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NCAC Football Special

BRUDER, CUNNINGHAM & MCCAILL CLAIM PLAYER OF THE YEAR HONORS TO TOP 2024 ALL-NCAC FOOTBALL TEAM

For Immediate Release

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CLEVELAND, OH – Denison senior kicker **Daniel Cunningham (Lexington, VA/Rockbridge County)** along with DePauw seniors, inside linebacker **Jonathan Bruder (Centerville, OH/Centerville)** and quarterback **Nathan McCahill (Indianapolis, IN/Cathedral)** have been named the Players of the Year to highlight the 2024 All-North Coast Athletic Conference football selections.

McCahill is the second DePauw student-athlete to earn the Mike Gregory Award, as the NCAC's Offensive Player of the Year after **Matt Hunt** was selected in 2016. The offensive award is presented in honor of **Mike Gregory**, a multi-sport standout at Denison in the 1920s. Bruder is the fourth-consecutive DePauw student-athlete to earn the Hank Critchfield Award as the league's Defensive Player of the Year after classmate **Ethan Lowry (Indianapolis, IN/Heritage Christian)** 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, Cunningham is the first Denison recipient of the NCAC's Special Teams Player of the Year award since its inception in 2016.

As the Tiger's signal caller, McCahill earns his first nod to the top team after earning second-team accolades a season ago. He led the NCAC in nearly every passing category during the regular season, completing 183-of-258 pass attempts (70.9%) for 2,855 yards and broke the NCAC single-season record with 43 touchdowns through ten games; He currently owns 45 TD's overall so far this season. The senior also gave up a league-low three interceptions. Through 10 regular-season games, McCahill's passing efficiency of 216.5 led the NCAC, and his current passing efficiency of 210.7 ranks No. 2 in all of Division III as of November 30. Following the Tigers' NCAA second-round victory, he ranks in the top 10 nationally in seven different categories, sitting in third in passing touchdowns (45), fourth in points responsible for (270), points responsible for per game (24.5) and yards per pass attempt (10.94), seventh in passing yards (3,176), ninth in passing yards per game (288.7) and 10th in completion percentage (70.3%). McCahill tossed three or more TD passes on nine different occasions during the regular season, which included five or more touchdowns in three different league matchups, while tying the NCAC record with a career-high seven touchdowns against Kenyon on Nov. 2. The Tigers captured their fourth-consecutive NCAC championship title this season after compiling a perfect 8-0 record in conference matchups.

Bruder collects his second-straight first-team all-conference certificate after also claiming third-team laurels in 2022. The Tigers allowed a league-low 114 points through 10 regular season games and entered the 2024 NCAA Division III Football Championships having limited opponents to an average of 26.8 yards per game on the ground and 164.8 yards through the air this season. The DePauw total defense leads all of Division III, while the Tigers' rushing defense (28.6) is second in the nation. Bruder closed out the regular season with six tackles for loss (16 yards), 62 total tackles (41 solo, 21 asst.), two interceptions, one unassisted sack and one forced fumble. The linebacker recorded one of his interceptions in the Monon Bell Game which helped the Tigers win their fourth-consecutive NCAC championship title and the league's automatic bid into the NCAA tournament.

Cunningham collects both his second and third all-conference certificates this season, after claiming a spot on the top team as a kicker and a second-team selection as a punter this season, while also collecting third-team laurels as a kicker in 2022. The senior was tabbed the league's top special-teams athlete after converting all seven of his field goal attempts, going 38-for-41 in point after attempts and recording 59 points for the Big Red this season. Cunningham ended the season tied at the top for the longest field goal after nailing a 48-yarder at Wooster on Oct. 12, just three yards shy of his career best. The senior recorded three seasons with at least five field goals made, ending his collegiate career going 18-for-25 on field goals. Cunningham missed just seven extra points in his career, totaling 132 overall.

