

Pioneer Football League announces postseason honors, 17th All-PFL squad

ST. LOUIS – Pioneer Football League officials announced, Tuesday, the winners of its postseason honors and the All-Pioneer Football League first and second teams. All selections were made by the league's coaches, who were not permitted to vote for their own players.

Butler and Dayton each won a share of the 2009 PFL regular-season title in a race that came down to the season's final weekend. It is Butler's second league title and first since 1994. Dayton wins at least a share of the title for the 10th time and first since 2007.

Dayton quarterback Steve Valentino was named the league's Offensive Player of the Year, while Butler head coach Jeff Voris was named the league's Coach of the Year. Morehead State linebacker Wes McDermott received the league's Defensive Player of the Year honor. The league's freshman awards went to San Diego wide receiver Kyle Warren and Drake defensive back Tyler Moorehead, who were named the league's Offensive and Defensive Freshman of the Year, respectively.

Valentino, a first-team All-PFL wide receiver last season, became Dayton's starting quarterback in the season's second week and promptly led his team to seven consecutive victories overall en route to a share of the league's regular-season title (7-1) and a 9-2 overall mark. He finished the regular-season averaging a league-best 281.6 yards total offense and led all quarterbacks in rushing, with 65.6 yards per game to rank fourth among the league's rushers. He also ranked second among the league's quarterbacks in yardage (216.0 ypg) and pass efficiency rating (139.8).

McDermott wins the league's Defensive Player of the Year honor after finishing the regular-season ranked second in tackles (9.9 pg) and third in tackles-for-loss (1.50 pg). He led all linebackers in tackles (109), posting 14 more than the next closest follower. McDermott led a Morehead State defense that finished the season ranked second in total defense, allowing just 266.3 yards per game, and led the league in rushing defense, permitting a paltry 72.5 yards per game on the ground.

Warren was San Diego's big-play receiver, posting 11 catches for 338 yards – a 30.7 yards per catch average. Of his 11 receptions, six went for touchdowns, including an 82-yard touchdown catch-and-carry against Dayton. He had five touchdown catches on nine total receptions in PFL play alone.

Moorehead ranked among the league's top 30 in tackles (6.1 pg) in his first season of action. He also ranked sixth in tackles-for-loss (1.32 pg) and was one of three players to lead the league with four forced fumbles this season. Moorehead was a key component of a defensive unit that ranked second in rush defense, surrendering 90.5 yards per game, and fourth in total defense, allowing 276.5 yards per contest.

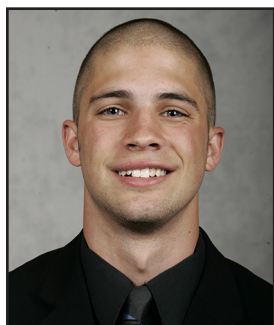
Voris wins Coach of the Year honors for the first time in his fourth season at Butler. He led the Bulldogs from a 4-4, fourth-place PFL finish, in 2008 to a share of the league title (7-1) in 2009. Butler posted a school-record 10 wins this season, won nine consecutive games to start the campaign and was the next-to-last unbeaten FCS team.

The 17th All-PFL squads are highlighted by four unanimous selections. Jacksonville had three players receive unanimous acclimation, including junior running back Rudell Small who was a unanimous first-team All-PFL selection for the second consecutive season. Other unanimous first-team honorees were Jacksonville wide receiver Josh Philpart, Jacksonville offensive lineman Leonard Payton and Marist wide receiver James LaMacchia.

Additionally, the All-PFL first-team selections include eight repeat honorees from the 2008 All-PFL first team, as denoted in the following listing.

