

*CAPITAL ONE ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® TEAM*  
*SELECTED BY COSIDA*



**FOR RELEASE:**

**Thursday, December 4 – 12 noon (EST)**

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**<http://www.capitaloneacademicallamerica.com/>**

**ZACH ZENNER OF SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY HEADLINES CAPITAL ONE  
ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® DIVISION I FOOTBALL TEAM**

**AUSTIN, Texas**—Senior running back **Zach Zenner** of South Dakota State University headlines the 2014 Capital One Academic All-America® Division I football team as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Zenner has been selected as the 2014 Capital One Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year for Division I football. A biology and pre-med major with a 3.86 G.P.A., Zenner was a first-team Capital One Academic All-America® choice last year and a second-team selection in 2012.

The Eagan, Minnesota, native has been the mainstay on the South Dakota State offense this season, rushing 305 times for 1,886 yards (6.2 yards per carry) and 20 touchdowns. He also has proven to be a weapon out of the backfield with 27 receptions for 328 yards and four touchdowns. In addition, Zenner leads SDSU in scoring with 146 points (24 touchdowns, one PAT) and all-purpose yardage (2,214 yards) this year, helping the Jackrabbits advance to the second round of the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) playoffs.

Zenner is winding down a career that already has seen him set Missouri Valley Football Conference records for rushing and all-purpose yards. He is a two-time consensus first-team All-America selection and three-time finalist for the Walter Payton Award (FCS equivalent of the Heisman Trophy) and in 2013, he became just the second FCS running back ever to rush for 2,000 yards in two separate seasons.

On Oct. 30, Zenner was named to the National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete team, thus becoming a finalist for the William V. Campbell Trophy that goes to the nation's top scholar-athlete.

Nineteen of the 50 members of the 2014 Capital One Academic All-America® NCAA Division I football teams have at least a 3.90 G.P.A., with four student-athletes sporting a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. The 24 members of the first-team have an average G.P.A. of 3.85.

Michigan State University graduate student punter **Mike Sadler** is a four-time Academic All-America® selection and maintains a 3.97 G.P.A. while finishing work on his degree in applied engineering sciences. Sadler was second-team pick in both 2011 and 2012 before moving up to the first-team in 2013. Missouri State University senior defensive back **Caleb Schaffitzel** and Zenner are both three-time Academic All-America® picks. Schaffitzel owns a 3.93 G.P.A. as a major in wildlife conservation & management.

The aforementioned trio are among a group of 11 student-athletes who are two-time Academic All-America® choices, including seven who garnered first-team citations for the second consecutive year. The other repeat first-team Academic All-America® student-athletes in 2014 are South Dakota State senior wide receiver **Jason Schneider**, Indiana University senior defensive back **Mark Murphy**, Northern Arizona University senior linebacker **Austin Hasquet** and Fordham University graduate student defensive lineman **Brett Biestek**.

## Zenner Leads Capital One Academic All-America® Division I Football Team – Page 2

In addition, Southern Illinois University senior offensive lineman **Corey Boemer**, University of Texas-San Antonio senior offensive lineman **Nate Leonard** and Kent State University junior defensive back **Jordan Italiano** all moved up to the Academic All-America® first team this year after collecting second-team honors in 2013.

Chattanooga senior defensive lineman **Davis Tull** and Tulane University senior defensive back **Sam Scofield** rounded out this year's two-time Academic All-America® honorees, with Tull picking up first-team honors in 2013 and Scofield earned second-team recognition for the second consecutive season.

### Capital One Academic All-America® Division I Football Team

The Capital One Academic All-America® Division I football first team includes two student-athletes with a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. in North Dakota State University junior quarterback **Carson Wentz** and South Dakota State senior offensive lineman **Nick Purcell**. Joining Schneider as the first team wide receiver is University of Notre Dame sophomore **Corey Robinson**, while the tight end is University of Minnesota junior **Maxx Williams**, and Zenner pairs with Western Carolina University junior **Darius Ramsey** as the first team running backs.

Boemer, Leonard and Purcell make up three-fifths of the offensive linemen on the Academic All-America® first team, with University of Oklahoma junior **Ty Darlington** and Liberty University graduate student **Mitch Hanson** completing the quintet. Bowling Green State University junior **Tyler Tate** was the first-team Academic All-America® placekicker this year.