Denison freshman quarterback **Tyler Green (Concord, NC/Cannon)** 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. He is the Big Red's first Newcomer of the Year selection. The third-team All-NCAC selection wasted little time making a name for himself on the gridiron this fall as the Big Red's signal caller. The rookie ranked in the top three in the NCAC in nearly every passing category during the regular season. Green threw for the longest touchdown this season in the NCAC, an 86-yarder at Wooster on Oct. 12. The rookie ranked second in the NCAC in completed pass attempts (174-of-261), yards (2,228), passing yards per game (222.8), and touchdowns (22) this season, while also compiling the third best passing efficiency (161.6). Green tossed two or more TD passes on seven different occasions during the regular season, which included three or more touchdowns in four different league matchups with a career-high five against Oberlin on Nov. 9.

DePauw claimed the 2024 Coaching Staff of the Year honors, the fourth-consecutive NCAC coaching award in program history. The Tigers are led by Head Coach **Brett Dietz**, Associate Head Coach **Scott Srnka** and Assistants **Mason Espinosa**, **Austin McCrory**, **Ryan McElwain** and **Christopher Rutledge, Jr.** The 2024 DePauw squad was guided to a perfect 10-0 regular season record, earned its fourth-consecutive NCAC title after recording an unblemished 8-0 mark in conference play and has advanced into the NCAA round of 16 for the second time in program history (2021). Through 10 games, the Tiger offense led the league with 3,190 passing yards, 45 passing touchdowns, 68 total touchdowns, 528 points, and an NCAC-low three interceptions, while the team's total offense currently ranks No. 7 in all of Division III. The DePauw defense held opponents to a league-low nine touchdowns, 15 extra points and 114 points, while making an NCAC-best 43 sacks.

- NCAC -

2024 ALL-NCAC FOOTBALL

CLEVELAND, OH -- The following performers have earned All-North Coast Athletic Conference honors for the 2024 season through balloting by the NCAC football coaches.

FIRST TEAM • OFFENSE		School	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/Highschool
QB	Nathan McCahill %	DePauw	Sr.	6-0	195	Indianapolis, IN/Cathedral
RB	Caden Whitehead %	DePauw	Jr.	5-11	180	Indianapolis, IN/Park Tudor
WR	Robby Ballentine #	DePauw	Jr.	6-1	200	Crown Point, IN/Andean
WR	Brazos Gadler #%	Wooster	Sr.	6-0	200	Houston, TX/Cypress Creek
WR	Connor Thompson	Wabash	Sr.	6-0	180	Indianapolis, IN/North Central
TE	Gabe Quigley %	DePauw	Sr.	6-3	218	Carmel, IN/Carmel
C	Zach Kerr	DePauw	So.	6-1	297	West Lafayette, IN/Lafayette Central Catholic
OL	Tommy Martin %	DePauw	Sr.	6-2	280	Geneva, IL/Geneva
OL	Aidan McCormick !	DePauw	Sr.	6-2	262	Danville, IN/Danville
OL	Quinn Sholar #!	Wabash	Jr.	6-1	271	Indianapolis, IN/Warren Central
OL	Bennett Smith	DePauw	So.	6-1	260	Park Ridge, IL/Maine South

FIRST TEAM • DEFENSE

OLB	Jake Comer #!	DePauw	Sr.	6-0	220	Danville, IN/Danville
OLB	Joey Roland	DePauw	Jr.	6-0	190	Greenfield, IN/Greenfield-Central
ILB	Jonathan Bruder #@	DePauw	Sr.	5-11	207	Centerville, OH/Centerville
ILB	Luke Marsh %!\$	DePauw	Sr.	5-9	200	Whitestown, IN/Western Boone
DL	Michael Ballenger %	Denison	Sr.	6-1	242	Upper Arlington, OH/Upper Arlington
DL	Andy Canonico %*	Kenyon	Sr.	6-2	235	Kailua, HI/Punahou School
DL	Dalton Allen	Wittenberg	So.	6-3	265	Delaware, OH/Hayes
DL	Ethan Lowry #>	DePauw	Sr.	6-3	231	Indianapolis, IN/Heritage Christian
DB	Matthew Coons #@	DePauw	Sr.	6-0	203	Indianapolis, IN/Bishop Chatard
DB	Mike Holsclaw	Wabash	Jr.	6-0	181	Lafayette, IN/Jefferson
DB	Collin Murphy ^	Denison	Sr.	6-2	170	Sudbury, MA/Lincoln-Sudbury Regional
DB	Jake Smothers	Ohio Wesleyan	Jr.	6-0	185	Radnor, OH/Buckeye Valley
DB	Nolan Tully #!	DePauw	Sr.	6-0	205	Woodstock, GA/Blessed Trinity