- more -

2009 Pioneer Football League Postseason Awards



Steve Valentino
Dayton

OFFENSIVE
PLAYER
OF THE YEAR



Wes McDermott
Morehead State

DEFENSIVE
PLAYER
OF THE YEAR



Jeff Voris
Butler

COACH
OF THE YEAR



Kyle Warren
San Diego

FRESHMAN
OFFENSIVE PLAYER
OF THE YEAR



Tyler Moorehead
Drake

FRESHMAN
DEFENSIVE PLAYER
OF THE YEAR

2009 All-Pioneer Football League First Team

as selected by the league's coaches

Pos.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
OFFENSE						
WR	James LaMacchia (U)	Marist	6-0	165	Sr.	Bronx, N.Y. (Fordham Prep)
WR	Josh Philpart (U)	Jacksonville	6-0	166	So.	Deerfield Beach, Fla. (Deerfield Beach HS)
WR	Zach Watkins	Butler	6-2	205	So.	Chicago, Ill. (St. Ignatius)
TE	Frank Pucher	Drake	6-5	237	R-Sr.	Skokie, Ill. (Notre Dame)
QB	Steve Valentino (1)	Dayton	5-10	172	Sr.	Solon, Ohio (Solon)
FB	Steve Platek (1)	Drake	6-0	222	Sr.	Arlington Heights, Ill. (John Hersey)
RB	Scott Gray	Butler	5-8	190	Jr.	Lowell, Ind. (Lowell)
RB	Rudell Small (U, 1)	Jacksonville	5-10	201	Jr.	Ocala, Fla. (Trinity Catholic HS)
OL	Pat Calahan	San Diego	6-4	275	Sr.	Orange County, Calif. (Saddleback JC)
OL	Tyler Friedrich	Dayton	6-6	275	Sr.	Powell, Ohio (Dublin Jerome)
OL	Donnie Gilmore	Butler	6-3	290	R-Jr.	Westphalia, Ind. (North Knox)
OL	Quin McVey (2)	Drake	6-5	286	R-Sr.	Bettendorf, Iowa (Bettendorf)
OL	Leonard Payton (U)	Jacksonville	6-3	281	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla. (Sandalwood HS)
DEFENSE						
DL	Haywood Range	Jacksonville	5-10	232	Sr.	Rivera Beach, Fla. (Cumberland Univ.)
DL	Derik Steiner (1)	Morehead State	6-0	307	Sr.	Mason, Ohio (Bishop Fenwick)
DL	Dain Taylor (2)	Drake	6-3	242	Sr.	Highlands Ranch, Colo. (Mountain Vista)
DL	Brandon Wingeier	Dayton	6-3	241	Sr.	Newark, Ohio (Newark)
LB	Nick Andre	Marist	6-0	220	Sr.	Rockville Centre, N.Y. (Chaminade)
LB	Cale Hunt	Drake	6-3	229	R-Sr.	Littleton, Colo. (Chatfield)
LB	Joe Ries (1)	Dayton	6-1	210	Sr.	Cincinnati, Ohio (St. Xavier)
LB	Wes McDermott (1)	Morehead State	5-9	175	So.	Louisville, Ky. (Holy Cross)
DB	Gabe Derricks (1)	San Diego	6-3	202	Sr.	Oak Park, Calif. (Oak Park)
DB	Spencer Summerville	Butler	5-8	205	Sr.	Indianapolis, Ind. (Park Tudor)
DB	James Vercammen	Dayton	5-10	192	Sr.	Bloomfield Hills, Mich. (Groves)
DB	Jason Wood	Jacksonville	6-0	201	Sr.	Pt. Charlotte, Fla. (Pt. Charlotte HS)
SPECIAL TEAMS						
PK	Brandon Wubs (1)	Drake	6-0	199	R-Sr.	Hawthorn Woods, Ill. (Lake Zurich)
P	Kyle Negrete	San Diego	6-1	226	So.	Fresno, Calif. (Clovis West)
RS	JT Rogan	San Diego	5-10	200	Grad.	Coronado, Calif. (Coronado)

Notes in parentheses: U-indicates a player was a unanimous selection, 1-was a first-team selection in 2008, 2-was a second-team selection in 2008

