foot-10, 230-pound defensive end. Recorded 106 total tackles, including 35 solo tackles, 24 tackles for loss, 15 quarterback sacks and 20 hurries. Was named the Class 5A District MVP, an All-Metro New Orleans honoree, a First-Team All-River Parrish selection and a Second-Team 5A All-State selection this past season. Helped lead the school to a district championship and a 9-2 overall record in 2005.

Matt Garrett of Morrillton, Ark. (Morrillton High School): Garrett is a 6-foot-5, 320-pound offensive and defensive lineman. Was a two-time All-State performer, was named the 2005 4-A West Conference Outstanding Lineman of the Year and also earned Sonic Super Team honors from Hooten's Arkansas Football and was a finalist for the Hooten's State Farm Class 4A Offensive Player of the Year. Earned the Brandon Burlsworth Outstanding Performance Award during the Class 4A State Playoff game, KARV's Dream Team Offensive Lineman of the Year and was named to the Associated Press' Arkansas Super Team. In addition, Garrett served as a team captain for a Morrillton team that finished with a 10-4 record and the 2005 Class 4-A State runner-up trophy.

Michael Green of Warren, Ark. (Warren High School): Green is a 5-foot-9, 170-pound wide receiver with 4.5 speed. Caught 47 passes for 810 yards and had 12 touchdowns. In addition, rushed the ball 20 times for 281 yards and scored twice. Was a two-time First-Team All-Conference selection and was a First-Team All-Southeast Arkansas honoree. Was a part of three Warren teams that won three straight conference championships, including finishing with an 11-1 record last fall.

Cody Hamlin of Van Buren, Ark. (Van Buren High School): Hamlin is a 6-foot-2, 290-pound offensive lineman that runs 5.2 in the 40-yard dash. Was a two-time 5A West All-Conference selection and was an All-Area honoree this past fall for a 2-8 Van Buren team.

Ryan Hornsby of Lafayette, La. (Lafayette High School): Hornsby is a 6-foot-3, 290-pound offensive lineman. Recorded 40 pancake blocks and was an Honorable Mention All-District selection and a two-year letterman in football. In addition to football, Hornsby also lettered in baseball and carries a 3.25 cumulative grade point average in the classroom.

Jamaal Jackson of Amite, La. (Amite High School): Jackson is a 5-foot-9, 165-pound defensive back with 4.37 speed in the 40-yard dash. Caught 19 passes for 325 yards and eight touchdowns and also rushed for 339 yards on 38 carries last season.

Ben Johnson of Hamburg, Ark. (Hamburg High School): Johnson is a 6-foot-2, 190-pound quarterback with 4.8 speed. This past season, he passed for 1,850 yards and 15 touchdowns, while leading Hamburg to a 7-5 record and a Class 3A State quarterfinal berth. Was a First-Team All-Conference selection as a senior in 2005 after being a two-time Second-Team All-Conference selection as a sophomore and a junior. Earned three letters at Hamburg and played for Coach Greg Johnson.

Justin Johnson of Lavaca, Ark. (Lavaca High School): Johnson is a 6-foot-4, 275-pound offensive and defensive lineman. Was a three-time Class 1-AA All-Conference selection and was named All-State and the 1-AA Lineman of the Year this past season. Selected to play in the Arkansas High School All-Star game

this summer. In addition to playing football at LHS, Johnson also was an All-Conference selection in basketball and was a 2005 Boys State representative.

Leonard King of Little Rock, Ark. (Mills High School): King is a 6-foot, 190-pound strong safety with 4.5 speed. Recorded 64 tackles, 16 pass break-ups, three interceptions, two fumble recoveries and had five career defensive touchdowns. On offense, King rushed for 1,181 yards on 180 carries and scored 14 touchdowns as a running back. Earned Class 4-A Southeast Back of the Year honors and was an All-State selection this past season and a two-time All-Conference selection. In addition, was a member of Mills' 2004 Class 4A State Basketball championship team and was a member of the school's 2005 Class 4A State finalist basketball team.

Matt Kitchens of Russellville, Ark. (Russellville High School): Kitchens is a 6-foot-1, 225-pound linebacker. Recorded 148 tackles, including 12 tackles for loss, two sacks, two forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries, five pass break-ups and has one interception for a Class 5A State Playoff team. Earned Arkansas 5A All-State honors, was a two-time 5A West All-Conference selection and a member of the 2005 Arkansas All-Star team. Was a finalist for the State Farm 5A Defensive Player of the Year and was named the River Valley Radio Defensive Player of the Year. In addition, was named a two-time KARV Dream Team member and a two-time River Valley Radio Coaches Choice selection and was named RHS' Defensive Most Valuable Player. Lettered for three seasons with the Cyclones and was named an *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* Super Sophomore and a Top 35 Junior.

Josh Langley of Benton, Ark. (Benton High School): Langley is a 6-foot-1, 185-pound quarterback with 4.6 speed in the 40-yard dash. Set new school records in career passing yards (3,758), touchdowns (37), passing attempts (458) and pass completions (252). Was an All-State selection this past season and a finalist for both the Landers Player of the Year Award and the Class 5A All-State Player of the Year Award. In addition, was named the 5A South Conference Outstanding Back and was a two-time All-Conference selection. Led team to a 9-3 record in 2005 and a conference championship.

