

Breitenstein Repeats As SoCon Offensive Player of Year

Written by Brent Williamson

Tuesday, 20 November 2012 16:48

Wofford College fullback Eric Breitenstein has been named the Southern Conference Offensive Player of the Year by the league's coaches and media. Overall, nine Wofford football players were named to

the Coaches and Media All-Southern Conference Teams as announced by the league on Tuesday.

Earning first team honors from the Southern Conference Coaches were offensive lineman Jared Singleton, fullback Eric Breitenstein and linebacker Alvin Scioneaux. Second team honors went to offensive linemen Jake Miles, Calvin Cantrell and Tymeco Gregory, defensive lineman Tarek Odom, linebacker Mike Niam, and defensive back Blake Wylie. In addition, returner Cam Flowers earned All-Freshman Team honors.

In the media voting, first team honors went to fullback Eric Breitenstein and offensive lineman Jake Miles. Second team honors were received by offensive linemen Jared Singleton, Calvin Cantrell and Tymeco Gregory, along with linebacker Alvin Scioneaux.

In becoming just the fourth player in league history to be named the Offensive Player of the Year in back-to-back seasons, Breitenstein rushed for 1,653 total yards, 150 yards per game and 16 touchdowns, all third nationally. The Valle Crucis, N.C., senior surpassed 100 yards in all but one game on the season, including a SoCon-record 321 yards in a win at Elon on Sept. 29. Breitenstein is a two-time winner of the league's offensive player of the week award this season, and is on the watch list for the Walter Payton Award, given annually to the most outstanding player at the FCS level. Entering postseason play, he is third in SoCon career history with 30 100-yard rushing games, fourth with 5,348 rushing yards and fifth with 62 touchdowns. He holds school records for most career rushing yards, most career carries, most career 100 yard games, and most rushing yards in a single season.

Miles, a senior from Charlottesville, Virginia, has started all eleven games at right tackle. He has been a key part of a rushing offense that is ranked second in the nation at 348.18 yards per game.

Gregory, a junior from Greer, South Carolina, has been the starter for all eleven games at left guard. The Wofford offensive line has allowed only twelve sacks this season.

Singleton, a junior from Lugoff, South Carolina, has started all eleven games at center. He leads the team this season with 186 knockdown blocks.

Cantrell, a senior from Dacula, Georgia, started eight of eleven games at left tackle, missing three games due to injury. He has started 33 career games on the offensive line.

Scioneaux, a junior from Garyville, Louisiana, has started nine games at outside linebacker and is third on the team in tackles with 59, including a team-high twelve at South Carolina. He also has two forced fumbles and a fumble recovery. Among SoCon leaders, he is second in tackles for loss with eleven and seventh in sacks with five.

Odom, a sophomore from St. Augustine, Florida, has started ten games for the Terriers this season at defensive end. He has twenty total tackles, which includes 6.5 tackles for loss. He is tenth in the Southern Conference in sacks with 4.5. He also returned a fumble for a touchdown against Appalachian State.

Niam, a senior from Hudson, Ohio, has 42 tackles this season despite missing four games due

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to injury. He also has a sack, two tackles for loss, and a forced fumble. He led the team with 13 tackles against Chattanooga. For his career, he has 267 tackles which ranks eighth in school history.

Wylie, a senior from Fort Mill, South Carolina, has 43 tackles on the year in eleven starts at cornerback. He is tied for seventh in the Southern Conference with two interceptions and second in passes defended with six. He also has a fumble recovery. He has started 47 career games in the secondary and has seven career interceptions.

The coaches named first and second teams in offense, defense and special teams. Because of a tie in the voting, the first-team defense had five defensive linemen, bringing the total to 26 honored on the first teams and 25 on the second teams. The coaches also named all-freshmen teams in offense, defense and special teams, honoring 25 players. Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own players or themselves in the selection process. All nine teams had at least one all-conference selection and one all-freshman selection.

