

Pioneer Football League announces postseason honors, 19th 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.

Drake and San Diego each won a share of the 2011 PFL regular-season title. It is Drake's fifth league championship but first since the 2004 campaign. San Diego won its fourth PFL crown and first since the 2007 season.

Drake quarterback Mike Piatkowski was named the league's Offensive Player of the Year, San Diego defensive lineman Blake Oliaro was the league's Defensive Player of the Year and San Diego head coach Ron Caragher was named the league's Coach of the Year. The league's freshman awards went to San Diego wide receiver Brandon White and Drake linebacker Travis Merritt, who were named the league's Offensive and Defensive Freshman of the Year, respectively.

Piatkowski earns the league's Offensive Player of the Year honor after leading Drake to a share of the PFL Championship with a 7-1 record while also posting a 9-2 overall mark. The senior signal-caller finished the season as the league's top rated passer, with a 151.40 pass efficiency rating that also was 13th among FCS quarterbacks at regular season's end. Piatkowski also ranked 21st nationally in total offense, averaging 253.82 yards per game. He is the second Drake player to be named Offensive Player of the Year (Scott Phaydavong, 2004).

Oliaro became one of the nation's top backfield threats en route to earning the league's Defensive Player of the Year award. The redshirt sophomore – who did not play in 2010 – returned to Toreros lineup and helped spark a defensive unit ranked among the FCS top 20 in rushing defense (113.5 ypg) and pass efficiency defense (109.60 rating). Behind the strength of that defense, San Diego won a share of the 2011 PFL Championship with a 7-1 record while posting a 9-1 overall mark. Individually, Oliaro ranked fourth nationally in sacks per game (1.36 pg) and 10th nationally in tackles for loss per game (1.77 pg). He becomes the second San Diego athlete to receive the league's defensive award (Eric Bakhtiari, 2006 & 2007)

White played 11 games at wide receiver for San Diego, finishing the season with 45 receptions for 561 yards and five touchdowns. His 4.1 receptions per game ranked 94th among all FCS receivers at the regular season's conclusion. White is the fourth San Diego player to receive one of the league's freshman awards and it is the second time in the past three years a San Diego athlete has won the freshman offensive honor.

Merritt led all PFL freshmen defenders with 66 tackles (6.0 pg) this season. The redshirt freshman was second among Drake tacklers, finishing behind unanimous first-team All-PFL selection Tyler Moorehead. Merritt helped anchor a defensive unit that led the league in scoring defense and rushing defense, limiting opponents to 17.8 points and 77.2 rushing yards per game. He becomes the second Drake player to receive one of the league's freshmen awards, joining Moorehead who earned the defensive honor in 2009.

San Diego head coach Ron Caragher receives his first PFL Coach of the Year citation. He led the Toreros to their fourth PFL title, posting a 7-1 PFL record. For the third time in his career, Caragher led San Diego to a 9-2 overall mark. Dating back to last season the Toreros have won 13 of their last 16 games, including this season's final three games. Caragher is the third San Diego coach to be tapped the league's Coach of the Year, joining Kevin McGarry (2002) and Jim Harbaugh (2005 & 2006).

The 19th All-PFL squads are highlighted by two unanimous first-team selections: San Diego running back Kenny James and Drake linebacker Tyler Moorehead. Additionally, the All-PFL first-team selections include eight repeat honorees from the 2010 All-PFL first team, as denoted in the following listing.

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2011 Pioneer Football League Postseason Awards

