



AMERICAN FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION

NEWS RELEASE

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Team Background

The AFCA has selected an All-America team every year since 1945.

The four teams now chosen for each AFCA division evolved from a single 11-player squad in 1945. From 1945 until 1967, only one team was chosen. From 1967 through 1971, two teams, University Division and College Division, were selected. In 1972, the College Division was split into College I and College II. In 1979, the University Division was split into two teams — Division I-A and Division I-AA. In 1996, the College I and College II teams were renamed Division II and Division III respectively.

From 1965-81, a 22-player (11 offensive, 11 defensive) team was chosen. In 1982, a punter and place-kicker were added to the team. In 1997 a return specialist was added, giving us the current 25-player team.

Selection Process

The AFCA's Division II All-America Selection Committee is made up of three head coaches from each of the AFCA's nine districts, one of whom serves as a district chairman, along with another head coach who serves as the chairman of the selection committee.

The coaches in each district are responsible for ranking the top players in their respective districts prior to a conference call between the district chairmen and the committee chairman on which the team is chosen.

The Award

Members of the AFCA Coaches' All-America Team receive a plaque commemorating their selection to the team.

CARROLL'S TYLER EMMERT, TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE'S J.D. HEARN HEADLINE 2005 AFCA DIVISION II COACHES' ALL-AMERICA TEAM

WACO, TEX. — Carroll (Mont.) quarterback Tyler Emmert and Texas A&M-Commerce linebacker J.D. Hearn headline the 2005 AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team announced today by the American Football Coaches Association.

The AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team is made up of players from NCAA Division II and NAIA institutions.

The AFCA has selected an All-America team since 1945 and currently selects teams in all four of its divisions. What makes these teams so special is that they are the only ones chosen exclusively by the men who know the players the best — the coaches themselves.

THE OFFENSE

Quarterback **Tyler Emmert** of Carroll (Mont.) College is the signal-caller on the 2005 AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team. In 2005, Emmert has thrown for 3,039 yards and 37 touchdowns en route to leading the Fighting Saints to its fourth straight appearance in the NAIA national championship game.

Emmert's receiving corps on this year's team features **Justin Gallas** of Colorado School of Mines and **Carlton Brewster** of Ferris State. Gallas earned RMAC Wide Receiver and Special Teams Player of the Year honors after leading all of NCAA Division II in all-purpose yards per game (238.5 ypg) and receptions per game (8.3 rpg). Brewster recorded five 100-yard plus receiving performances this season, including a season-best 137 yards and two touchdowns on eight receptions against Northern Michigan.

Pittsburg State's **Germaine Race**, California's (Pa.) **Antoine Bagwell** and Missouri Western State's **Jeremiah White** are the runningbacks on this year's team. Race rushed for 1,846 yards and tied the NCAA Division II single-season rushing touchdowns record of 33. The PSAC West Offensive Player of the Year, Bagwell rushed for 1,588 yards and ranked third in nation in scoring with 152 points. White finished sixth in the nation in rushing yards per game with 151.7 and totaled 1,669 yards and 10 touchdowns.

The offensive line features **Jahri Evans** of Bloomsburg, **Marcus Brisbone** of Presbyterian, **Lance Ancar** of North Alabama, **Patrick McCoy** of West Texas A&M and **Darryl Grace** of Central Missouri State.

Evans makes his second straight appearance on the Coaches' All-America team. He anchored an offensive line that helped Bloomsburg lead the PSAC in rushing at 284.3 yards per game. Brisbone, who did not allow a sack this season, was selected as the SAC's Jacobs Blocking Trophy winner, given annually to the top offensive lineman. Ancar helped block for a passing attack that averaged 271.3 yards per game. McCoy was the starting left tackle on the No. 1 passing offense and fourth-ranked total offense in the country. Grace anchored an offensive line that helped average 40 points and 419.5 yards of total offense per game.

