



ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® TEAM SELECTED BY CoSIDA

For Release:

Tuesday, December 10 – 12 noon ET

BRANT GRISEL OF CHARLESTON (W.VA.) HEADLINES CoSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® DIVISION II FOOTBALL TEAMS

AUSTIN, Texas | University of Charleston (W.Va.) senior quarterback **Brant Grisel** headlines the 2019 Academic All-America® Division II football team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

The Division II Academic All-America® program is being financially supported by the NCAA Division II national governance structure to assist CoSIDA with handling the awards fulfillment aspects for the 2019-20 Division II Academic All-America® teams program.

A native of Apex, North Carolina, Grisel is the recipient of the Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year award for NCAA Division II football. A biology (pre-med) major with a 3.95 GPA, Grisel finished his Golden Eagle career with a flourish. This season, he completed 217-of-357 passes for 3117 yards and 27 touchdowns. The four previously mentioned numbers are new Charleston single season records. The second team All-Mountain East Conference selection is ninth on the 2019 NCAA Division II passing yards per game charts.

Thanks to his herculean 2019 efforts, Grisel set all five of the Golden Eagle top five single-game passing performances this season. His top outing came against NCAA playoff qualifier College of Notre Dame (Ohio), when he passed for 464 yards and three touchdowns on a 27-of-45 day. Later in the season, Grisel threw for four scores in a victory over Glenville State College.

The 25 CoSIDA Academic All-America® Division II football first team members hold a composite 3.85 GPA. Eight first team honorees hold a 3.95 or better cumulative GPA. Eighteen Academic All-America® Division II football selections are repeat picks with seven of the veterans making the 2019 first team.

Pittsburg State University had three CoSIDA Academic All-America® repeat selections. Senior defensive lineman **Levi Wyrick** was named to the first team for the second consecutive year, while graduate student offensive lineman **Ryan Dodd** and senior defensive lineman **Ned Bingaman** moved up to the first team after being named to the second team in 2018.

Four other student-athletes make the Academic All-America® Division II football first team for the second year in a row: Colorado State University-Pueblo senior running back **Austin Micci**, Minnesota State University, Mankato senior wide receiver **Shane Zylstra**, Wayne State (Mich.) University senior defensive back **Kyle Toth**, and Northwest Missouri State University senior offensive lineman **Ryan Spelhaug**. Micci, Zylstra and Spelhaug are three of 20 Academic All-America® selections who helped their teams make the NCAA playoffs.

Four players make the move from second team Academic All-America® last season to first team this year: Lenoir-Rhyne University graduate student offensive lineman **Ronnie Clifton**, Grand Valley State University junior linebacker **Tyler Bradfield**, Clarion University senior defensive back **Sam Fareri** and West Liberty University graduate student defensive back **Brandon Morrison**.

Bradfield and Southwestern Oklahoma State University graduate student defensive back **Braden Sweet** share the second-highest GPA on the first team with their respective 3.98 undergraduate GPAs. Sweet was a second team Academic All-America® choice in 2017, making the big move to the first team in 2019.

Six veteran Academic All-America® standouts make the second team this season. Leading the way is Missouri Science and Technology senior running back **Deshawn Jones**, who receives second team honors for the third time in his Miner career. Three student-athletes make the 2019 second team after nabbing first team laurels in 2018.

Leading this trio is Northwest Missouri State senior tight end **Marqus Andrews**. He is joined by Minnesota State Mankato senior linebacker **Alex Goettl** and Colorado School of Mines senior defensive back **Geoff Keating**. Andrews, Goettl and Keating led their teams to the NCAA playoffs. Goettl is one of 12 finalists for the William V. Campbell Trophy®.

Two defensive linemen make the Academic All-America® Division II football second team for the second consecutive year: Wayne State (Neb.) College senior **Kolbie Foster** and Urbana University senior **Mikal Toliver**. Foster, Toliver and the other 16 returning Academic All-America® selections have a combined 3.82 undergraduate GPA. Seven of the 18 student-athletes helped their respective teams make the 2019 NCAA Division II playoffs.

For more information on the Academic All-America® program, go to <https://academicallamerica.com/>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Michael MacEachern, Young Harris College | Academic All-America® Co-Director for Publicity
mfmaceachern@yhcedu | (706) 379-5106

David Sherwood, Wingate University | Academic All-America® Coordinator of Publicity
dsherwod@wingate.edu | (704) 233-8186