Appalachian State, which shared the regular-season SoCon crown with Georgia Southern and Wofford, had five first-team selections and seven second-team selections, both league highs. GSU and Furman shared that distinction with five first-team picks each. Wofford was second with nine total all-conference picks, with three on the first teams and six on the second teams. Other honors announced from the coaches include Mountaineer linebacker Jeremy Kimbrough and Chattanooga defensive lineman Davis Tull shared Defensive Player of the Year honors. Appalachian State wide receiver Sean Price was named the league's Freshman of the Year, and offensive lineman Mike Sellers of The Citadel took the Jacobs Blocking Award. The Citadel's Kevin Higgins and Samford's Pat Sullivan shared Coach of the Year honors.

Among the media, Appalachian State led all schools with 10 all-conference selections, including eight on the first team. Samford placed eight student-athletes on the all-conference team, while Georgia Southern and Chattanooga each had seven honorees.

Additional media honors went to Chattanooga's Davis Tull as as the Defensive Player of the Year. Appalachian State wideout Sean Price earned the Freshman of the Year Award, while The Citadel's Kevin Higgins was named the Wallace Wade Coach of the Year.

2012 Coaches All-Southern Conference Football Team

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Offensive Player of the Year - Eric Breitenstein, Sr., RB, Wofford

Co-Defensive Player of the Year - Jeremy Kimbrough, Sr., LB, Appalachian State

Co-Defensive Player of the Year - Davis Tull, So., DL, Chattanooga

Freshman of the Year - Sean Price, WR, Appalachian State

Jacobs Blocking Award - Mike Sellers, Jr., OL, The Citadel

Co-Coach of the Year - Kevin Higgins, The Citadel

Co-Coach of the Year - Pat Sullivan, Samford

First Team Offense

QB Jamal Jackson, Jr., Appalachian State

RB Jerodis Williams, Sr., Furman

RB Eric Breitenstein, Sr., Wofford

OL Mike Sellers, Jr., The Citadel

OL Dakota Dozier, Jr., Furman

OL Dorian Byrd, Jr., Georgia Southern

OL Ryan Dudchock, Sr., Samford

OL Jared Singleton, Jr., Wofford

TE Colin Anderson, Sr., Furman

WR Sean Price, Fr., Appalachian State

WR Aaron Mellette, Sr., Elon

First Team Defense

DL Josh Lynn, Sr., Furman

DL Dion Dubose, Sr., Georgia Southern

DL Brent Russell, Sr., Georgia Southern

DL Davis Tull, So., Chattanooga

DL Nicholas Williams, Samford

LB Jeremy Kimbrough, Sr., Appalachian State

LB Wes Dothard, Jr., Chattanooga

LB Alvin Scioneaux, Jr., Wofford

DB Demetrius McCray, Sr., Appalachian State

DB JJ Wilcox, Sr., Georgia Southern

DB Jaquiski Tartt, So., Samford

DB Darius Eubanks, Sr., Georgia Southern

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First Team Specialists

PK Cameron Yaw, Sr., Samford

P Sam Martin, Sr., Appalachian State

RS Jerodis Williams, Sr., Furman

Second Team Offense

QB Thomas Wilson, Sr., Elon

RB Steven Miller, Sr., Appalachian State

RB Fabian Truss, Jr., Samford

OL Justin Ward, Sr., Elon

OL Jacob Kirschenbaum, Sr., Samford

OL Calvin Cantrell, Sr., Wofford

OL Tymeco Gregory, Jr., Wofford

OL Jake Miles, So., Wofford

TE Faysal Shafaat, So., Chattanooga

WR Andrew Peacock, Jr., Appalachian State

WR Kelsey Pope, Jr., Samford

Second Team Defense

DL Ronald Blair, So., Appalachian State

DL Chris Billingslea, Sr., The Citadel

DL Derrick Lott, Jr., Chattanooga

DL Tarek Odom, So., Wofford

LB Brandon Grier, Sr., Appalachian State

LB Rock Williams, Sr., Western Carolina

LB Mike Niam, Sr., Wofford

DB Troy Sanders, Sr., Appalachian State

DB D.J. Key, Jr., Chattanooga

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DB Kadeem Wise, Jr., Chattanooga

DB Blake Wylie, