



NCAC Football Special**For Immediate Release****BARRETT, LOWRY & THOMPSON CLAIM PLAYER OF THE YEAR HONORS
TO TOP 2023 ALL-NCAC FOOTBALL TEAM****November 16, 2023**

CLEVELAND, OH – DePauw senior defensive lineman **Ethan Lowry (Indianapolis, IN/Heritage Christian)**, Wabash senior quarterback **Liam Thompson (Indianapolis, IN/North Central)** and Wooster senior kicker **Lake Barrett (Columbia, SC/Hammond School)** have been named the Players of the Year to highlight the 2023 All-North Coast Athletic Conference football selections.

Thompson, who earns his third-straight Mike Gregory Award as the NCAC's Offensive Player of the Year, is just the second overall player to collect the offensive award in three-consecutive seasons, following Wittenberg's **Casey Donaldson**, who captured the award from 1998-2000. The award is presented in honor of **Mike Gregory**, a multi-sport standout at Denison in the 1920s. Lowry is the third-consecutive DePauw student-athlete to earn the Hank Critchfield Award as the league's Defensive Player of the Year after classmate **Brevon Gude (Avon, IN/Avon)** collected the honor a season ago. The award is presented in honor of **Hank Critchfield**, who was a 1927 graduate of The College of Wooster. Finally, Barrett is the first Wooster recipient of the NCAC's Special Teams Player of the Year award since its inception in 2016.

Thompson, who claimed his third-straight top-team nod and fourth-overall selection after earning second-team accolades in 2019, ends his collegiate career as one of the top quarterbacks in the conference. The Little Giants' signal caller was top two in the NCAC in nearly every passing category this season, completing 186-of-269 pass attempts (69.1%) for 2,428 yards and 25 touchdowns. Through 10 regular-season games, he also ranked in the top 15 nationally in five different categories, sitting in 12th in points responsible for (212), 13th in both points responsible for per game (21.2) and total offense (315.2), 14th in rush yards per carry (6.77) and 15th in completion percentage (69.1). Thompson, the 2019 Newcomer of the Year, tossed two or more TD passes on nine different occasions this season, which included four touchdowns in three different league matchups. Thompson finishes his career with 20 school and conference passing and total offense records and is a finalist for the National Football Foundation's William V. Campbell Trophy, given annually to college football's top scholar-athlete. Thompson owns the NCAC records for career records in passing yards (11,152), passing touchdowns (102), and total offense (12,900).

Lowry, who earns his third overall all-NCAC certificate, has elevated himself from honorable mention accolades in 2021 to second team honors in 2022 and now first-team laurels this season. The Tigers allowed a league-low 139 points through 10 regular season games and will enter the 2023 NCAA Division III Football Championships having limited opponents to an average of 72.6 yards per game on the ground this season. Lowry closed out the regular season with eight tackles for loss (38 yards) and 25 total tackles (13 solo, 12 asst.), including six unassisted sacks. He also earned one fumble recovery so far this season. One of the lineman's biggest plays of his career was accomplished last week during overtime of the Monon Bell Game in Little Giant Stadium. Lowry blocked Wabash's game-winning field-goal attempt, which gave DePauw new life, requiring a second overtime. The Tigers pulled out the win which earned them their third-consecutive NCAC championship title and the league's automatic bid into the NCAA tournament.

Barrett collects his fourth all-conference nod after claiming third-team accolades in 2022, second-team honors in 2021 and an honorable mention selection in 2019. The senior was selected as the league's top special-teams athlete after converting eight of his 10 field goal attempts, going a perfect 43-for-43 in point after attempts and recording 67 points for the Fighting Scots this season. Barrett ended the 2023 season tying his career-long with a 42-yard field goal against Wittenberg on Nov. 11. The fifth-year recorded three seasons with at least eight field goals made, ending his collegiate career going 29-for-38 on field goals, with the makes ranking as the most in program history. His 76 percent success rate is second all-time in program history. Barrett made it three-consecutive seasons without missing an extra point, totaling 155 overall, the second-most all-time, while his 99.4 percent success rate tops the program leaderboard. The four-time All-NCAC placekicker will graduate with 242 career points, the fifth-most all-time at Wooster.

