

FOOTBALL CONFERENCE



For Immediate Release Dec. 5, 2017

Mike Kern

Illinois State • Indiana State • Missouri State • North Dakota State • Northern Iowa South Dakota • South Dakota State • Southern Illinois • Western Illinois • Youngstown State

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2017 Valley Football Standings (thru Dec. 2)													
Team	<i>M</i> \ W-L	<i>MVFC Points</i> W-L Pct. For Op						rall Pct.	<i>Poi</i> For	nts Opp	Н	А	Stk.
North Dakota State South Dakota State Northern Iowa Western Illinois South Dakota Youngstown State Illinois State Southern Illinois Missouri State Indiana State	7-1 6-2 6-2 5-3 4-4 4-4 4-4 2-6 2-6 0-8	.875 .750 .750 .625 .500 .500 .500 .250	261 279 224 260 259 217 182 180 195 90	115 198 159 201 218 173 163 238 294 388	11-1 10-2 8-5 8-4 8-5 6-5 6-5 4-7 3-8 0-11	.917 .833 .615 .667 .615 .545 .545 .364 .273	467 449 382 410 496 327 287 301 266 158	138 270 307 266 344 210 213 302 421 494	7-0 6-1 5-1 2-2 4-1 4-2 3-2 2-3 2-3 0-5	4-1 4-1 3-4 6-2 4-4 2-3 3-3 2-4 1-5 0-6	W3 W6 L1 L1 L1 W3 L3 L4 L2		

## Against Each Other

The UNI-SDSU game on Dec. 2 marked the 10th intraconference playoff game for the Missouri Valley Football Conference.

Previous MVFC vs. MVFC Playoff Meetings

2002 - \*Western Kentucky 31, Western Illinois 28

2006 -- #Youngstown State 28, Illinois State 21

2012 - \*North Dakota State 28, South Dakota State 3

2014 -- \*North Dakota State 27, South Dakota State 24

2014 - ~Illinois State 41, Northern Iowa 21

2014 -- \*North Dakota State 29, Illinois State 27

2015 -- Illinois State 36, Western Illinois 19

2015 - \*North Dakota State 23, UNI 13

2016 - North Dakota State 36, South Dakota State 10

2017 - South Dakota State 37, UNI 22

\*won FCS title; ~lost in title game; #lost in semifinals

2017 Playoffs	Teams	W	L	Pct.
CAA Football	4	4	2	.667
Big South	2	2	1	.667
Missouri Valley	5	4	3	.571
Big Sky	3	2	2	.500
Southern	3	2	2	.500
Pioneer	1	1	1	.500
Southland	3	1	2	.333
Northeast	1	0	1	.000
Ohio Valley	1	0	1	.000
Patriot	1	0	1	.000

## **Against Other Leagues**

Of the eight remaining teams in the NCAA Division I Championship, here's what remains:

MVFC - 2 (N. Dakota State, S. Dakota State)

CAA Football – 2 (James Madison, N. Hampshire)

Big Sky – 1 (Weber State)

Southern – 1 (Wofford)

Southland – 1 (Sam Houston State)

Big South – 1 (Kennesaw State)

The league is 96-66 in the NCAA FCS playoffs. Included in that overall record is a .500 or better performance against nine of the 11 conferences it has faced.

## vs. Other Leagues in the Playoffs

vs. Mid-Eastern Athletic	4	0	1.000
vs. Big South	4	0	1.000
vs. Pioneer Football League	3	0	1.000
vs. Southwestern Athletic	1	0	1.000
vs. Northeast Conference	1	0	1.000
vs. Ohio Valley Conference	17	2	.895
vs. CAA Football	16	12	.571
vs. Big Sky Conference	17	14	.548
vs. Southland Football League	9	8	.529
vs. Independents	3	3	.500
vs. Intra-conference	10	10	.500
vs. Patriot League	2	3	.400
vs. Southern Conference	9	14	.391
TOTAL	96	66	.593

## Schedule/Results

### FIRST-ROUND GAMES (Saturday, Nov. 25)

Stony Brook 59, Lehigh 29

Weber State 21, Western Illinois 19 UNI 46, Monmouth 7

New Hampshire 14, Central Connecticut State 0 Kennesaw State 28, Samford 17

South Dakota 38, Nicholls 31

Furman 28, Elon 27

San Diego 41, Northern Arizona 10

### SECOND-ROUND GAMES (Saturday, Dec. 2)

#1 James Madison 26, Stony Brook 7 Weber State 30, #8 Southern Utah 13

#5 South Dakota State 37, UNI 22

New Hampshire 21, #4 Central Arkansas 15 Kennesaw State 17, #3 Jacksonville State 7

**#6 Sam Houston State 54, South Dakota 42** #7 Wofford 28. Furman 10

#2 North Dakota State 38, San Diego 3

## QUARTERFINAL GAMES (Fri./Sat., Dec. 8/9)

Weber State at #1 James Madison Friday, Dec. 8 – 6 pm CT (ESPN2)

#7 Wofford at #2 North Dakota State Saturday, Dec. 9 – 11 am CT (ESPN2)

New Hampshire at #5 South Dakota State Saturday, Dec. 9 – 2 pm CT (ESPN3) Kennesaw State at #6 Sam Houston State

Kennesaw State at #6 Sam Houston State (Saturday, Dec. 9 - 7:30 pm CT (ESPN3

## SEMIFINAL GAMES (Fri./Sat., Dec. 15/16)

TBD, Games on ESPN2 / ESPNU

## TITLE GAME (Saturday, Jan. 6)

Frisco, Texas (Toyota Stadium) 11 am CT (ESPN2)



