For Release: **Thursday, July 15 – 12 noon ET**

CAMERON DUKES OF LINDSEY WILSON HEADLINES
CoSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® NAIA FOOTBALL TEAM

AUSTIN, Texas | Lindsey Wilson College quarterback **Cameron Dukes** topped the 2020-21 Academic All-America® NAIA football team as chosen by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

The NAIA Academic All-America® program is financially supported by the NAIA national governance structure to assist CoSIDA with handling the awards fulfillment aspects for the 2020-21 NAIA Academic All-America® teams.

Dukes, a graduate student from Shepherdsville, Kentucky, became the CoSIDA Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year. Dukes forged a 3.74 grade-point average pursuing a master's of business administration and a 3.87 cumulative GPA while earning a physical education and health degree.

Dukes led the Blue Raiders in capturing the national championship and Mid-South Conference Bluegrass Division title while throwing for 2,555 yards and 33 touchdowns with just four interceptions this season. He sparked Lindsey Wilson (11-0) to its first national title 45-13 over Northwestern College (Iowa) on May 10 in Grambling, Louisiana. Dukes ranked fourth among the NAIA in passing yardage, total offense (2,946) and passing efficiency (177.8) in 2020-21.

Dukes has taken Offensive Player of the Game in the NAIA Football Championship Series Championship Game, two NAIA All-American nods and Mid-South Conference Offensive Player of the Year accolades and three league player of the week awards as a Blue Raider. He has accumulated 8,000 passing yards and 87 scoring passes with 25 rushing touchdowns in his career. Dukes' recognition for his classroom work includes NAIA scholar-athlete and two academic all-conference honors.

Based on the absence of most fall sports competition, the CoSIDA Academic All-America® Committee revised some rules and procedures for nominating student-athletes this season. Due to the low percentage of games completed this season, the nominees were selected based on career statistics and achievements.

Four student-athletes among the NAIA Academic All-America® football team collected their second Academic All-America® honor – College of Idaho tight end **Connor Gagain,** Morningside University wide receiver **Reid Jurgensmeier,** Dordt University defensive lineman **David Kacmarynski** and Olivet Nazarene University defensive back **Patryk Ryczek.** Besides Dukes, **Ryan Zitkus** from St. Ambrose University is also working towards a postgraduate degree. Zitkus is seeking a doctorate in occupational therapy.

The 2020-21 Academic All-America® NAIA football squad included two student-athletes – **Jaden Snyder** of Northwestern College and **Dalton Tremayne** of Midland University – who boast of a 4.00 GPA and seven honorees who own a 3.90 GPA. The 26-man team posted a 3.807 average GPA.

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@yhc.edu | (706) 379-5106

Rich Tortorelli, Oklahoma City University | Academic All-America® Coordinator of Publicity
rtortorelli@okcu.edu | (405) 208-5304

2020-21 Academic All-America ® Football Team NAIA

FIRST TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Yr.	GPA	Major
QB	Cameron Dukes	Lindsey Wilson College	Gr.	3.87/3.74	MBA (G)
RB	Jared Honey	Olivet Nazarene University	Jr.	3.85	Multimedia Communications
RB	Jonah Weyand	Concordia University (Neb.)	Jr.	3.72	Psychology / Strategic Communication
RB	Jacobi White	Doane University	Sr.	3.60	Chemistry
WR	Reid Jurgensmeier (1)	Morningside College	Sr.	3.92	Business Administration
WR	Shane Solberg	Northwestern College	Sr.	3.31	Elementary Education / Psychology
TE	Connor Gagain (1)	College of Idaho	Sr.	3.63	Biomedical Sciences
OL	Eli Cross	Lindsey Wilson College	Sr.	3.93	Business Administration
OL	Dylan Dittman	Peru State College	Sr.	3.96	Social Science Education
OL	Joe Gressette	Lindsey Wilson College	Sr.	3.92	Counseling & Human Development
OL	Alex Huisman	Dordt University	Jr.	3.83	Biology
OL	Matt Totah	Arizona Christian University	Sr.	3.84	Business Administration
K	Logan DeMond	Bethel College	Jr.	3.88	Communication Arts / Political Science
DL	Niklas Gustav	Morningside University	Sr.	3.76	Business Administration / Finance
DL	David Kacmarynski (1)	Dordt University	Sr.	3.80	History / Political Science
DL	Cameron Thurman	Lindsey Wilson College	Sr.	3.85	Counseling & Human Development
DL	Ryan Zitkus	St. Ambrose University	Gr.	3.85/3.83	Doctorate in Occupational Therapy / Psychology
LB	Graham Carnahan	College of Idaho	Sr.	3.90	Biomedical Sciences
LB	Kole Murlin	Siena Heights University	Jr.	3.84	Special Education
LB	Grant Torgerson	Southwestern College (Kan.)	Sr.	3.57	Biology
DB	Cory Rahman	Southeastern University	Sr.	3.72	Sport Management
DB	Patryk Ryczek (1)	Olivet Nazarene University	Sr.	3.85	Exercise Science
DB	Kaleb Thornton	Wayland Baptist University	Jr.	3.89	Business Marketing
DB	Noah Van't Hof	Northwestern College	Jr.	3.70	Business Administration / Finance
P	Jaden Snyder	Northwestern College	So.	4.00	Exercise Science
ST	Dalton Tremayne	Midland University	Jr.	4.00	Secondary Education

CoSIDA Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year: Cameron Dukes, Lindsey Wilson College

(1) – CoSIDA Academic All-America® first team selection in 2019-20