THE DEFENSE

The defense is led by Texas A&M-Commerce linebacker **J.D. Hearn**. A Division I-A transfer, Hearn led the nation with 13.3 tackles per game and broke the school record for total tackles in a season with 133. Joining Hearn at linebacker are **John DiGiorgio** of Saginaw Valley State and **Digger Anderson** of North Dakota.

DiGiorgio was named GLIAC Player of the Year as he recorded 142 total tackles, tied for most in Division II this season. A two-time Coaches' All-American, Anderson recorded 85 total tackles, 8.5 tackles for a loss and five interceptions.

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Leading the way on the defensive line is **Dave Tollefson** from Northwest Missouri State. Tollefson earned MIAA Defensive Player of the Year honors by recording 11.5 sacks, five quarterback hurries and 12.5 tackles for a loss. Grand Valley State's **Michael McFadden** ranked ninth nationally with 1.3 sacks per game and added 12 tackles for a loss. St. Cloud State's **Charlie Cosgrove** was the NCC Most Valuable Defensive Lineman while recording 48 tackles and 15.5 tackles for a loss. Valdosta State's **Tim Thompson** led the team in tackles (55), tackles for loss (13) and sacks (4).

The secondary is led by Abilene Christian's **Danieal Manning**. A two-time Coaches' All-American, Manning finished the season with 49 tackles, four pass breakups, two forced fumbles, three blocked kicks and three interceptions. Carson-Newman's **Deonte Bolden** was 18th in Division II in interceptions per game (0.6) and 44th in passes defended (1.2). **Antwan Marsh** of Pikeville earned Mid-South Defensive Player of the Year honors by recording 102 tackles and four interceptions. Shippensburg's **Brent Grimes** finished his career as the PSAC record holder in interceptions with 27. He totaled five this season to go along with 44 tackles.

THE SPECIALISTS

P.J. Berry of Virginia State is the return specialist on the AFCA Division II Coaches All-America Team. Berry finished second in the nation in kickoff returns, averaging 34.4 yards per return, and 33rd in punt returns with a 11.9 yard average.

The placekicker is **Evan Granier** of Lambuth. Granier led NAIA with 16 field goals made this season and tied the school record for longest made field goal at 52 yards. Adam State punter **Jeff Williams** earned his second straight Coaches' All-America selection as he led NCAA Division II in punting for a second straight season with an average of 45.7 yards per kick.

2005 AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team

Offense

Pos	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	School	Coach	Hometown (High School)
WR	Justin Gallas	6-1	185	Sr.	Colorado Mines	Bob Stitt	Westminster, Colo. (Northglenn)
WR	Carlton Brewster	5-11	214	Sr.	Ferris St.	Jeff Pierce	Grand Rapids, Mich. (Creston)
OL	Marcus Brisbane	6-1	271	Sr.	Presbyterian	Tommy Spangler	Sumter, S.C. (Crestwood)
OL	Jahri Evans*	6-4	335	Sr.	Bloomsburg	Danny Hale	Philadelphia, Pa. (Frankford)
C	Lance Ancar	6-1	280	Sr.	North Alabama	Mark Hudspeth	Harvey, La. (Archbishop Shaw)
OL	Patrick McCoy	6-6	320	Sr.	West Texas A&M	Don Carthel	Fairfield, Calif. (Deanza)
OL	Darryl Grace	6-2	308	Sr.	Central Missouri St.	Willie Fritz	Captain Cook, Hawaii (Konawaena)
QB	Tyler Emmert	6-2	204	Sr.	Carroll (Mont.)	Mike Van Diest	Helena, Mont. (Capital)
RB	Germaine Race	5-11	225	Jr.	Pittsburg St.	Chuck Broyles	Warrensburg, Mo. (Warrensburg)
RB	Antoine Bagwell	5-11	185	Sr.	California (Pa.)	John Luckhardt	Lansing, Mich. (East Lansing)
RB	Jeremiah White	6-2	224	Jr.	Missouri Western St.	Jerry Partridge	Mesa, Ariz. (Skyline)

