



GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE

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GSC ANNOUNCES 2013 ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS

Birmingham, AL—The Gulf South Conference announced the 43rd edition of its All-Conference Football Team today.

Co-Champion West Alabama led the way on this year's squad, landing 20 total players led by nine First Team members. **Co-Champion North Alabama** followed with 13 overall honorees and seven First Team standouts. **Delta State** was third overall, placing 11 (four on the First Team), while **Valdosta State** added 10 (six First Team), **newcomer Florida Tech** provided eight (two First Team) and **West Georgia** notched seven, six of which were on the First Team.

UWA'S CALDWELL IS THE GSC OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

The *GSC Offensive Player of the Year* was awarded to a West Alabama student-athlete for just the second time since the award's inception. **Junior quarterback Kyle Caldwell** earns this season's edition, following fellow UWA signal caller Clemit Spruiell who took home the very first award in 1971.

The Dadeville, AL native guided the Tigers to their first-ever, back-to-back GSC Titles after UWA shared the top honor with North Alabama. Caldwell led West Alabama's offense which finished the year ranked No. 1 in the GSC in scoring (49.5) and total offense (539.1). The Harlon Hill Trophy candidate was tops in passing (206.5), passing touchdowns (28) and total offense (245.7), while also placing second in pass efficiency (184.2). He was also named the GSC Offensive Player of the Week on September 16 and October 28.

UNA'S WILSON SELECTED AS GSC DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

North Alabama provided the *GSC Defensive Player of the Year* for the first time since 2009 when **linebacker Tavarius Wilson** collected this year's honor. The senior follows former linebacker Mike Johnson who recorded the award in 2009. Wilson is also the Lions' sixth overall Defensive winner.

The Jackson, MS native spearheaded the Lions' defensive efforts, as UNA clinched a share of the GSC Title with West Alabama. Wilson is the leader of a North Alabama unit that enters the post-season first in the Conference in scoring defense (17.5), pass defense efficiency (109.4) and interceptions (22). The Jackson, MS native is first in the league in total tackles (98) and solo stops (51), while placing tied for fourth with three interceptions. The Harlon Hill Trophy candidate also posted 7.5 tackles for loss and 4.0 sacks and he earned GSC Defensive Player of the Week three times, including back-to-back honors on October 28 and November 4.

DSU'S SULLIVAN, UNA'S MARTIAL AND FITS'S STAPLETON CLAIM GSC FRESHMAN HONORS

Delta State collected its first-ever *GSC Offensive Freshman of the Year*: **quarterback Tyler Sullivan**. The redshirt freshman played in seven games for the Statesmen, starting five. He set DSU's freshman and first-time starter records at then No. 14 Tarleton State when he led a successful comeback effort by passing for 422 yards and four touchdowns. The Louisville, MS native did not stop there, setting the single-game record for total offense in the 63-55 shootout against Valdosta State, posting 583 yards along with four passing touchdowns and two rushing TDs. Sullivan finished the year, completing 131-of-201 passes for 1,764 yards and 15 TDs.

Two players shared *GSC Defensive Freshman of the Year* honors for the first time ever, as **Florida Tech** **linebacker Chris Stapleton** and **North Alabama** **defensive back Philbert Martial** tied in the voting. Stapleton was a key cog in the Panthers' second-ranked GSC pass defense (183.9) in FIT's inaugural football season. The Navarre, FL native tied for tops in the league in total tackles for loss (11.5) and he also placed sixth in total tackles (87).

Martial moved into a starting role in UNA's secondary during the season and enters this weekend with 29 total tackles led by 19 solo stops. The Mobile, AL native also tallied one tackle for loss of three yards and two interceptions for 65 yards and one touchdown. He is also second on UNA in all-purpose yards (736) and has played a huge role in the squad's seven-game winning streak.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

DSU'S COOLEY IS THE GSC COACH OF THE YEAR

Delta State's Todd Cooley was tabbed *GSC Coach of the Year* after returning the Statesmen back to their winning ways in his first season at the helm. Cooley is DSU's fourth overall Coach of the Year and first since Ron Roberts posted back-to-back laurels in 2007 and 2008. Delta State wrapped up the year with a 7-3 overall record and a 4-2 mark in GSC action, while directing an offense that placed first in the league in passing (358.7) and second in total offense (472.7).

2013 ALL-GSC TEAM

The 2013 All-GSC Football Team is headlined by *one three-time returning First Team* standout and *eight two-time returning First Team* members.