## 2017 Missouri Valley Football Conference Weekly Release (Dec. 5)

## vs. Non-Conference (23-12)

Home: 13-1 / Away: 10-11 / Neut: 0-0

## NCAA FCS Teams (21-7)

Big Sky	5-4
Cal Poly	
Eastern Washington	1-0
Montana State	
North Dakota	1-1
Northern Arizona	1-1
Southern Utah	
Weber State	
Big South	1-1
Liberty	
Monmouth	
Northeast	
Central Connecticut	1-0
Duquesne	
Robert Morris	
Ohio Valley	
Eastern Illinois	
Murray State	1-0
Southeast Missouri State	
Tennessee Tech	
Pioneer Football	
Butler	
Drake	
San Diego	1-0
Southland	
Nicholls	1-0
Sam Houston State	0-1
SWAC	
Mississippi Valley State	

## NCAA FBS Teams (2-5)

ACC	0-1
Pittsburgh	0-1
American	0-1
Memphis	0-1
Big 12	0-1
Iowa State	0-1
Mid-American	1-0
Bowling Green	1-0
SEC	0-2
Missouri	0-1
Tennessee	0-1
Sun Belt	1-0
Coastal Carolina	1-0

## vs. Ranked (FCS) Teams (4-4)

#2 NDSU at #6 Eastern Washington, W, 40-13 Missouri State at #11 North Dakota, L, 34-0 #10 North Dakota at #23 South Dakota, W, 45-7 Indiana State at #19 Liberty, L, 42-41 #20 UNI vs. #23 Monmouth, W, 46-7 #18 South Dakota at #22 Nicholls, W, 38-31 #9 Western Illinois at #11 Weber State, L, 19-21 #16 South Dakota at #5 Sam Houston, L, 54-42

## vs. Ranked (FBS) Teams (0-1)

Indiana State at #21 Tennessee, L, 42-7

## Playoff Bids - MVFC History

The MVFC has had a league-record five teams selected to the playoffs three times (2014, 2015, 2017). In the past four seasons, the MVFC has had a total of 19 bids. Only CAA Football has had as many as 5 bids in the same season (also three times).

## Playoff Selections - MVFC History

5 – 3x (2014, 2015, 2017) 4 – twice (2003, 2016) 3 or more – 7 times (03, 06, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16) 2 or more – 26 times (in 33 seasons) 2 or more playoff bids every year since 1995

## The Power 5

In the past seven+ playoffs (2010-17), five leagues (Big Sky, CAA Football, MVFC, Southern and Southland) have combined to win 139 of 165 total games. The MVFC has 48 of those wins (35 percent).

## Dominance By Decade

The Missouri Valley Football Conference has recorded a 48-22 record since 2010 in the playoffs -- better than any other league. Over the last three-plus years the MVFC has a 29-15 record in the playoffs, which includes seven intraconference games, meaning the league is 22-8 vs. the rest.

By Decade	*85-89	90-99	00-09	10-pres.	ALL	
MVFC	6-6	18-16	24-22	48-22	96-66	
Big Sky	8-11	23-20	24-21	19-22	86-79	
Big South	0-0	0-0	0-1	10-11	10-12	
CAA	2-8	16-23	47-29	35-28	104-94	
MEAC	0-2	4-9	0-11	0-8	8-32	
Northeast	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-8	1-8	
Ohio Valley	6-9	7-16	1-14	7-14	31-59	
Patriot	0-0	1-5	6-12	6-10	13-27	
Pioneer	0-0	0-0	0-0	2-5	2-5	
Southern	14-9	36-20	35-19	19-20	108-72	
Southland	13-6	16-20	9-17	18-17	61-64	
Great West	0-0	0-0	1-2	0-0	1-2	
SWAC	0-6	0-6	0-0	0-0	0-18	
Ind.	22-14	29-13	3-2	0-0	64-45	

\*does not include pre-MVFC seasons (1978-84)

## How Seed It Is

For the sixth time in league history, two MVFC teams are seeded in the Top 8. North Dakota State (2) and South Dakota State (5) are the league's seeded teams this year. The last time the league had those two positions (2/5) – the teams met one another in the title game (2014).

## Years in Which MVFC Had 2 of Top 8 Seeds

2007 - UNI (1), SIU (4) - both lost to Delaware\* 2011 - NDSU (2), UNI (5) - NDSU won title 2014 - NDSU (2), ILS (5) - NDSU won title 2015 - NDSU (2), ILS (3) - NDSU beat ILS for title 2016 - NDSU (1), SDSU (8) - NDSU lost to JMU\*

\*denotes national champion that year

## Everybody's In

With South Dakota's first-ever trip to the FCS playoffs, every Missouri Valley Football team (past and current member) has qualified for the FCS playoffs.

## Against the FCS

The MVFC is 21-7 against FCS schools this year, which includes four road losses to ranked FCS teams, one of which (Liberty) is transitioning to FBS. The MVFC is 4-4 against non-league FCS ranked teams.

## 23rd-Straight Year with Two+

In 2017, the league had two (or more) representatives in the FCS playoffs for the 23rd-straight season:

### 2017 FCS Playoff Participation

MVFC (5) -- North Dakota State, South Dakota, South Dakota State, UNI, Western Illinois CAA (4) -- James Madison, Stony Brook, Elon, New Hampshire

Big Sky (3) – Southern Utah, Northern Arizona, Weber State

SoCon (3) – Samford, Wofford, Furman Southland (3) – Central Arkansas, Nicholls State, Sam Houston State

Big South (2) -- Kennesaw State, Monmouth Northeast (1) -- Central Connecticut State Patriot (1) -- Lehigh

Pioneer (1) -- San Diego

Ohio Valley (1) -- Jacksonville State

## 6 MVFC Teams in Top 25

The MVFC had six teams in the final regular-season STATS poll (more than any other league). Three league schools are in the Top 10 (North Dakota State, South Dakota State, Western Illinois). HERO Sports' BennettRank is also listed below and is a computer predictive metric that ranks all FCS teams. The Sagarin ranking ranks all 254 DI teams, but the number listed is each team's position in the FCS.