2019 Academic All-America®

Football

NCAA Division II

FIRST TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Yr.	GPA	Major
QB	Brant Grisel	University of Charleston	Sr.	3.95	Biology / Pre-Medical
RB	Deonte Glover	Shepherd University	Gr.	3.70/3.75	MBA
RB	Austin Micci (1)	Colorado State University-Pueblo	Sr.	3.78	Business Management (UG / MBA (3+2))
WR	Henry Litwin	Slippery Rock University	Jr.	3.66	Safety Management
WR	Shane Zylstra (1)	Minnesota State University, Mankato	Sr.	3.44	Biomedical Science
TE	Preston Guerra	Colorado State University-Pueblo	Jr.	3.96	Business Management
OL	Ronnie Clifton (2)	Lenoir-Rhyne University	Gr.	3.85	Business Administration
OL	Ryan Dodd (2)	Pittsburg State University	Gr.	3.87/4.00	Business Administration (UG) / MBA (G)
OL	Derek Ivey	Stonehill College	Jr.	3.91	Economics
OL	Shawn Rouse	Missouri Western State University	Sr.	3.86	Construction Engineering
OL	Ryan Spelhaug (1)	Northwest Missouri State University	Sr.	3.92	Business Economics
K	Ethan Knudson	Wayne State College	Sr.	3.92	Industrial Technology & Construction Management
ST	Stevann Brown	Chadron State College	Sr.	3.69	Education
DL	Ned Bingaman (2)	Pittsburg State University	Sr.	3.97	Justice Studies
DL	Zach Mohs	Northern State University	Sr.	3.98	Biology / Chemistry
DL	Ricky Robinson	Shepherd University	Jr.	3.87	Business Administration
DL	Levi Wyrick (1)	Pittsburg State University	Sr.	4.00	Education
LB	Tyler Bradfield (2)	Grand Valley State University	Jr.	3.98	Finance
LB	Kyle Rosenbrock	Colorado State University-Pueblo	Sr.	3.94	Engineering
LB	Clay Shreve	Ashland University	Sr.	3.96	Music Education
DB	Sam Fareri (2)	Clarion University	Sr.	3.82	Rehab Science
DB	Brandon Morrison (2)	West Liberty University	Gr.	3.86	Criminology (G)
DB	Braden Sweet (#)	Southwestern Oklahoma State University	Gr.	3.98/4.00	Accounting (UG) / Business Admin. (G)
DB	Kyle Toth (1)	Wayne State University	Sr.	3.83	Kinesiology
P	Logen Neidhardt	Ohio Dominican University	Jr.	3.78	Exercise Science

SECOND TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Yr.	GPA	Major
QB	Jaden Barr	Truman State University	Gr.	3.95/4.00	Leadership
RB	Deshawn Jones (2, #)	Missouri University of Science & Tech.	Sr.	3.49	Biological Sciences
RB	Antonio Wimbush	Carson-Newman University	Sr.	3.50	Business
WR	Nate Couturier	Davenport University	Gr.	4.00	Accounting
WR	Dakota Larson	Northern State University	So.	3.88	Environmental Science
TE	Marqus Andrews (1)	Northwest Missouri State University	Sr.	3.48	Chemistry
OL	Nathan Belisle	Minnesota State University Moorhead	Sr.	3.79	Accounting
OL	Dan List	Colorado State University-Pueblo	Sr.	3.72	History
OL	Levi Murphy	East Stroudsburg University	Sr.	3.90	Secondary Education / History
OL	Andrew Strickland	Wingate University	Sr.	3.80	Accounting
OL	Nick Zimmerman	University of Sioux Falls	Gr.	3.82/3.82	Business, Management, Marketing
K	Tanner Harding	Notre Dame College	Jr.	3.87	Psychology
ST	Pippin Davis	Valdosta State University	Jr.	3.67	Middle Grades Education
DL	Kolbie Foster (2)	Wayne State College	Sr.	3.82	Family Consumer Sci. & Fashion Merchandising
DL	Dan Monson	University of Minnesota Duluth	Sr.	3.75	Civil Engineering
DL	Mikal Toliver (2)	Urbana University	Sr.	3.76	Sport Management
DL	J.T. Turner	Concord University	Jr.	4.00	Business Administration
LB	Alex Goettl (1)	Minnesota State University, Mankato	Sr.	3.93	Biology
LB	Clayton Horn	Lenoir-Rhyne University	Sr.	3.78	Accounting
LB	Jace McDown	Emporia State University	Sr.	3.98	Health & Human Performance
DB	Ben Gutschow	St. Cloud State University	Sr.	3.91	Bio-Medical Studies
DB	Geoff Keating (1)	Colorado School of Mines	Sr.	3.96	Mechanical Engineering
DB	Vincent Persichetti	Frostburg State	Sr.	3.57	Sociology / Law & Society
DB	Alex Shillow	Texas A&M University-Commerce	Gr.	3.85	Sports Management (UG) / MBA (G)
P	Todd Morrow	Pittsburg State University	Sr.	3.52	Construction Management

CoSIDA Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year: Brant Grisel, University of Charleston (W.Va.)

(1) – CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team selection in 2018

(2) – CoSIDA Academic All-America® second team selection in 2018

(#) – CoSIDA Academic All-America® second team selection in 2017