Danny Martin of Tulsa, Okla. (Memorial High School): Martin is a 6-foot-2, 215-pound defensive end and linebacker with 4.65 speed in the 40-yard dash. Recorded 131 tackles, 16 tackles for loss, had nine sacks, four pass break-ups and two fumble recoveries this past season. Was an All-District and an Honorable Mention All-State selection and was named to the *Tulsa World's* First-Team Defense this past season. In addition, was named a two-time Memorial H.S. Defensive Player of the Year and has been on the Academic Honor Roll the past four years.

Matt Moats of Booneville, Ark. (Booneville High School): Moats is a 6-foot-5, 275-pound offensive and defensive lineman. Moats, who will play on the offensive line at Tech, started all 37 games of his high school career and helped Booneville to a 32-5 overall record the past three years, including a 12-1 mark this past season. Was a two-time 4AAA All-Conference selection and was an Honorable Mention All-State selection this past season. In addition, was named a 2005 Hooten's Football 4AAA Super Team selection. Helped lead BHS to a conference championship and the Class 3A State quarterfinals this past season.

Xavier Murry of West Memphis, Ark. (West Memphis High School): Murry is a 5-foot-11, 215-pound fullback that runs 4.6 in the 40-yard dash. Rushed

for 1,440 yards on 250 carries and scored 22 touchdowns for a West Memphis team that finished with a 13-1 record and was the Class 5A State Runners-Up. Was a two-time 5A East All-Conference selection and earned All-State honors this past season. Selected to the KAIT (Jonesboro) Super Team and was named to the Memphis All-Metro Offensive Team.

James Neal of Batesville, Ark. (Batesville High School): Neal is a 6-foot-2, 225-pound defensive end with 4.55 speed. Credited with 107 tackles, 18 tackles for loss, nine quarterback sacks, three forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries and three pass break-ups this past season for a Batesville team that finished with a 12-1 record and was a Class 4A State semifinalist. Earned All-State honors this past season and was a two-time 4A All-District honoree. Was named the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* 4A Defensive Player of the Year and was named an Associated Press Super Team and All-Arkansas Team Defense selection.

LeKyron Pickett of Stuttgart, Ark. (Stuttgart High School): Pickett is a 5-foot-11, 225-pound linebacker with 4.6 speed in the 40-yard dash. Was a three-year starter for Coach Bobby Bolding and was a two-time All-Conference selection. Earned All-State honors as a senior this past season and was named the Pine Bluff Commercial Defensive Player of the Year, a finalist for the State Farm Defensive Player of the Year and was selected as the SE Arkansas Outstanding Lineman of the Year.

Lionel Robertson of Baton Rouge, La. (Redemptorist High School): Robinson is a 5-foot-11, 270-pound defensive tackle with 4.9 speed. Was credited with 35 solo tackles, 30 assisted tackles, 28 quarterback hurries, 5.5 sacks and 16 tackles for loss last season. Helped lead RHS to the 2005 Louisiana State Football championship and earned All-District honors. In addition, he was selected to play in the Down Under Bowl and was a 2003 state wrestling champion.

Ronald Rucker of Lake Village, Ark. (Lakeside High School): Rucker is a 6-foot-1, 170-pound wide receiver and defensive back that runs 4.6 in the 40-yard dash. Averaged nearly four catches per game last season for about 500 yards and scored six touchdowns. On defense, recorded four interceptions and returned two of them for touchdowns. Was named Lakeside's Best Receiver, Best Defensive Back and Most Valuable Player.

Daniel Shaw of Booneville, Ark. (Booneville High School): Shaw is a 5-foot-11, 225-pound fullback and linebacker. Carried the ball 356 times in his three-year high school career for 2,535 yards and scored 40 touchdowns and had nine two-point conversions. In addition, he averaged 7.1 yards per carry in his career. Earned All-State honors in 2005 and was a two-time 4-AAA All-Conference selection, a two-time Southwest Times All-Area selection and was named to Hooten's Football 2005 Super Team. Helped lead BHS to a 12-1 overall record, a conference championship and the Class 3A State quarterfinals this past season.

Johnny Waldrop of Prairie Grove, Ark. (Prairie Grove High School): Waldrop is a 6-foot-4, 300-pound offensive and defensive lineman. Credited with 81 tackles, five quarterback sacks and averaged eight tackles per game last season. Was a four-year starter at PGHS and earned All-Conference, All-Area and All-State honors. This past season, helped PGHS to an 8-3 record, a conference championship and a state playoff berth.

Brandon Wright of Stuttgart, Ark. (Stuttgart High School): Wright is a 5-foot-11, 185-pound strong safety with 4.5 speed. Was an Honorable Mention All-

Conference selection this past season after recording 26 solo tackles, 26 assisted tackles, one quarterback sack, four tackles for loss, one forced fumble and a fumble recovery. Helped lead the team to a 10-2 record.

Torrence Wright of Sulphur Springs, Texas (Sulphur Springs High School): Wright is a 6-foot-2, 270-pound offensive lineman. Was named a First-Team Texas Sportswriters selection, a Second-Team Associated Press selection and a First-Team All-District honoree. His brother, Rolaundo, signed last season with Tech and redshirted as a freshman in 2005.

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