Team	FCS	STATS	HERO	SAG.	
North Dakota State	4	4	2	1	
South Dakota State	6	6	4	3	
Western Illinois	10	9	8	6	
South Dakota	18	16	9	7	
UNI	21	20	7	4	
Illinois State	rv	23	24	12	
Youngstown State		rv	14	8	
Southern Illinois			40	31	

Among conferences, the MVFC is the top-rated league in the FCS, but also ranks ahead of a number of FBS leagues, including the Mountain West (West Division), the C-USA (both the East and West divisions), the MAC (East Division), and the Sun Belt.

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## Playoffs (96-66) • Home: 62-17 • Away: 27-45 • Neutral: 7-4

#### 1985

at #4 UNI 17, Eastern Washington 14 Georgia Southern 40, at #4 UNI 33

#### 1986

at #3 E. Illinois 28, Murray State 21 E. Kentucky 24, at #3 E. Illinois 22

### 1987

at #3 UNI 31, Youngstown State 28 at #3 UNI 49, Arkansas State 28 at NE Louisiana 44, #3 UNI 41 (20t)

#### 1988

Western Ky. 35, at #4 W. Illinois 32

#### 1989

Eastern Illinois 38, at #4 Idaho 21 at Missouri State 38, Maine 35 at #3 S.F. Austin 55, Missouri St. 25 at Montana 25, Eastern Illinois 19

#### 1990

at Boise State 20, **UNI 3** Idaho 41, **at Missouri State 35** 

#### 1991

at #3 UNI 38, Weber State 21 at #4 Marshall 20, W. Illinois 17 (ot) at #4 Marshall 41, #3 UNI 13

#### 1992

at #3 UNI 17, Eastern Washington 14 at #3 UNI 29, McNeese State 7 Youngstown State 19, at #3 UNI 7

#### 1993

at Boston 27, UNI 21 (2ot)

## 1994

at Montana 23, UNI 20

#### 1995

UNI 35, at #4 Murray State 34 at S.F. Austin 34, Eastern Illinois 29 at Marshall 41, UNI 24

#### 1996

at #3 UNI 21, #14 Eastern Illinois 14 at #7 Murray St. 34, #10 W. Illinois 6 at #3 UNI 38, #6 William & Mary 35 at #2 Marshall 31, #3 UNI 14

#### 1997

at #2 WIU 31, #15 Jackson St. 24 at #8 Youngstown 28, #9 Hampton 13 #6 McNeese State 14, at #2 WIU 12 #8 Youngstown 37, at #1 Villanova 34 #8 Youngstown 25, at #3 E. Wash. 14 #8 Youngstown 10, #6 McNeese 9

#### 1998

at #4 W. Illinois 52, #13 Montana 9 at #2 NW State 48, #15 Illinois St. 28 at #4 W. Illinois 24, #5 Florida A&M 21 at #1 Ga. Southern 42, #4 WIU 14

## 1999

at #6 Illinois State 56, #11 Colgate 13 #9 Youngstown 30, at #8 Montana 27 at #9 YSU 41, #16 N. C. A&T 3 #6 Illinois State 37, at #3 Hofstra 20 at #9 YSU 27, #13 Florida A&M 24 at #2 Ga. Southern 28, #6 ILS 17 at #2 Ga. Southern 59, #9 YSU 24

#### 200

#10 Lehigh 37, at #7 W. Illinois 7 at #8 Richmond 10, #9 Youngstown 3

#### 200

UNI 49, at #4 Eastern Illinois 43 at #3 Furman 24, Western Ky. 20 UNI 56, Maine 28 at #1 Montana 38, UNI 0

#### 2002

at #2 W. Illinois 49, Eastern Illinois 9 at Western Ky. 59, Murray State 20 Western Ky. 31, at #2 W. Illinois 28 Western Ky. 31, at #3 Ga. Southern 28 Western Ky. 34, #1 McNeese State 14

#### 2003

W. Illinois 43, at Montana 40 (20t) at Western Ky. 45, Jacksonville St. 7 at #2 Delaware 48, Southern Illinois 7 UNI 35, Montana State 14 at #4 Colgate 28, Western Illinois 27 at #3 Wofford 34, Western Ky. 17 at #2 Delaware 37, UNI 7

#### 2004

E. Washington 35, at #1 S. Illinois 31 at Sam Houston 54, Western Ky. 24

#### 2005

at UNI 41, Eastern Washington 38 S. Illinois 21, at Eastern Illinois 6 UNI 24, at #1 New Hampshire 21 at #2 Appalachian State 38, SIU 24 UNI 40, at #4 Texas State 37 (ot) #2 Appalachian State 21, UNI 16

#### 2006

at S. Illinois 36, Tennessee-Martin 30
Illinois State 24, at Eastern Illinois 13
at #4 YSU 35, James Madison 31
at #2 Montana 20, Southern Illinois 3
at #4 YSU 28, Illinois State 21
at #1 Appalachian St. 49, #4 YSU 24

#### 2007

at #1 UNI 38, New Hampshire at #4 S. Illinois 30, Eastern Illinois 11 Delaware 39, at #1 UNI 27 at #4 Southern Illinois 34, UMass 27 Delaware 20, at #4 S. Illinois 17

## 2008

at #3 UNI 40, Maine 15 New Hampshire 29, at S. Illinois 20 at #3 UNI, New Hampshire 36-34 Richmond 21, at #3 UNI 20

## 2009

at #3 Southern Illinois 48, E. Illinois 7 William & Mary 24, at S. Illinois 3 at #1 Montana 61, S. Dakota State 48

#### 2010

Lehigh 14, at UNI 7
Western Illinois 17, at C. Carolina 10
at NDSU 43, Robert Morris 17
at #1 Appalachian St. 42, WIU 14
NDSU 42, at #4 Montana State 17
at #5 E. Washington 38, NDSU 31 (ot)

#### 2011

at #5 UNI 28, Wofford 21 at #2 NDSU 26, James Madison 14 at #4 Montana 48, UNI 10 at #2 NDSU 24, Lehigh 0 at #2 NDSU 35, #3 Ga. Southern 7 #2 NDSU 17, #1 Sam Houston State 6