FIRST TEAM • SPECIALISTS

K	Daniel Cunningham @	Denison	Sr.	6-0	165	Lexington, VA/Rockbridge County
P	Sebestyen Balassy	Wooster	Sr.	6-3	225	Medina, OH/St. Ignatius
RS	Jaylin Epps #%!>	Denison	Sr.	5-6	163	Cordele, GA/Crisp County

Mike Gregory Award (Offensive Player of the Year): Nathan McCahill, DePauw

Hank Critchfield Award (Defensive Player of the Year): Jonathan Bruder, DePauw

Special Teams Player of the Year: Daniel Cunningham, Denison

Newcomer of the Year: Tyler Green, Denison

Coaching Staff of the Year: DePauw

Key: # 1st team 2023; % 2nd team 2023, ^ 3rd team 2023
 ! 1st team 2022; * 2nd team 2022; @ 3rd team 2022
 \$ 1st team 2021; > HM 2021

2024 ALL-NCAC FOOTBALL

SECOND TEAM • OFFENSE

		School	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/Highschool
QB	Brand Campbell	Wabash	So.	6-1	198	Palm Beach Gardens, FL/Palm Beach Gardens
RB	Xavier Tyler	Wabash	Jr.	5-8	189	Evansville, IN/Reitz Memorial
WR	Tommy Asleson	Denison	Sr.	6-3	185	LaGrange, IL/Lyons Township
WR	Lleyton Lukowski	DePauw	Jr.	6-3	171	Carmel, IN/Carmel
WR	Eric Rasheed	Wittenberg	So.	5-8	175	Fletcher, NC/Hendersonville
TE	Troy Teepe	Wittenberg	Sr.	6-3	225	Brookville, IN/East Central
C	Kanon Kelley ^	Wabash	Sr.	6-1	275	Brownsburg, IN/Brownsburg
OL	Angel Bravo	Wittenberg	Sr.	6-3	290	Esparto, CA/Orland
OL	Cameron Ford %	Wabash	Sr.	6-6	273	Greenwood, IN/Greenwood Community
OL	Wyatt Osterhage %	Wittenberg	Sr.	6-4	270	Dayton, OH/Centerville
OL	Rylan Watkins #	DePauw	Jr.	6-3	315	Indianapolis, IN/Park Tudor

SECOND TEAM • DEFENSE

OLB	Seth Anderson %@	Ohio Wesleyan	Sr.	6-0	205	Springfield, OH/Kenton Ridge
OLB	Samuel Ringer	Wabash	Jr.	6-0	201	Lawrenceburg, IN/East Central
ILB	Gavin Ruppert %@	Wabash	Jr.	6-1	228	Greenwood, IN/Greenwood
ILB	Cameron Snurr !*	Wittenberg	Sr.	5-10	225	Springboro, OH/Springboro
DL	Jordan Cree	Wabash	So.	6-2	253	Remington, IN/Rensselaer Central
DL	David Guhl %!	DePauw	Sr.	6-2	241	McCordsville, IN/Cathedral
DL	Luke Nolan #	DePauw	Jr.	6-2	250	Zionsville, IN/Zionsville
DL	Eli Renick ^	Wittenberg	Jr.	6-2	230	Sarasota, FL/Riverview
DB	Jaylin Epps #%!>	Denison	Sr.	5-6	163	Cordele, GA/Crisp County
DB	Avery Epstein	Wabash	Sr.	6-2	195	Jacksonville, FL/The Bolles School
DB	Luke Jackson	Wittenberg	Jr.	5-11	190	DeGraff, OH/Indian Lake
DB	Dominic Simpson ^	Kenyon	So.	5-11	173	Livonia, MI/Livonia-Franklin
DB	Christian Troupe	DePauw	Sr.	5-8	165	Brownsburg, IN/Brebeuf Jesuit Prep