Valdosta State linebacker **Chris Pope** leads the All-Conference defense that features seven returnees. Pope is the GSC's 47th three-time First Teamer, following former VSU wideout Cedric Jones who became the last three-timer in 2009. The Jackson, GA native finished his senior season as the school's all-time leading tackler with 372 total stops.

Back from last year's First Team are **Valdosta State** running back **Cedric O'Neal** and wide receiver **Seantavius Jones**, **Delta State** defensive lineman **Diego Lubin** and linebacker **Rory Island**, **North Alabama** linebacker **Tavarius Wilson** and defensive back **Caleb Massey** and **West Alabama** defensive back **Malcolm Butler**. **UNA** linebacker **Gabe Poe** also jumped back onto the First Team after claiming honors in 2011 as a UWA Tiger.

Four players made the jump from last year's Second Team: **UWA** wideout **Chad Toocheck** and offensive tackle **Taylor Burnett**, **UWG** offensive guard **William Wright** and **VSU** defensive lineman **Lawrence Virgil**.

ALL-GSC FOOTBALL FIRST TEAM ON NEXT PAGE

2013 ALL-GSC FOOTBALL FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE						
POS	NAME	SCHOOL	HT	WT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
QB	Kyle Caldwell	West Alabama	5-7	165	JR	Dadeville, AL
RB	!Cedric O'Neal	Valdosta State	5-11	203	SO	Dublin, GA
RB	*Javae Swindle	West Alabama	5-4	162	SO	Thorsby, AL
WR	Ricky Hunt	Delta State	5-10	175	JR	Sardis, MS
WR	*!Seantavius Jones	Valdosta State	6-3	200	SR	Tucker, GA
WR	*Xavier Milton	Florida Tech	6-0	190	JR	Alameda, CA
WR	#Chad Toocheck	West Alabama	6-3	212	JR	Medina, OH
TE	*Gabe Hughes	Florida Tech	6-4	235	SO	Lighthouse Point, FL
AP	Chris Coffey (RB)	North Alabama	5-8	200	SR	Decatur, AL
C	Tyler Sizemore	North Alabama	6-2	305	SR	Apalachicola, FL
G	Garrison Ushery	West Georgia	6-1	335	JR	Austell, GA
G	*#William Wright	West Georgia	6-3	310	SR	Pompano Beach, FL
T	#Taylor Burnett	West Alabama	6-3	271	SR	Spanish Fort, AL
T	*Brandon White	West Georgia	6-5	305	SR	Cincinnati, OH

DEFENSE						
POS	NAME	SCHOOL	HT	WT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
DL	*Taylor Carney	North Alabama	6-2	275	JR	Killen, AL
DL	Mario Gainer	West Alabama	6-0	245	SR	Gautier, MS
DL	Ryan Jones	West Alabama	6-2	250	JR	Irondale, AL
DL	!Diego Lubin	Delta State	5-11	230	JR	Winter Haven, FL
DL	*#Lawrence Virgil	Valdosta State	6-5	290	SR	Quitman, GA
LB	Tyrell Adams	West Georgia	6-2	215	JR	Atlanta, GA
LB	!Rory Island	Delta State	6-0	225	JR	Waveland, MS
LB	\$Gabe Poe	North Alabama	5-10	210	SR	Pheba, MS
LB	*!\$Chris Pope	Valdosta State	6-1	233	SR	Jackson, GA
LB	*!Tavarius Wilson	North Alabama	5-11	225	SR	Jackson, MS
DB	*!Malcolm Butler	West Alabama	5-11	180	SR	Vicksburg, MS
DB	*!Caleb Massey	North Alabama	6-0	226	SR	Sulligent, AL
DB	*Demetruce McNeal	West Alabama	6-2	185	SR	College Park, GA
DB	Dominique Wheeler	Valdosta State	5-8	177	SR	Stone Mountain, GA

SPECIAL TEAMS						
POS	NAME	SCHOOL	HT	WT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
K	Mark Grant	West Alabama	5-7	160	FR	Panama City, FL
P	Dominic DeMasi	Valdosta State	6-3	188	SO	Savannah, GA
RS	Michael Davison	Delta State	5-0	160	FR	Avondale, AZ
RS	Derick Seward	West Georgia	5-10	195	JR	Wheatland, CA
BT	Chase Penland	West Georgia	6-0	205	SR	Brooks, GA
UT	Mabry Cook	North Alabama	6-2	240	SR	Brewton, AL