#### 2012

at SDSU 58, Eastern Illinois 10
Illinois State 38, at App. State 37 (ot)
at #1 NDSU 28, S. Dakota State 3
at #2 E. Washington 51, Illinois St. 35
at #1 NDSU 14, Wofford 7
at #1 NDSU 23, #5 Ga. Southern 20
#1 NDSU 39, Sam Houston State 13

#### 2011

sDSU 26, at Northern Arizona 7 at #3 E. Washington 41, SDSU 17 at #1 NDSU 38, Furman 7 at #1 NDSU 48, Coastal Carolina 18 at #1 NDSU 52, New Hampshire 14 #1 NDSU 35, #7 Towson 7

#### 2014

Indiana State 36, at E. Kentucky 16 at UNI 44, Stephen F. Austin 10 SDSU 47, at Montana State 40 at #8 Chattanooga 35, Indiana St. 14 at #5 Illinois State 41, UNI 21 at #2 NDSU 27, SDSU 24 at #2 NDSU 39, Coastal Carolina 32 #5 Illinois State 59, at #4 E. Wash 46 at #2 NDSU 35, Sam Houston State 3 #5 Illinois State 21, at #1 UNH 18 #2 NDSU 29, #5 Illinois State 27

#### 2015

Western Illinois 24, at Dayton 7 at Montana 24, South Dakota State 17 at UNI 53, Eastern Illinois 17 at #2 Illinois State 36, W. Illinois 19 at #3 NDSU 37, Montana 6 UNI 29, at #6 Portland State 17 #7 Richmond 39, at #2 Illinois State 27 at #3 NDSU 23, UNI 13 at #3 NDSU 33, #7 Richmond 7 #3 NDSU 37, #1 Jacksonville State 10

#### 2016

at Youngstown State 38, Samford 24 at Central Arkansas 31, Illinois St. 24 at #1 NDSU 45, San Diego 7 at #8 SDSU 10, Villanova 7 YSU 40, at #3 Jacksonville State 24 at #1 NDSU 36, #8 SDSU 10 at Youngstown St. 30, Wofford 23 (2ot) #4 James Madison 27, at #1 NDSU 17 YSU 40, at #2 Eastern Washington 38 #4 James Madison 28, YSU 14

#### 2017

at UNI 46, Monmouth 7 at Weber State 21, Western Illinois 19 South Dakota 38, at Nicholls 31 at #6 Sam Houston St. 54, S. Dakota 42 at #5 S. Dakota State 37, UNI 22 at #2 N. Dakota State 38, San Diego 3

Note: Numbers indicate playoff seed. NCAA only seeded beyond the top four seeds from 1996-2000 and from 2012-present.

## **SEMIFINAL TEAMS (22)**

1985 - UNI 1987 - UNI

1992 - UNI

1996 - UNI

1997 - Youngstown State

1998 - Western Illinois

1999 - Illinois State, Youngstown State

2001 - UNI

2002 - Western Kentucky

2005 - UNI

2006 - Youngstown State

2007 - Southern Illinois

2008 - UNI

2011 - North Dakota State

2012 - North Dakota State

2013 - North Dakota State

2014 - North Dakota State, Illinois State

2015 - North Dakota State

2016 - North Dakota State, Youngstown St.

## **TITLE GAME APPEARANCES (11)**

1997 - Youngstown State (W)

1999 - Youngstown State (L)

2002 - Western Kentucky (W)

2005 - UNI (L)

2011 - North Dakota State (W)

2012 - North Dakota State (W)

2013 - North Dakota State (W)

2014 - NDSU (W), Illinois State (L) 2015 - North Dakota State (W)

2016 - Youngstown State (L)

## 2017 Missouri Valley Football Conference Weekly Release (Dec. 5)



South Dakota senior quarterback Chris Streveler is one of three finalists for the Walter Payton Award given annually to the top offensive player in FCS football. Streveler, along with Sam Houston State senior quarterback Jeremiah Briscoe and UC Davis junior wide receiver Keelan Doss, are invited to attend the STATS FCS Awards Banquet Jan. 5 in Frisco, Texas, where the winner will be announced.

Streveler would be the first player from the Missouri Valley Football Conference (MVFC) to win the award and the first Coyote to officially be named national player of the year. Streveler, Briscoe and Doss emerged from a field of 25 finalists in voting by a national panel of 151 sports information directors, broadcasters, writers and other dignitaries following the regular season.

It didn't affect the voting, but certainly worth mentioning is Streveler's postseason performance. He passed for 378 yards and four touchdowns in a 38-31 road win at Nicholls in the Coyotes' FCS playoffs debut. In the round of 16 in Texas Saturday, he passed for a USD and FCS playoff record 520 yards and accounted for six touchdowns (5 pass, 1 run) in a 54-42 defeat at fifth-ranked Sam Houston State. His 571 yards of total offense in that game is also an FCS playoff game record.

### The results for fourth through 25th place were as follows:

- 4. Devlin Hodges, QB, Samford: 5-16-20-11-8-179
- 5. Kyle Lauletta, QB, Richmond: 14-5-10-19-8-166
- 6. Taryn Christion, QB, South Dakota State: 6-12-7-10-7-126
- 7. Dominick Bragalone, RB, Lehigh: 3-9-9-8-13-116
- 8. Bryan Schor, QB, James Madison: 7-6-8-8-7-106
- 9. Hayden Hildebrand, QB, Central Arkansas: 8-6-4-6-5-93
- 10. Brandon Parker, OT, North Carolina A&T: 5-9-7-1-8-92
- 11. Josh Mack, RB, Maine: 0-7-8-6-8-72