On defense, Italiano, Murphy and Schaffitzel provide a veteran presence among the first-team defensive back corps, joined by Butler University senior **JoJo Ciano**. Hasquet is the lone returnee among the first-team choices in the linebacking unit, joined by Duke University senior **David Helton** and North Dakota State senior **Esley Thorton**. Likewise, Biestek is the only returning student-athlete among the first-team defensive line contingent, which also includes North Dakota State senior **Kyle Emanuel**, Rutgers University graduate student **David Milewski** and University of Washington senior **Danny Shelton**.

Sadler completes the Academic All-America® First Team as the squad's returning punter.

The Capital One Academic All-America® second team is led by two-time selection Scofield and a pair of student-athletes with a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. in University of Montana junior defensive lineman **Derek Crittenden** and University of Kentucky junior punter **Landon Foster**. Central Michigan University junior **Cooper Rush** is the second-team quarterback, while Eastern Washington University sophomore **Cooper Kupp** and Kansas State University senior **Curry Sexton** are the second-team wide receivers and Fordham University senior **Dan Light** is the tight end. Sacred Heart University senior **Sean Bell** and University of Iowa senior **Mark Weisman** were chosen as the second-team running backs.

Due to ties in the voting, there were seven offensive linemen named to the second team: Baylor University graduate student **Troy Baker**, Ohio State University junior **Jacoby Boren**, Robert Morris University senior **Nick Faraci**, Georgia Southern University senior **Garrett Frye**, North Dakota State senior **Jesse Hinz**, University of Alabama graduate student **Arie Kouandijo** and Syracuse University senior **Sam Rodgers**. University of Southern Mississippi senior placekicker **Corey Acosta** rounds out the second-team offense.

In addition to Scofield, the other three defensive backs on the second team are Baylor University senior **Collin Brence**, Georgia Southern junior **Matt Dobson** and University of Texas-El Paso graduate student **Wesley Miller**. Villanova University junior **Don Cherry**, Idaho State University senior **Austin Graves** and Southern Illinois graduate student **Tyler Williamson** make up the second-team linebacking unit. The defensive linemen on the second team include Crittenden, Stanford University senior **Henry Anderson**, Rice University junior **Brian Nordstrom**, Crittenden and Tull.

Foster completes the Academic All-America® second team as the group's punter.

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# 2014 Capital One Academic All-America® Division I Football Team

## FIRST TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
QB	Carson Wentz	North Dakota State	Jr.	Bismarck, N.D.	4.00	Physical & health education
WR	Corey Robinson	Notre Dame	So.	San Antonio, Texas	3.83	Liberal studies
WR	Jason Schneider (1)	South Dakota State	Sr.	Andover, Minn.	3.97	Pharmacy
TE	Maxx Williams	Minnesota	Jr.	Waconia, Minn.	3.44	Communication studies
RB	Darius Ramsey	Western Carolina	Jr.	Waco, N.C.	3.63	Accounting
RB	Zach Zenner (1) #	South Dakota State	Sr.	Eagan, Minn.	3.86	Biology / pre-medicine
OL	Corey Boemer (2)	Southern Illinois	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo.	3.89	Biological sciences
OL	Ty Darlington	Oklahoma	Jr.	Apopka, Fla.	3.96	Arts & sciences planned program
OL	Mitch Hanson	Liberty	Gr.	Blue Ridge, Va.	3.92	Govt. (UG)/human serv. counseling (G)
OL	Nate Leonard (2)	Texas-San Antonio	Sr.	McKinney, Texas	3.99	Physical education
OL	Nick Purcell	South Dakota State	Sr.	Rapid City, S.D.	4.00	Biology / pre-medicine
K	Tyler Tate	Bowling Green State	Jr.	Carroll, Ohio	3.97	Exercise science
DB	JoJo Ciancio	Butler	Sr.	Darien, Ill.	3.83	Economics / finance
DB	Jordan Italiano (2)	Kent State	Jr.	Canfield, Ohio	3.97	Chemistry
DB	Mark Murphy (1)	Indiana	Sr.	Akron, Ohio	3.85	Informatics
DB	Caleb Schaffitzel (1) #	Missouri State	Sr.	Fair Grove, Mo.	3.93	Wildlife conservation & management
LB	Austin Hasquet (1)	Northern Arizona	Sr.	Peoria, Ariz.	3.97	Biomedical science
LB	David Helton	Duke	Sr.	Chattanooga, Tenn.	3.63	Psychology (MMS certificate)
LB	Esley Thorton	North Dakota State	Sr.	Bismarck, N.D.	3.91	Exercise science
DL	Brett Biestek (1)	Fordham	Gr.	Yalesville, Conn.	3.83	MBA
DL	Kyle Emanuel	North Dakota State	Sr.	Schuyler, Neb.	3.66	Construction management
DL	David Milewski	Rutgers	Gr.	Sayreville, N.J.	3.88	MBA
DL	Danny Shelton	Washington	Sr.	Auburn, Wash.	3.54	Anthropology
P	Mike Sadler (1) # @	Michigan State	Gr.	Grand Rapids, Mich.	3.97	Applied engineering sciences