2009 All-Pioneer Football League Second Team

as selected by the league's coaches

Pos.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
OFFENSE (Seven offensive linemen due to a tie in the voting)						
WR	Danny Bohrer	Butler	6-1	190	R-Sr.	Guilford, Ind. (East Central)
WR	John McGough	San Diego	6-3	215	R-So.	Bellevue, Wash. (Bellevue Senior)
WR	Justin Watkins	Dayton	5-11	185	Sr.	Englewood, Ohio (Northmont)
TE	Mike Stryffeler	Campbell	6-0	243	R-Jr.	Sanford, N.C. (Averett)
QB	Josh McGregor	Jacksonville	6-0	205	So.	Belle Glade, Fla. (Glades Day HS)
FB	Kirk Benedict	Davidson	6-0	235	Sr.	Fairfax, Va. (Fairfax)
RB	O'Neil Anderson	Marist	5-7	175	Sr.	Dorchester, Mass. (Bedford)
RB	Kenny Mantuo	Davidson	5-10	185	Jr.	Weston, Fla. (Cypress Bay)
OL	Brian Crable	Butler	6-4	250	R-Sr.	Loveland, Ohio (Moeller)
OL	Mark Iafrate	Davidson	6-1	280	Sr.	Weston, Fla. (American Heritage)
OL	Sam Issermoyer	Campbell	6-3	314	So.	Eldersburg, Md. (Liberty)
OL	Eric Mora	Drake	6-2	311	R-Sr.	Roselle, Ill. (Lake Park)
OL	Jacob Nail	Morehead State	6-3	263	So.	Louisville, Ky. (Holy Cross)
OL	Mike Staniewicz	Butler	6-5	290	Jr.	Hebron, Ind. (Lowell)
OL	Kevin Ulrich	Marist	6-4	280	Sr.	Hamburg, N.J. (Walkkill Valley Regional)
DEFENSE						
DL	Andrew Doan	Morehead State	6-4	220	Fr.	Dublin, Ohio (Dublin Coffman)
DL	Kalen Hemmelgarn	Dayton	6-1	249	Sr.	St. Henry, Ohio (St. Henry)
DL	Grant Hunter	Butler	6-3	235	R-So.	Liberty Twp., Ohio (Lakota West)
DL	Josh Walkup	Drake	6-1	234	Sr.	Littleton, Colo. (Heritage)
LB	Nick Caldicott	Butler	6-1	220	R-So.	Oak Park, Ill. (Fenwick)
LB	Joseph Fennell	Jacksonville	5-10	230	Jr.	Palm Coast, Fla. (Flagler Palm Coast HS)
LB	Kevin Foley	Marist	6-2	235	Sr.	Washingtonville, N.Y. (Washingtonville)
LB	Derek Marten	San Diego	6-0	220	Sr.	Clovis, Calif. (Fresno City CC)
DB	Skye Buckner-Petty	Drake	6-0	188	R-Sr.	Florissant, Mo. (McCluer North)
DB	Jaquan Bryant	Marist	6-1	180	So.	St. Albans, N.Y. (Holy Cross)
DB	J.D. Cecil	Morehead State	5-9	190	Jr.	Pickerington, Ohio (Pickerington Central)
DB	Scott Horcher	Dayton	5-11	190	Sr.	Carpentersville, Ill. (Dundee Crown)
SPECIAL TEAMS						
PK	Adam Willets	Campbell	6-1	215	R-So.	Gibsonville, N.C. (Western Alamance)
P	Andrew Wohler	Davidson	6-3	200	Jr.	Ridgewood, N.J. (Ridgewood)
RS	Elliott Finkley	Jacksonville	5-6	156	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla. (Bethune-Cookman)

2009 All-Pioneer Football League Honorable Mention Squad

as selected by the league's coaches

Pos. Players

OFFENSE

WR Spencer Cady (DRA), Elliot Finkley (JAC), JMichael Jonard (DAY), Harrison Jordan (CAM), Larry Thompson (JAC)

TE Chris Kuck (JAC), Chris Ortner (MAR)

QB Chris Debowski (MAR), Andrew Huck (BUT),

FB Josh Lynn (VAL)

OL Dan Angelastro (MAR), Nate Blair (VAL), Justin Griffis (DAY), Troy Horan (CAM), Evan Lawrence (DRA),
Dustin Robinson (JAC), Neil Walsh (MAR)

DEFENSE

DL Nikko Carson (VAL), Alex Griswold (DAV), Shawn Lewis (JAC), Matt Snow (MAR), Dan Sullivan (MAR),
Paul Tremblay (SAN), Terrence Turner (MAR), David Witkiewicz (DRA)

LB Daniel Astrop (DAV), Milton Brown (CAM), Allen Fennell (JAC), Drew Fumagalli (DAY), Derek Guggenberger (BUT),
Tyler Lemons (DAV), Tyler Moorehead (DRA), Benny Morrison (DRA), Will Perry (JAC), Lee Stanley (CAM)

DB Keenan Bowe (JAC), Brandon Chandler (CAM), Anthony Curry (VAL), Rory Foley (MAR), Mark Giacomantonio (BUT),
Derek Harkness (MOR), Jared Hart (CAM), Kyle Himmelwright (VAL), Brandon Kicklighter (MAR), Pete Kidwell (DAV),
Derek Pilkington (SAN), John VanAman (MAR)

SPECIAL TEAMS

PK Mike Levine (SAN)

P Logan Chipperfield (JAC), Kevin Pauly (MAR), Michael Wilson (BUT), Brandon Wubs (DRA)

RS Jaquan Bryant (MAR), Jordan Koopman (BUT)