#### 12. Dallas Goedert, TE, South Dakota State: 3-5-4-3-4-57

- 13. Gage Gubrud, QB, Eastern Washington: 1-4-4-8-6-55
- 14. (Tie) Lamar Raynard, QB, North Carolina A&T: 5-2-2-3-46
- 14. (Tie) Roc Thomas, RB, Jacksonville State: 1-3-8-2-1-46
- 16. Anthony Lawrence, QB, San Diego: 0-5-3-3-10-45
- 17. Chad Kanoff, QB, Princeton: 0-3-2-9-7-43
- 18. Chandler Burks, QB, Kennesaw State: 2-2-3-3-6-39
- 19. Case Cookus, QB, Northern Arizona: 1-3-5-1-4-38
- 20. Justin Watson, WR, Penn: 2-1-0-5-3-27
- 21. DeVante Kincade, QB, Grambling State: 2-2-0-2-24
- 22. (Tie) Neil O'Connor, WR, New Hampshire: 0-2-2-1-2-18
- 22. (Tie) Troy Pelletier, WR, Lehigh: 0-2-1-2-3-18
- 24. Detrez Newsome, RB, Western Carolina: 0-1-2-2-16
- 25. Tommy Stuart, QB, Duquesne: 0-0-1-0-1-4

A first-place vote was worth five points, a second-place vote four points, a third-place vote three points, a fourth-place vote two points and a fifth-place vote one point.



Western Illinois senior linebacker Brett Taylor is one of three finalists for the STATS FCS Buck Buchanan Award, which honors the FCS Defensive Player of the Year, the organization announced Tuesday (Dec. 5). Taylor is invited to the STATS FCS Awards Banquet on Jan. 5, where the Buchanan Award winner will be announced. James Madison's Andrew Ankrah and Jacksonville State's Darius Jackson are the other two finalists.

The nation's leader in tackles (162), stops per game (13.5) and assistant tackles (96), Taylor recently became the fourth-ever Leatherneck to win a conference Defensive Player of the Year award. The native of Macomb, III., also logged four MVFC Defensive Player of the Week honors and totaled 13.0 tackles for a loss, 1.5 sacks, four breakups, two forced fumbles and one quarterback hurry on the season.

A 2016 STATS FCS All-American and three-time All-MVFC honoree, Taylor concluded his Western Illinois career with 469 tackles and 266 solo stops, which are each the third-most in school history, respectively. His 203 career assisted tackles rank fourth in program history.

Taylor finished seventh in the Buchanan Award voting a year ago, and seeks to become the third Leatherneck to ever be named FCS Defensive Player of the Year. James Milton earned the honor in 1998 and Edgerton Hartwell won the award in 2000.

### The results for fourth through 25th place were as follows:

- 4. Jonathan Petersen, DE, San Diego: 7-8-18-11-4-147
- 5. Darius Leonard, LB, South Carolina State: 9-12-6-11-10-143
- 6. Mike Basile, S, Monmouth: 6-10-9-13-6-129
- 7. Ahmad Gooden, DE, Samford: 2-11-10-13-9-119
- 8. P.J. Hall, DL, Sam Houston State: 7-8-6-6-11-108
- 9. Anthony Ellis, DE. Charleston Southern: 4-5-8-9-89
- 10. Warren Messer, LB, Elon: 5-4-6-4-9-76
- 11. Sione Teuhema, LB, Southeastern Louisiana: 7-3-3-5-1-67
- 12. Nick DeLuca, LB, North Dakota State: 5-2-6-5-2-63
- 13. Tremon Smith, CB, Central Arkansas: 3-5-2-6-7-60
- 14. Matthew Oplinger, LB, Yale: 3-4-2-5-8-55
- 15. Brandon Bryant, LB, Lafayette: 2-2-5-5-48
- 16. Jared Farley, LB, Northern Iowa: 2-1-5-7-4-47
- 17. Marlon Bridges, S, Jacksonville State: 0-6-3-4-5-46
- 18. Garrett Dolan, LB, Houston Baptist: 1-2-1-5-16-42
- 19. Jaison Williams, DE, Austin Peay: 0-2-3-6-7-36
- 20. Christian Rozeboom, LB, South Dakota State: 1-2-3-2-7-33
- 21. Josh Buss, LB, Montana: 1-1-2-1-8-25
- 22. (Tie) De'Arius Christmas, LB, Grambling State: 1-1-3-0-3-21
- 22. (Tie) Devontae Harris, CB, Illinois State: 0-1-4-2-1-21
- 24. Mario Jenkins, LB, Idaho State: 1-1-1-3-0-18
- 25. Malik Duncan, CB, Saint Francis: 0-0-1-1-6

A first-place vote was worth five points, a second-place vote four points, a third-place vote three points, a fourth-place vote two points and a fifth-place vote one point.



# 2017 all-Missouri Valley Football Conference Team

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: QB Chris Streveler, South Dakota | DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: LB Brett Taylor, Western Illinois NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR: LB Jabril Cox, North Dakota State | FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR: LB Jabril Cox, North Dakota State 'BRUCE CRADDOCK' VALLEY FOOTBALL COACH OF THE YEAR: Chris Klieman, North Dakota State