Wittenberg freshman inside linebacker **Tyre Smith (Sarasota, FL/Riverview HS)** was named the NCAC's Newcomer of the Year as the top player in the league in his first year of collegiate competition in the sport of football. The second-team All-NCAC selection wasted little time finding his footing on the gridiron this fall as the Tigers' top linebacker. In 10 games, the rookie totaled 70 tackles (36 solo, 34 asst.) with seven tackles for a loss (39 yards), 3.5 sacks, and one forced fumble. His sacks rank him top-7 in the NCAC, while his overall tackles, solo tackles and assisted tackles all rank in the top 15 and his tackles-for-loss rank in the top-20 in the league. Smith is Wittenberg's ninth overall Newcomer of the Year, and first since **Jimmy Dehnke** was named in 2012.

DePauw claimed the 2023 Coaching Staff of the Year honors, the third-consecutive NCAC coaching award in program history. The Tigers are led by Head Coach **Brett Dietz**, Associate Head Coach **Scott Srnka** and Assistants **Rory Mannerling**, **Austin McCrory**, **Christopher Rutledge, Jr.** and **Mason Espinosa**. The DePauw squad was guided to a perfect 10-0 regular season record and earned its third-consecutive NCAC title after recording an unblemished 8-0 mark in conference play. Through 10 games, the Tiger offense led the league with 2,693 passing yards, 32 passing touchdowns, 61 total touchdowns, 446 points, and an NCAC-low six interceptions. The DePauw defense held opponents to a league-low 16 touchdowns, 14 extra points and 139 points, while making an NCAC-best 29 sacks. The Tigers will be making their fifth appearance in the NCAA postseason when they travel to Alma, on Saturday, Nov. 18.

2023 ALL-NCAC FOOTBALL

CLEVELAND, OH -- The following performers have earned All-North Coast Athletic Conference honors for the 2023 season through balloting by the NCAC football coaches.

FIRST TEAM • OFFENSE

		School	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/Highschool
QB	Liam Thompson #%%\$	Wabash	Sr.	6-1	197	Indianapolis, IN/North Central
RB	Trey Fabrocini #%	Denison	Sr.	5-10	220	Lancaster, OH/Fisher Catholic
WR	Josh Aiello	Denison	Sr.	6-3	195	Mansfield, OH/Lexington
WR	Derek Allen Jr. #	Wabash	Sr.	6-2	187	Indianapolis, IN/Warren Central
WR	Robby Ballentine	DePauw	So.	6-1	200	Crown Point, IN/Andrean
TE	Penn Stoller #	Wabash	Sr.	6-2	225	Cissna Park, IL/Cissna Park
C	Joe Mullin^%	Wabash	Sr.	6-3	280	Indianapolis, IN/Roncalli
C	Rylan Watkins	DePauw	So.	6-3	315	Indianapolis, IN/Park Tudor
OL	Adam Ammons &!	DePauw	Sr.	6-5	293	Bainbridge, IN/North Putnam
OL	Blake Kaufman ^*	DePauw	Sr.	6-6	325	Indianapolis, IN/Cathedral
OL	Quinn Sholar #	Wabash	So.	6-0	285	Indianapolis, IN/Warren Central
OL	Kevin Stone #%	Denison	Sr.	5-11	248	Anderson, OH/Anderson