as selected by the league's coaches



Mike Piatkowski, Drake

OFFENSIVE PLAYER
OF THE YEAR



Blake Oliaro, San Diego

DEFENSIVE PLAYER
OF THE YEAR



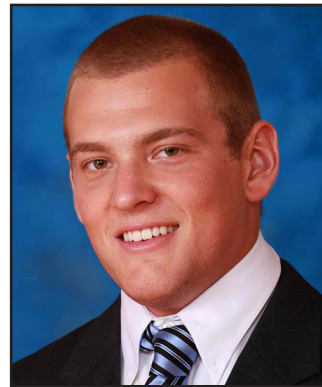
Ron Caragher, San Diego

COACH
OF THE YEAR



Brandon White, San Diego

FRESHMAN
OFFENSIVE PLAYER
OF THE YEAR



Travis Merritt, Drake

FRESHMAN
DEFENSIVE PLAYER
OF THE YEAR

2011 All-Pioneer Football League First Team

as selected by the league's coaches

Pos.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
OFFENSE (Two tight ends and two quarterbacks due to a tie in the voting)						
WR	Josh Philpart (1)	Jacksonville	6-1	175	Sr.	Deerfield Beach, Fla. (Deerfield Beach HS)
WR	Donte Sawyer	Morehead State	6-0	190	Jr.	Acworth, Ga. (North Cobb HS)
WR	Zach Watkins (2)	Butler	6-2	200	Sr.	Chicago, Ill (St. Ignatius)
TE	Quintin Davis	Jacksonville	6-3	195	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla. (Wolfson HS)
TE	Anthony Calcagni	Marist	6-5	218	Jr.	Thornwood, N.Y. (Westlake HS)
QB	Josh McGregor (2)	Jacksonville	6-2	210	Sr.	Royal Palm Beach, Fla. (Belle Glades Day HS)
QB	Mike Piatkowski (H)	Drake	6-1	170	Sr.	Wheaton, Ill. (Wheatonville Warrenville South HS)
FB	Jordan Cramer	Campbell	6-1	239	R-Sr.	Wake Forest, N.C. (Wake Forest-Rolesville)
RB	Kenny James (U)	San Diego	5-8	175	So.	San Diego, Calif. (Mt. Carmel HS)
RB	Taylor Harris	Dayton	5-10	190	Sr.	Centerburg, Ohio (Highland HS)
OL	Christian Fetters (1)	San Diego	6-1	255	Sr.	Fresno, Calif. (Clovis West HS)
OL	Evan Lawrence (1)	Drake	6-5	300	Sr.	Moline, Ill. (Moline HS)
OL	Sam Issermoyer (2)	Campbell	6-3	314	Sr.	Eldersburg, Md. (Liberty HS)
OL	Pete Mattingly (H)	Butler	6-5	300	Sr.	Zionsville, Ind. (Cathedral HS)
OL	Phede Celestin (H)	Marist	6-5	317	Jr.	Brooklyn, N.Y. (Canarsie HS)
DEFENSE (Five linebackers due to a tie in voting)						
DL	Devon Langhorst (1)	Dayton	6-3	225	R-Sr.	Sidney, Ohio (Sidney HS)
DL	Blake Oliaro	San Diego	6-5	250	R-So.	Folsom, Calif. (Folsom HS)
DL	Rolando Fines	Jacksonville	6-0	240	Sr.	Tampa, Fla. (Freedom HS)
DL	Jerome Raymond (2)	Morehead State	6-4	245	Sr.	Lawrenceville, Ga. (Berkmar HS)
LB	Tyler Moorehead (U, 1)	Drake	6-1	222	Sr.	Mason City, Iowa (Newman Catholic HS)
LB	Jordan Ridley (1)	Butler	6-0	220	Jr.	Indianapolis, Ind. (Lawrence Central HS)
LB	Zach Dunaj	San Diego	5-11	228	Jr.	Thousand Oaks, Calif. (Westlake HS)
LB	Bryan Bailin	Dayton	6-2	215	Sr.	Naperville, Ill. (Naperville HS)
LB	Ryan Cronan	Marist	6-0	214	Sr.	Hampton, N.H. (Winnacunnet HS)
DB	Al-Rilwan Adeyemi (1)	San Diego	5-9	188	Sr.	Santa Monica, Calif. (Santa Monica HS)
DB	Loka Kanongataa (2)	San Diego	5-10	205	R-Sr.	Bellevue, Wash. (Bellevue Senior HS)
DB	Leonard Smith (H)	Jacksonville	5-11	175	Sr.	Orlando, Fla. (Edgewater HS)
DB	Jaquan Bryant (H)	Marist	6-1	188	Sr.	St. Albans, N.Y. (Holy Cross)
SPECIAL TEAMS						
PK	Rainer Duzan (1)	Morehead State	5-11	165	Jr.	Dublin, Ohio (Dublin Scioto)
P	Billy Janssen (H)	Drake	6-4	202	R-Sr.	Round Lake Beach, Ill. (Carmel Catholic HS)
RS	Kenny James	San Diego	5-8	175	So.	San Diego, Calif. (Mt. Carmel HS)

Notes in parentheses: U-indicates a player was a unanimous selection, 1-was a first-team selection in 2010, 2-was a second-team selection in 2010, H-was a honorable mention selection in 2010, 3-is a three-time first-team All-PFL selection