## **FIRST TEAM**

QB RB	Chris Streveler, South Dakota Tevin McCaster, Youngstown State James Robinson, Illinois State	6-3 5-10 5-10	215 195 215	Sr. Jr. So.	Crystal Lake (III.) Marian Central Catholic High / Minnesota New Castle (Pa.) High Rockford (III.) Lutheran High
FB	Connor Wentz, North Dakota State	6-3	250	Sr.	Dunnellon (Fla.) High
WR	Jaelon Acklin, Western Illinois	6-2	190	Sr.	Mountain View (Mo.) Liberty
	Daurice Fountain, Northern Iowa	6-1	210	Sr.	Madison (Wis.) James Madison Memorial High
<b>T</b> E	Jake Wieneke, South Dakota State	6-4	215	Sr.	Maple Grove (Minn.) High
TE	Dallas Goedert, South Dakota State	6-5	260	Sr.	Britton (S.D.) Britton-Hecla High
OL	Stetson Dagel, South Dakota	6-5 6-3	280 300	Sr.	Cherokee (lowa) Washington High
	Jacob Judd, Western Illinois Austin Kuhnert, North Dakota State	6-4	304	Sr. Sr.	Clinton (lowa) High Sioux Falls (S.D.) Washington High
	Jacob Ohnesorge, South Dakota State	6-3	295	Sr.	Waunakee (Wis.) High
	Justin Spencer, Youngstown State	6-5	300	Sr.	Indiana (Pa.) High
PK	Sean Slattery, Illinois State	6-0	230	Sr.	Rockford (III.) Boylan Central Cathloic
LS	James Fisher, North Dakota State	6-2	225	Sr.	Bloomington (Minn.) Jefferson High
DL	Darin Greenfield, South Dakota	6-3	235	So.	Sheldon (lowa) High
	Dalton Keene, Illinois State	6-4	275	Sr.	Jacksonville (III.) High
	Adam Reth, Northern Iowa	6-3	270	Şr.	Manchester (Iowa) Manchester-West Delaware
	Khalen Saunders, Western Illinois	6-2	310	Jr.	St. Louis (Mo.) Parkway Central
LB	Nick DeLuca, North Dakota State	6-3	245	Sr.	Omaha (Neb.) Millard North High
	Jared Farley, Northern Iowa	5-11 6-2	224 225	Sr.	Cedar Falls (Iowa) High
	Christian Rozeboom, South Dakota St. Brett Taylor, Western Illinois	6-2	230	So. Sr.	Sioux Center (Iowa) High Macomb (III.) High
DB	Jordan Brown, South Dakota State	6-1	190	Jr.	Scottsdale (Ariz.) Paradise Valley High
00-	Elijah Campbell, Northern Iowa	5-11	193	Sr.	St. Paul (Minn.) St. Paul Central / Northern Illinois
	Tre Dempsey, North Dakota State	5-10	184	Sr.	Lakeland (Fla.) Lakeland High
	Robbie Grimsley, North Dakota State	6-0	191	Jr.	Hutchinson (Minn.) Hutchinson High
	Davontae Harris, Illinois State	6-0	205	Sr.	Wichita (Kan.) South High
P	Lane Reazin, Southern Illinois	6-1	212	So.	Mooreland (Ókla.) Woodward High / Oklahoma State
RS	Deion Holliman, Missouri State	5-9	192	Sr.	Camden (Ark.) Fairview High

## **SECOND TEAM**

			SE	CON	D IEAWI
QB	Taryn Christion, South Dakota State	6-2	220	Jr.	Sioux Falls (S.D.) Roosevelt High
RB	Bruce Anderson, North Dakota State	5-11	216	Jr.	Ruskin (Fla.) Newsome High
	Steve McShane, Western Illinois	5-8	185	Jr.	Freeport (III.) High
FB	Kane Louscher, South Dakota State	6-2	245	Sr.	Mason City (Iowa) Newman Catholic High
WR	Malik Earl, Missouri State	6-3	217	Sr.	Oklahoma City (Okla.) Santa Fe High
	Spencer Schnell, Illinois State	5-9	180	Jr.	Elkhart (Ind.) High
	RJ Urzendowski, North Dakota State	6-0	200	Sr.	Omaha (Neb.) Creighton Prep High
TE	Jacquet McClendon, Indiana State	6-1	235	Sr.	Evergreen Park (III.) Community High
OL	Lee Carhart, Northern Iowa	6-3	301	Şr.	Omaha (Neb.) Creighton Prep
	Vitas Hrynkiewicz, Youngstown State	6-4	300	Jr.	Somerset (N.J.) Immaculata
	Austin Olsen, Southern Illinois	6-5	320	Şr.	Chicago (III.) Lincoln Way North High
	Tanner Volson, North Dakota State	6-4	301	Jr.	Balfour (N.D.) Drake-Anamoose High
DIZ	Gavin Wiggins, Youngstown State	6-4	300	Jr.	Philadelphia (Pa.) Roman Catholic
PK	Chase Vinatieri, South Dakota State	6-1	210	So.	Sioux Falls (S.D.) Roosevelt High
LS DL	Brandon Godsey, South Dakota Colby Isbell, Missouri State	6-0 6-3	220 239	Sr. Sr.	Raymore (Mo.) Ray-Pec High
DL	Rickey Neal, Northern Iowa	6-1	241	Jr.	Rogers (Ark.) Heritage High Racine (Wis.) Horlick High
	Kellen Soulek, South Dakota State	6-5	315	Sr.	Yankton (S.D.) Yankton High
	Aaron Steidl, North Dakota State	6-2	288	Jr.	Carlos (Minn.) Alexandria Jefferson High
LB	Jabril Cox, North Dakota State	6-3	227	Fr.	Kansas City (Mo.) Raytown South High
	Armand Dellovade, Youngstown State	6-0	215	Jr.	Imperial (Pa.) West Allegheny
	Angelo Garbutt, Missouri State	6-2	235	So.	Carrollton (Texas) Hebron High / University of Iowa
	Jonas Griffith, Indiana State	6-4	220	So.	Louisville (Ky.) Academy at Shawnee
DB	Jeremy Chinn, Southern Illinois	6-2	202	So.	Fishers (Ind.) High
	Justin Fitzpatrick, Western Illinois	6-1	200	Jr.	O'Fallon (Mo.) Fort Zumwalt North
	Andrew Gray, South Dakota	6-2	215	Jr.	New Lenox (Ill.) Lincoln Way West High
	Billy Nicoe Hurst, Youngstown State	6-0	190	Sr.	San Pablo (Calif.) Vanden
	Alec Kocour, Illinois State	6-0	205	Sr.	Waukesha (Wis.) Catholic Memorial High
P	Sam Kuhter, Northern Iowa	5-11	220	Sr.	Toledo (Iowa) South Tama
RS	Steve McShane, Western Illinois	5-8	185	Jr.	Freeport (III.) High