FIRST TEAM • DEFENSE

OLB	Jake Comer #	DePauw	Jr.	6-0	220	Danville, IN/Danville
OLB	Brevon Gude #%	DePauw	Sr.	5-10	232	Avon, IN/Avon
ILB	Jonathan Bruder &	DePauw	Jr.	5-11	207	Centerville, OH/Centerville
ILB	Jeff Moore ^%	Denison	Sr.	6-0	210	Richmond, VA/St. Christopher's School
DL	Clay Denstorff #!	Denison	Sr.	6-1	217	Perrysburg, OH/Perrysburg
DL	Marquel Henry #%	Ohio Wesleyan	Sr.	5-10	250	Dayton, OH/Chaminade Julianne
DL	Ethan Lowry ^*	DePauw	Sr.	6-3	231	Indianapolis, IN/Heritage Christian
DL	Luke Nolan	DePauw	Jr.	6-2	250	Zionsville, IN/Zionsville
DB	Matthew Coons &	DePauw	Jr.	6-0	203	Indianapolis, IN/Bishop Chatard
DB	Jaylin Epps #*	Denison	Jr.	5-6	163	Cordele, GA/Crisp County
DB	Drew Thornton &	Ohio Wesleyan	Jr.	5-6	170	Powell, OH/Olentangy Liberty
DB	Nolan Tully #	DePauw	Jr.	6-0	205	Woodstock, GA/Blessed Trinity

FIRST TEAM • SPECIALISTS

K	Lake Barrett &!+	Wooster	Sr.	5-6	150	Columbia, SC/Hammond School
P	Chris Miller ^	Hiram	Sr.	5-11	165	Stow, OH/Stow-Munroe Falls
RS	Brazos Gadler	Wooster	Jr.	6-0	195	Houston, TX/Cypress Creek

Mike Gregory Award (Offensive Player of the Year): Liam Thompson, Wabash

Hank Critchfield Award (Defensive Player of the Year): Ethan Lowry, DePauw

Special Teams Player of the Year: Lake Barrett, Wooster

Newcomer of the Year: Tyre Smith, Wittenberg

Coaching Staff of the Year: DePauw

Key: # 1st team 2022; ^ 2nd team 2022; & 3rd team 2022
 % 1st team in 2021; ! 2nd team 2021; * honorable mention 2021
 \$ 2nd team 2019; + honorable mention 2019

2023 ALL-NCAC FOOTBALL

SECOND TEAM • OFFENSE

		School	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/Highschool
QB	Nathan McCahill	DePauw	Jr.	6-0	195	Indianapolis, IN/Cathedral
RB	Jordon Benjamin	Kenyon	So.	5-8	180	Montreal, Quebec/Kent School
WR	Brazos Gadler	Wooster	Jr.	6-0	195	Houston, TX/Cypress Creek
WR	Josh Hurst ^	Ohio Wesleyan	So.	6-2	180	Port Clinton, OH/Port Clinton
WR	Jaylon Smith %	DePauw	Jr.	5-9	180	Willowbrook, IL/Hinsdale South
TE	Gabe Quigley	DePauw	Sr.	6-3	218	Carmel, IN/Carmel
C	Brian Stone &!	Denison	Sr.	6-0	252	Anderson, OH/Anderson
OL	Cameron Ford	Wabash	Jr.	6-4	280	Greenwood, IN/Greenwood Community
OL	Bryce Kamphues	Wooster	Sr.	6-0	320	North Manchester, IN/Manchester
OL	Tommy Martin	DePauw	Jr.	6-2	280	Geneva, IL/Geneva
OL	Wyatt Osterhage	Wittenberg	Jr.	6-4	275	Dayton, OH/Centerville

SECOND TEAM • DEFENSE

OLB	Seth Anderson &	Ohio Wesleyan	Jr.	6-0	210	Springfield, OH/Kenton Ridge
OLB	Jake Pasch	Wabash	So.	6-0	178	Indianapolis, IN/Lutheran
ILB	Luke Marsh #%	DePauw	Jr.	5-9	200	Whitestown, IN/Western Boone
ILB	Gavin Ruppert &	Wabash	So.	6-1	225	Greenwood, IN/Greenwood
ILB	Tyre Smith	Wittenberg	Fr.	6-0	215	Sarasota, FL/Riverview HS
DL	Michael Ballenger	Denison	Jr.	6-1	225	Upper Arlington, OH/Upper Arlington
DL	Andy Canonico ^	Kenyon	Jr.	6-2	245	Kailua, HI/Punahou School
DL	David Guhl #	DePauw	Jr.	6-2	241	McCordsville, IN/Cathedral
DL	Steven Thomas ^	Wabash	Sr.	6-3	280	Danville, IN/Danville Community
DB	Tate Journell	Wooster	So.	5-10	155	Northfield, MN/Northfield
DB	Sammy Stoner	Ohio Wesleyan	Jr.	6-0	195	Dublin, OH/Jerome
DB	Cortez Stoudemire	DePauw	Sr.	5-11	165	Lebanon, IN/Western Boone
DB	Christian Sweet	Wittenberg	Sr.	5-9	170	Hillard, OH/Hilliard Davidson