!—2012 First Team All-GSC
 \$—2011 First Team All-GSC

#—2012 Second Team All-GSC
 *—Unanimous selection

GSC OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:
GSC DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:
GSC OFFENSIVE FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR:
GSC DEFENSIVE FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR:
GSC COACH OF THE YEAR:

QB, Kyle Caldwell, West Alabama
 LB, Tavarius Wilson, North Alabama
 QB, Tyler Sullivan, Delta State
 DB, Philbert Martial, North Alabama
 LB, Chris Stapleton, Florida Tech
 Todd Cooley, Delta State

ALL-GSC FOOTBALL SECOND TEAM ON NEXT PAGE

2013 ALL-GSC FOOTBALL SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE						
POS	NAME	SCHOOL	HT	WT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
QB	Tyler Sullivan	Delta State	6-3	235	FR	Louisville, MS
QB	Bobby Vega	Florida Tech	6-1	195	SR	Miami, FL
RB	#Lamonte Thompson	North Alabama	5-8	175	SO	Florence, AL
RB	Kedrick Rhodes	West Alabama	5-11	200	SR	Ocala, FL
WR	Regginald Lewis	Valdosta State	6-1	183	SR	Forest Park, GA
WR	Malik Lofton	West Alabama	6-0	185	SR	Shubuta, MS
WR	Casey Osborne	Delta State	6-3	205	SO	Flowery Branch, GA
WR	Seth Roberts	West Alabama	6-2	190	SR	Tallahassee, FL
WR	Jason Smith	North Alabama	5-10	165	SR	Gurley, AL
TE	Ty Morgan	West Alabama	6-3	242	SO	Sweet Water, AL
AP	Gary Johnston (QB)	West Alabama	5-11	200	SR	Gulf Shores, AL
C	#Skeeter Sellers	West Alabama	6-1	280	SR	Enterprise, AL
G	#David Lundberg	North Alabama	6-1	310	SR	Winfield, AL
G	Ramsey Sellers	Florida Tech	5-10	190	JR	Wiggins, MS
G	Felei Tauvae	Valdosta State	6-1	355	JR	American Somoa
T	Ethan Corkren	West Alabama	6-2	260	SR	Brilliant, AL
T	Keith Jones	North Alabama	6-5	315	JR	Birmingham, AL
T	Kenston Redfean	North Alabama	6-3	310	SR	Lexington, NC

DEFENSE						
POS	NAME	SCHOOL	HT	WT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
DL	#Tevin Davis	Valdosta State	6-0	257	JR	Forsyth, GA
DL	Adrian Dinkins	Delta State	6-3	260	JR	Ridgeland, MS
DL	Skylar Sheffield	Florida Tech	6-3	305	FR	Henderson, TN
LB	Justin Arcune	Florida Tech	6-2	230	JR	Los Altos, CA
LB	!Jeremy Grable	Valdosta State	6-0	216	SR	Alpharetta, GA
LB	#Brion James	North Alabama	6-1	190	SR	Hahnville, LA
LB	Chris Stapleton	Florida Tech	5-11	215	FR	Navarre, FL
LB	Ricky Willis	West Alabama	6-2	200	SR	Columbiana, MS
DB	Manny Abad	Florida Tech	6-1	175	FR	Fort Lauderdale, FL
DB	Robert Jones	West Alabama	6-1	180	SR	Laurel, MS
DB	Richard Nash	Delta State	5-9	180	SO	Macon, GA
DB	Trenton Warren	Delta State	5-10	185	SR	Baytown, TX

SPECIAL TEAMS						
POS	NAME	SCHOOL	HT	WT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
K	Vince Sciorrotta	Delta State	5-9	170	FR	Cumming, GA
P	James Dugan	West Georgia	6-5	180	SO	Carrollton, GA
BT	Tyler O'Neal	West Alabama	6-3	250	JR	Little Rock, AR
BT	Trenton Warren	Delta State	5-10	185	SR	Baytown, TX
UT	Matt Humphries	West Alabama	5-11	230	JR	Hueytown, AL

!—2012 First Team All-GSC

#—2012 Second Team All-GSC

NOTES: There were only two nominations for RS and both tied for First Team; The 2013 All-GSC Football Team was selected by the Head Coaches; Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own players; Ties were not broken.

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