SECOND TEAM • SPECIALISTS

K	Matthew Berry	DePauw	So.	5-10	162	Jacksonville, FL/Bolles School
P	Daniel Cunningham @	Denison	Sr.	6-0	165	Lexington, VA/Rockbridge County
RS	Carter Warstler &	Wooster	Sr.	6-1	175	New Albany, OH/Columbus Academy

THIRD TEAM • OFFENSE

QB	Tyler Green	Denison	Fr.	6-2	205	Concord, NC/Cannon
RB	Trey Fabrocini #!\$	Denison	Sr.	5-10	220	Lancaster, OH/Fisher Catholic
WR	TJ Alexander	Wabash	Jr.	5-10	177	Fishers, IN/Bishop Chatard
WR	Billy Guzzo	Denison	Sr.	5-10	175	Mayfield, OH/Mayfield
WR	Andrew Hammer	Wooster	Sr.	5-11	165	Uniontown, OH/Lake
TE	Sebestyen Balassy	Wooster	Sr.	6-3	225	Medina, OH/St. Ignatius
C	Canyon Schneider	Denison	Jr.	6-1	265	West Jefferson, OH/West Jefferson
OL	Bryce Kamphues %	Wooster	Sr.	6-0	315	North Manchester, IN/Manchester
OL	Brady Moffitt	Denison	So.	6-3	275	Evanston, IL/Loyola Academy
OL	Seth Rogers	Ohio Wesleyan	Jr.	6-4	300	Whitehouse, OH/Anthony Wayne
OL	Enrique Ruiz	Wabash	Sr.	6-4	284	Mesa, AZ/Marcos de Niza

THIRD TEAM • DEFENSE

OLB	Jared Hancock	Kenyon	Jr.	5-8	208	Wyoming, OH/Wyoming
OLB	Nick Pellicciotta	Denison	So.	5-9	193	Malvern, PA/Great Valley
ILB	Hunter Green	Oberlin	Jr.	5-10	226	Odenton, MD/Arundel
ILB	Tyre Smith %	Wittenberg	So.	6-0	215	Sarasota, FL/Riverview
ILB	Kole Tarary	Hiram	Jr.	6-0	210	Warren, OH/Kennedy Catholic
DL	Terrell Burton II	Ohio Wesleyan	Sr.	6-0	255	Reynoldsburg, OH/Reynoldsburg
DL	Jerry McBee	Wabash	Jr.	6-1	230	Freedom, IN/Owen Valley
DL	Andy Melian	Kenyon	Sr.	6-4	286	Piedmont, CA/Piedmont
DL	Jack Novak	Ohio Wesleyan	So.	6-0	210	Chagrin Falls, OH/Kenston
DB	Sammy Stoner %	Ohio Wesleyan	Sr.	6-0	200	Dublin, OH/Jerome
DB	Louie Lindsay	Wooster	Jr.	5-10	180	Waynesboro, PA/Waynesboro Area Senior

THIRD TEAM • SPECIALISTS

K	Brody Rucker %	Wabash	Jr.	6-2	200	Haskell, OK/Coweta
P	Ben Gomez	DePauw	Jr.	5-11	170	Indianapolis, IN/Cathedral
RS	Carson Johnson	DePauw	So.	5-10	165	Indianapolis, IN/Cathedral

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