## **Honorable Mention**

ILS: DL Adam Conley, OL Dean Helt, TE Tylor Petkovich
 INS: RB LeMonte Booker, P Thomas Bouldin, LB Katrell Moss
 INS: QB Peyton Huslig, DB Darius Joseph, OL Marquis Prophete
 IND: OL Zack Johnson, PK Cam Pedersen, QB Easton Stick, DL Nate Tanguay
 IND: TE Briley Moore, DB Malcolm Washington, RB Marcus Weymiller
 IND: WR Shamar Jackson, LB Jim Litrenta, WR Brandt Van Roekel
 IND: SDS: WR Shamar Jackson, LB Jim Litrenta, WR Brandt Van Roekel
 IND: FB Hans Carmien, RS D.J. Davis, WR Darrell James, DL Anthony Knighton, DB Ryan Neal
 IND: WIII: LT Josh Baldus, QB Sean McGuire, LB Quentin Moon, RB Max Norris
 YSU: DB Jalyn Powell, TE Kevin Rader, LS Steven Wethli, LB Lee Wright



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> NEWCOMERS OF THE YEAR Buck Phillips, CB, WIU Jason Cannon, WR, MSU

Vince Bruno, LB, WIU

Aaron Stecker, RB, WIU David Bowens, DL, WIU Charles Tharp, RB, WIU Teddy Sims, LB, SIU

Julian Reese, QB, INS

M. Abdulqaadir, RB, SIU Terrance Freeney, RB, UNI Brandon Jacobs, RB, SIU Marcus Mason, RB, YSU Darian Williams, RB, UNI Fortando Williams, WP, VSI

Ferlando Williams, WR, YSU Brandon Summers, QB, YSU

Antoine Wilkinson, LB, MSU Tirrell Rennie, QB, UNI Jewel Hampton, RB, SIU

Sawyer Kollmorgen, QB, UNI

Martin Ruiz, RB, YSU Tre Roberson, QB, ILS

Aaron Bailey, QB, UNI

Jabril Cox, LB, NDSU

Chris Streveler, QB, USD

FRESHMEN OF THE YEAR

Dusty Burk, QB, ILS Lee Russell, OLB, WIU

Joel Sambursky, QB, SIU Justin Haddix, QB, WKU

om Nelson, UB, ILS Brandin Jordan, LB, SIU Cody Kirby, QB, MSU Kamryn Keys, RB, YSU Matt Brown, QB, ILS Kurt Hess, QB, YSU Austin Sumner, QB, SDSU Sawyer Kollmorren, QB, LIN

Martin Ruiz, RB, YSU Jake Wieneke, WR, SDSU Andrew Van Ginkel, DE, USD Christian Rozeboom, LB, SDSU

Eric Sanders, QB, UNI

Tom Nelson, DB, ILS

Sawyer Kollmorgen,

Tom Petrie, QB, UNI

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For Immediate Release • Contact: Mike Kern • Nov. 28, 2017

# Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Newcomer Team; NDSU's Jabril Cox Sweeps Top Honors

ST. LOUIS — LB Jabril Cox of North Dakota State has been named the Missouri Valley Football Conference Newcomer and MVFC Freshman of the Year. He heads a list of 22 student-athletes named to the 2017 Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Newcomer Team. League coaches, sports information directors and a media panel selected the team.

Cox is the first North Dakota State student-athlete to win the league's Newcomer of the Year award and also the Bison's first Freshman of the Year winner. Cox is the third in league history to sweep both honors, joining QB Sawyer Kollmorgen of UNI (2012) and RB Martin Ruiz of Youngstown State (2013). It marks the first time since 2009 that a league Newcomer is a defensive player, while it's the second-straight year that a linebacker has been voted as the league's top freshman.

Cox, from Kansas City, Mo., is a finalist for the STATS FCS Jerry Rice Award presented to the FCS Freshman of the Year, and he is a two-time MVFC Newcomer of the Week. Cox leads NDSU with 52 tackles and 9.0 tackles for loss and has 4.0 sacks, one interception, two breakups, three QB hurries, one forced fumble and one recovery. He is NDSU's leading tackler on special teams. Cox played all 11 games and made four of the last five starts after being thrust into the lineup for the second half at Youngstown State. He was named STATS FCS National Freshman of the Week after making a season-high eight tackles including two sacks and a key TFL in overtime of the win at YSU. His 32-yard interception return at Illinois State set up a four-play scoring drive.

OFFENSE	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous Schools)	2017 Jabril Cox, LB, NDSÚ
WR/RS Kody Case, South Dakota	5-10	165	Fr.	Lake City (Iowa) S. Central Calhoun	
OL Tyler Ciurej, South Dakota	6-4	310	Fr.	Bellevue (Neb.) West High	
OL Drew Himmelman, Illinois State	6-10	300	Fr.	Geneseo (III.) High	
QB Peyton Huslig, Missouri State	6-3	205	So.	Andover (Kan.) Čentral High / Garden	City (Kan.) Community College
WR/RS Cade Johnson, South Dakota State	5-10	175	Fr.	Papillion (Neb.) Bellevue High	
WR Raphael Leonard, Southern Illinois	6-2	194	Jr.	Starkville (Miss.) High / East Mississipp	oi Community College
RB Clint Ratkovich, Western Illinois	6-1	210	Fr.	Crete (III.) Crete-Monee High	
OL Mason Scheidegger, South Dakota	6-5	310	Fr.	Fonda (lowa) Newell Fonda High	
RB Markel Smith, Illinois State	5-11	225	So.	St. Louis (Mo.) St. John Vianney High /	Central Missouri
TB Christian Turner, Youngstown State	5-10	190	Fr.	Cincinnati (Ohio) LaSalle High	
WR Isaiah Weston, Northern Iowa	6-4	207	Fr.	Albertville (Minn.) St. Michael-Albertville	e High

