

Jackson Named SoCon Player Of Week---Again!

Written by Jason Yaman
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The Southern Conference named its football players of the week today for games played Saturday, Oct. 6. Appalachian State's Jamal Jackson has

been named the Offensive Player of the Week, while Samford's Jaquiski Tartt was named the Defensive Player of the Week. Georgia Southern's James Dean was selected as the Freshman of the Week, while Furman's Ray Early was tabbed the Special Teams Player of the Week. The players of the week are selected by the conference office.

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Jamal Jackson, Appalachian State, Jr., QB, Atlanta, Ga. Jamal Jackson accounted for all five of Appalachian State touchdowns as the Mountaineers topped Elon, 35-23, Saturday in Boone, N.C. Jackson recorded his third career 300-yard passing performance with 304 yards on 20-of-29 pass attempts. He threw four touchdowns to three different receivers and rushed 17 times for 94 yards and a score. Jackson was responsible for a career-high 398 yards of total offense, the 16th-highest single-game total in school history. Other Nominees: Aaron Mellette (Elon), Jerodis Williams (Furman), Darreion Robinson (Georgia Southern), Andy Summerlin (Samford), and Brian Kass (Wofford).

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Jaquiski Tartt, Samford, So., DB, Mobile, Ala. Tartt gave the Bulldogs a defensive score for the second straight week as Samford beat The Citadel (38-7). One week after returning a fumble for a touchdown at Georgia Southern, Tartt picked off a Ben Dupree pass and raced 65 yards for a touchdown to give the Bulldogs a 7-0 lead in the first quarter. The sophomore finished the game with three tackles, including a tackle for loss, and two pass breakups. He helped Samford's strong defensive effort, which held the No. 22-ranked Bulldogs to 304 yards of offense and just 12 first downs. Other Nominees: Jeremy Kimbrough, (Appalachian State), Blake Thompson (Elon), Brent Russell (Georgia Southern), Randy Pressley (Western Carolina), and Mike McCrimon (Wofford). **FRESHMAN OF THE WEEK:** James Dean, Georgia Southern, Fr., RB, Brunswick, Ga. Freshman running back James Dean carried five times for 95 yards and a touchdown as Georgia Southern topped Western Carolina, 45-13. Dean's 95 yards were a personal best for the Brunswick, Ga., native. He scored GSU's final touchdown of the day on a 43-yard scamper in the fourth quarter and

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averaged 19.0 yards per carry for the Eagles. Other Nominees: Greg Hall (Appalachian State), Tracey Coppedge (Elon), D'Morrisse Bledsoe (Samford), Troy Mitchell (Western Carolina) and Cam Flowers (Wofford).

SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Ray Early, Furman, Jr., P/PK, Darlington, S.C. Early had a strong all-around performance in Furman's 20-17 loss at Wofford. The junior averaged 57.3 yards on three punts, all of which were downed inside the Wofford 20-yard line, including two at the Wofford three. Midway through the third quarter, Early booted a career-long 82-yard punt that was the fourth-longest kick in the history of the league. The Darlington, S.C., native converted two PAT attempts and kicked a 24-yard field goal in the third quarter. Early also kicked off four times for 260 yards with three touchbacks. Other Nominees: Tony Washington (Appalachian State), Kenton Beal (Elon), Alex Hanks (Georgia Southern), Clark Sechrest (Western Carolina) and Kasey Redfern (Wofford).

Photo Courtesy: Jamal Jackson, Tom Lanier