2011 All-Pioneer Football League Second Team

as selected by the league's coaches

Pos.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
OFFENSE (Four wide receivers due to a tie in the voting)						
WR	Lanny Funsten	Davidson	6-2	185	Jr.	Raleigh, N.C. (Ravenscroft HS)
WR	John McGough	San Diego	6-3	205	R-Sr.	Bellevue, Wash. (Bellevue Senior HS)
WR	Larry Thompson	Jacksonville	6-2	170	Sr.	Tampa, Fla. (Freedom HS)
WR	Sam Hoekstra	San Diego	5-10	180	So.	Carlsbad, Calif. (Santa Fe Christian HS)
TE	Patrick Doyle	San Diego	6-4	245	R-Sr.	Western Springs, Ill. (Fenwick HS)
QB	Mason Mills	San Diego	6-0	190	R-So.	Coronado, Calif. (New Mexico State)
FB	Desmond Cox	Morehead State	5-7	178	Sr.	Akron, Ohio (Akron East HS)
RB	J.J. Laster	Jacksonville	5-6	185	Sr.	Graceville, Fla. (Graceville HS)
RB	Trae Heeter	Butler	5-9	185	So.	Indianapolis, Ind. (Lawrence North HS)
OL	Chris Wilson	Drake	6-0	270	Sr.	Homer Glen, Ill. (Lockport Township HS)
OL	Ian Osking	Jacksonville	6-5	300	Sr.	Fort Pierce, Fla. (Westwood HS)
OL	Branden Burt	Campbell	6-3	289	Sr.	Greenville, N.C. (D.H. Conley HS)
OL	Chad Cypher	Jacksonville	6-6	310	Sr.	Fort Myers, Fla. (Bishop Verot HS)
OL	Dan Prindle	Dayton	6-3	275	Sr.	Fairborn, Ohio (Carroll HS)

DEFENSE

DL	Brandon Coleman	Drake	6-4	244	Jr.	Cary, Ill. (Cary-Grove HS)
DL	Terrence Fede	Marist	6-4	270	Jr.	Nyack, N.Y. (Nyack HS)
DL	Mario Kurn	San Diego	6-2	235	Sr.	Encinitas, Calif. (Santa Fe Christian HS)
DL	John Sawhill	Drake	6-3	244	Sr.	Jefferson, Iowa (Jefferson-Scranton HS)
LB	Tony Bachman	Morehead State	5-11	221	Sr.	Miamisburg, Ohio (Miamisburg HS)
LB	Joe Martin	San Diego	6-1	235	R-Sr.	Lake Oswego, Ore. (Central Catholic HS)
LB	Travis Merritt	Drake	6-1	215	So.	Johnston, Iowa (Johnston, Iowa)
LB	Nick Caldicott	Butler	6-0	230	Sr.	Oak Park, Ill. (Fenwick HS)
DB	Lacy McDougald	Jacksonville	5-10	180	Sr.	Jacksonville, Fla. (Fletcher HS)
DB	Michael Lahart	Drake	5-11	185	R-Sr.	Chariton, Iowa (Chariton HS)
DB	Brandon Chandler	Campbell	5-8	201	R-Jr.	Kernersville, N.C. (Glenn HS)
DB	Andy Dauch	Butler	5-10	190	Sr.	Bloomfield Hills, Mich. (Lahser HS)

SPECIAL TEAMS

PK	Billy Janssen	Drake	6-4	202	R-Sr.	Round Lake Beach, Ill. (Carmel Catholic HS)
P	Greg Wood	Valparaiso	6-1	175	Jr.	Libertyville, Ill. (Libertyville HS)
RS	Colby Walden	Jacksonville	5-11	185	Jr.	Tampa, Fla. (Hillsborough HS)

2011 All-Pioneer Football League Honorable Mention Squad

as selected by the league's coaches

Pos. Players

OFFENSE

WR Drew Blackmon (DRA), Paul Constantine (CAM), Luke Bellman (DAY), Nathan Paddock (DRA), Kevin Fitzpatrick (MAR),
Branden Johnson (DAY), Sean McCarty (VAL), Brandon White (SAN)

TE Matt Jenson (BUT)

QB Andrew Huck (BUT), Zach Lewis (MOR)

FB Kevin Marshall (DRA), Nick Scudellari (SAN)

RB Carl Smith (CAM), Pat Cashmore (DRA), Ronnie McDermott (MOR)

OL Justin Griffis (DAY), Matt Peleti (SAN), Matt Storey (BUT), Eric Matteson (MOR), Jeremy Hill (CAM), Steve Flynn (DRA), Dan
Clinton (DRA), Jay Howard (BUT), Joey Clegg (MOR), Nate Blair (VAL), Ethan Clark (DAV), Kyle Nanton (JAC), Pat Thompson
(SAN)

DEFENSE

DL Grant Hunter (BUT), Jeremiah Robinson (CAM), Randel Herring (CAM), James Desautels (MAR), David Toriola (MAR),
David Witkiewicz (DRA), Michael Mayoral (JAC), Brannon Dunn (DAY), Nikko Carson (VAL)

LB Jeff Grovak (DRA), Patrick Moynahan (DAV), Cody Gokan (VAL), John Behm (DAV), Colin Monnier (DAY), Pat Derback
(VAL), Paul Sakowski (MAR)

DB Steth Monroe (CAM), Pete Kidwell (DAV), Schon Thomas (JAC), Laurence Treadaway (VAL), Nick Mainiero (MAR), Sean
Grady (BUT)

SPECIAL TEAMS

PK Jason Myers (MAR), David Lang (BUT), Mike Levine (SAN)

P Ted Moore (CAM), Brenton Goodman (DAV)

RS Jordan Koopman (BUT), Jaquan Bryant (MAR), Tom Bernhards-Callahan (DAV)