Defense

Pos	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	School	Coach	Hometown (High School)
DL	Michael McFadden	6-1	255	Jr.	Grand Valley St.	Chuck Martin	Saginaw, Mich. (Heritage)
DL	Dave Tollefson	6-4	270	Sr.	Northwest Missouri St.	Mel Tjeerdsma	Concord, Calif. (Ygnacio Valley)
DL	Charlie Cosgrove	6-3	265	Sr.	St. Cloud State	Randy Hedberg	Minneapolis, Minn. (Washburn)
DL	Tim Thompson	6-4	250	Sr.	Valdosta St.	Chris Hatcher	Sparta, Ga. (Hancock Central)
LB	John DiGiorgio	6-2	225	Sr.	Saginaw Valley St.	Randy Awrey	Shelby Township, Mich. (Eisenhower)
LB	J.D. Hearn	6-1	217	Sr.	Texas A&M-Commerce	Scotty Conley	Mesquite, Tex. (Mesquite)
LB	Digger Anderson*	6-0	228	Sr.	North Dakota	Dale Lennon	Coon Rapids, Minn. (Coon Rapids)
DB	Danieal Manning*	6-0	205	Jr.	Abilene Christian	Chris Thomsen	Corsicana, Tex. (Corsicana)
DB	Deonte Bolden	5-11	185	Sr.	Carson-Newman	Ken Sparks	Tampa, Fla. (Lakewood)
DB	Antwan Marsh	6-4	228	Sr.	Pikeville	Jerry Mynatt	Polkton, N.C. (Anson)
DB	Brent Grimes	5-10	174	Sr.	Shippensburg	Rocky Rees	Philadelphia, Pa. (Northeast)

Specialists

Pos	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	School	Coach	Hometown (High School)
P	Jeff Williams*	6-4	225	Sr.	Adams St.	Wayne McGinn	Mead, Colo. (Skyline)
PK	Evan Granier	6-0	215	Sr.	Lambuth	Vic Wallace	Mayfield, Ky. (Mayfield)
RS	P.J. Berry	6-1	170	Sr.	Virginia St.	Andrew Faison	Hopewell, Va. (Hopewell)

*2004 AFCA All-American

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Top Teams: Texas A&M-Kingsville has been represented a total of 31 times by 27 players on the AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team. Trailing A&M-Kingsville's 31 Division II selections is Pittsburg State with 17 appearances by 14 players. Third on the list is Indiana (Pa.) with 15 selections by 13 players while North Dakota and Carson-Newman are tied in fourth with 13 appearances by 12 players.

Consecutive Years: Texas A&M-Kingsville had at least one player named to the AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team for 18 straight seasons, from 1986 to 2003, the most by any team in Division II.

Repeat After Me: Texas A&M-Kingsville's **Johnny Bailey** is the only player to earn Coaches' All-America honors in four consecutive years at any level. Bailey was a four-year pick at runningback in 1986-87-88-89.

One Player, Two Schools: Punter **Mark Bounds** is the only player to earn Coaches' All-America honors at two different schools. He was named to the AFCA College Division I team in 1990 while playing for West Texas A&M. He transferred to Texas Tech after West Texas dropped football and earned I-A All-America honors as a Red Raider in 1991.

Class Distinction: This year's AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team is made up of 21 seniors and four juniors.

First Time School: **Antwan Marsh** of Pikeville is the first player from his school to earn AFCA Coaches' All-America Team honors.

Back-to-Back: **Jahri Evans** of Bloomsburg, **Digger Anderson** of North Dakota, **Danieal Manning** of Abilene Christian and **Jeff Williams** of Adams State earned AFCA Coaches' All-America honors for the second consecutive year.

For more information on the AFCA and its programs log on to the AFCA's website at www.afca.com.

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