SECOND TEAM • SPECIALISTS

K	Brody Rucker	Wabash	So.	6-1	193	Haskell, OK/Coweta
P	Michael Mead	Denison	Sr.	6-2	205	Locust Valley, NY/Friends Academy
RS	Jaylin Epps #*	Denison	Jr.	5-6	163	Cordele, GA/Crisp County
RS	Caden Whitehead	DePauw	So.	5-11	180	Indianapolis, IN/Park Tudor

THIRD TEAM • OFFENSE

QB	Max Milton	Wittenberg	Jr.	5-10	180	Carmel, IN/Heritage Christian
RB	Gus Baumgartner ^!	DePauw	Sr.	5-9	195	Indianapolis, IN/Guerin Catholic
WR	Tyler May	Wittenberg	Sr.	6-0	178	Oak Harbor, OH/Oak Harbor
WR	Cooper Sullivan ^%\$	Wabash	Sr.	6-1	185	Jacksonville, FL/The Bolles School
WR	Dean Tate	Wittenberg	Sr.	5-8	175	Indianapolis, IN
TE	Jon Adamson	Denison	Sr.	6-2	195	Barrington, RI/Barrington
OL	Blake Dichler &	Ohio Wesleyan	So.	6-0	240	Creston, OH/Norwayne
OL	Ted Dunn	Denison	Sr.	6-2	249	Marion, MA/Tabor Academy
OL	Kanon Kelley	Wabash	Jr.	6-2	257	Brownsville, IN/Brownsville
OL	Chris Zaiser	Kenyon	Sr.	6-2	269	Glen Gardner, NJ/Portsmouth Abbey

THIRD TEAM • DEFENSE

OLB	Jon Banal	Wooster	Jr.	6-0	195	Columbus Grove, OH/Columbus Grove
OLB	Brandon Hall	Oberlin	Jr.	5-11	215	South Riding, VA / Freedom
OLB	Jack Nimesheim	Denison	Sr.	5-8	183	Northfield, IL/Loyola Academy
ILB	Gavin Cruser	Hiram	So.	5-10	215	Springville, UT/ Springville
DL	Domenic DeMuth	Wooster	Sr.	5-10	215	Mayfield Village, OH/Mayfield
DL	Cole Garrison	Kenyon	Sr.	6-3	276	Ashland, OH/Ashland
DL	Eli Renick	Wittenberg	So.	6-2	230	Sarasota, FL/Riverview
DL	Tyler Yanka	Ohio Wesleyan	Jr.	6-0	210	Lewis Center, OH/Olentangy Orange
DB	Roshaune Downie #	Denison	Sr.	5-8	170	West Palm Beach, FL/ The Benjamin School
DB	Collin Murphy	Denison	Jr.	6-2	170	Sudbury, MA/Lincoln-Sudbury Regional
DB	Brock Robertson	Wabash	So.	6-0	188	Lafayette, IN/Harrison
DB	Dominic Simpson	Kenyon	Fr.	5-10	180	Livonia, MI/Livonia-Franklin

THIRD TEAM • SPECIALISTS

K	Joseph Sullivan #%	DePauw	Sr.	6-0	170	Cincinnati, OH/St. Xavier
P	Park Penrod	Kenyon	Jr.	6-2	209	Pittsburgh, PA/Avonworth

Key: # 1st team 2022; ^ 2nd team 2022; & 3rd team 2022
 % 1st team in 2021; ! 2nd team 2021; * honorable mention 2021
 \$ 2nd team 2019; + honorable mention 2019