## SECOND TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
QB	Cooper Rush	Central Michigan	Jr.	Charlotte, Mich.	3.91	Actuarial science
WR	Cooper Kupp	Eastern Washington	So.	Yakima, Wash.	3.48	Economics
WR	Curry Sexton	Kansas State	Sr.	Abilene, Kan.	3.45	Marketing / management
TE	Dan Light	Fordham	Sr.	Sutton, Mass.	3.36	Business administration
RB	Sean Bell	Sacred Heart	Sr.	Medford Lakes, N.J.	3.91	Business
RB	Mark Weisman	Iowa	Sr.	Buffalo Grove, Ill.	3.32	Health & human physiology
OL	Troy Baker	Baylor	Gr.	Waco, Texas	3.40	MBA
OL	Jacoby Boren	Ohio State	Jr.	Pickerington, Ohio	3.80	Sustainable plant systems
OL	Nick Faraci	Robert Morris (Pa.)	Sr.	McDonald, Pa.	3.92	Nursing
OL	Garrett Frye	Georgia Southern	Sr.	Cumming, Ga.	3.77	Exercise science
OL	Jesse Hinz	North Dakota State	Sr.	Beatrice, Neb.	3.71	Criminal justice / Spanish
OL	Arie Kouandjio	Alabama	Gr.	Hyattsville, Md.	3.46	Finance (UG) / economics (G)
OL	Sam Rodgers	Syracuse	Sr.	State College, Pa.	3.84	Nutrition
K	Corey Acosta	Southern Mississippi	Sr.	Memphis, Tenn.	3.81	Biological sciences
DB	Collin Brence	Baylor	Sr.	Plano, Texas	3.73	Professional sales
DB	Matt Dobson	Georgia Southern	Jr.	Monticello, Fla.	3.73	History
DB	Wesley Miller	Texas-El Paso	Gr.	Fresno, Calif.	3.94	Business & econ.(UG) / economics (G)
DB	Sam Scofield (2)	Tulane	Sr.	Lafayette, La.	3.77	Finance
LB	Don Cherry	Villanova	Jr.	Trumbull, Conn.	3.57	Communication
LB	Austin Graves	Idaho State	Sr.	Kennewick, Wash.	3.95	Philosophy
LB	Tyler Williamson	Southern Illinois	Gr.	Knoxville, Tenn.	3.79	Management (UG) / kinesiology (G)
DL	Henry Anderson	Stanford	Sr.	Atlanta, Ga.	3.54	Political science
DL	Derek Crittenden	Montana	Jr.	Whitefish, Mont.	4.00	Chemistry
DL	Brian Nordstrom	Rice	Jr.	The Woodlands, Texas	3.63	Civil engineering
DL	Davis Tull (1)	Chattanooga	Sr.	Knoxville, Tenn.	3.52	Health & human performance
P	Landon Foster	Kentucky	Jr.	Franklin, Tenn.	4.00	Finance / marketing

**Capital One Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year: Zach Zenner, South Dakota State**

1 = Capital One 2013 Academic All-America® first team

2 = Capital One 2013 Academic All-America® second team

# = Capital One 2012 Academic All-America® second team

@ = Capital One 2011 Academic All-America® second team