#### **DEFENSE** LG Logan Backhaus, South Dakota State 6-4 205 Fr. Spirit Lake (Iowa) High LB Keelon Brookins, Northern Iowa 5-11 206 Sr. St. Paul (Minn.) Tartan High / Wisconsin LB Jabril Cox, North Dakota State 6-3 227 Fr. Kansas City (Mo.) Raytown South High LB Angelo Garbutt, Missouri State 6-2 So. Carrollton (Texas) Hebron High / Iowa 235 CB Bryce Gibson, Youngstown State 5-10 180 Johnstown (Pa.) Johnstown Area High Fr. DB Tyrin Holloway, Western Illinois 6-0 200 Sr. Humble (Texas) Atascocita High / Liberty Miami (Fla.) South Dade High / TCU LB Tyree Horton, Illinois State 6-0 230 Jr. DL Anthony Knighton, Southern Illinois 6-2 246 Fort Pierce (Fla.) Central High Fr. DE Justus Reed, Youngstown State 6-3 250 Clearwater (Fla.) Central Catholic High / Florida Jr. DL Nathan Schultz, South Dakota 270 Hartland (Wis.) Arrowhead Union High 6-4 Fr. P Brady Schutt, South Dakota 205 Orange City (Iowa) MOC/Floyd Valley High Fr.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE • Nov. 30, 2016

## Missouri Valley Football Conference Announces 2016 All-Academic Team

ST. LOUIS -- Thirty-three student-athletes, including 12 who earned first-team honors, highlight the 2016 all-Missouri Valley Football Conference all-academic team, announced by the league office today.

Nominees must be starters or important reserves with at least a 3.20 cumulative grade point average (4.0 scale). Student-athletes must have reached sophomore academic and athletic standing at their institutions (freshmen are not eligible) and must have completed at least one full academic year at their institution. League sports information directors voted on the team by designating 11 players for first-team honors and 11 players for second-team honors.

## 2016 Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Academic Team

(voting by league SIDs)

FIRST TEAM										
Student-Athlete, School	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.		Major	Hometown/High School				
QB Taryn Christion, S. Dakota St.	6-2	215		3.87	Exercise Science	Sioux Falls (S.D.) Roosevelt High				
LB Dylan Cole, Missouri State	6-1	240	Sr.	3.67	Marketing Sales Management	Rogersville (Mo.) Logan-Rogersville				
OL Jacob Judd, Western Illinois	6-3	300	Jr.	3.89	Law Enforcement/Justice Admin.	Clinton (Iowa) High				
			Gr.	4.00	Master's					
DB Nick Mears, S. Dakota State	5-11	205	Sr.	4.00	Economics	Milbank (S.D.) High				
DE Greg Menard, N. Dakota State	6-2	239	Jr.	3.82	Civil Engineering	Lakeville (Minn.) Lakeville North				
RB Chase Morlock, N. Dakota State	6-0	223	Sr.	3.81	Exercise Science	Moorhead (Minn.) High				
OL Robert Rathje, UNI	6-2	300	Sr.	3.72	Movement & Exercise Science	Van Horne (Iowa) Benton Community				
WR Billy Reed, Southern Illinois	6-1	207	Sr.	3.72	Finance	Lockport (III.) Lockport Township				
DL Karter Schult, UNI	6-4	269	Sr.	3.87	Movement & Exercise Science	Tripoli (Iowa) High				
QB Easton Stick, N. Dakota St.	6-2	222	So.	3.90	Sport Management	Omaha (Neb.) Creighton Prep				
LB Brett Taylor, Western Illinois	6-2	230	Jr.	3.69	Recreation, Park and Tourism	Macomb (III.) High				
					Administration					
WR Jake Wieneke, S. Dakota State	6-4	215	Jr.	3.60	Physical Educ./Teacher Educ.	Maple Grove (Minn.) High				
				01	FOOND TEAM					
D/D/(AA)	0.0	005	0		ECOND TEAM					
P/PK Miles Bergner, South Dakota	6-0	225	Sr.	3.53	Theatre Design/Technology	Longmont (Colo.) High				
LB Jesse Bobbit, South Dakota St.	6-2	240	Sr.	3.80	Physical Educ./Teacher Educ.	Palatine (III.) High				
DL Shayne Gottlob, S. Dakota St.	6-5	280	Sr.	3.92	Business Economics	Salem (S.D.) McCook Central High				
SS Robbie Grimsley, N. Dakota St.	6-0	183		3.58	Exercise Science	Hutchinson (Minn.) High				
QB Isaac Harker, Indiana State	6-0	195		3.70	Economics	Lebanon (Ind.) High				
FB Kane Louscher, S. Dakota St.	6-2	245	Jr.	3.84	Psychology/Biology	Mason City (Iowa) Newman Catholic				
RB Brady Megarelli, S. Dakota St.	5-10	190	Jr.	3.52	Exercise Science	Prescott (Ariz.) High				
PK Luke Otto, Western Illinois	5-11	224	Jr.	4.00	Economics	Normal (III.) University High				
OL Mark Spelman, Illinois State	6-3	280	Sr.	3.70	Accounting	Brookfield (Wis.) Marquette Univ. High				
LB Jameer Thurman, Indiana St.	6-0	225	Sr.	3.59	Civil Engineering Technology	Bellwood (III.) Proviso West High				
OL James Torgerson, W. Illinois	6-5	300	Jr.	3.91	Economics / Finance	Springfield (III.) High				

## **HONORABLE MENTION**

Indiana State: LS Joshua Appel (3.50 GPA Finance); WR Robert Tonyan Jr. (3.22 GPA Physical Education)

Missouri State: LB Jared Beshore (3.86 GPA Physical Education); TE Erik Furmanek (3.64 GPA Logistics & Supply Chain Management)

UNI: LB Jared Farley (3.32 GPA Business Administration); OL Cal Twait (3.78 GPA Physical Education)

Western Illinois: LB Riggs Baxter (3.87 GPA Engineering Technology); P/K Nathan Knuffman (3.63 GPA Exercise Science) Youngstown State: LB Armond Dellovade (3.49 GPA Business Management); QB Hunter Wells (3.63 GPA Business).



## 2017 NCAA Division I Football Championship



\* Host Institution

All games are available on

All times are Eastern time. Information subject to change.

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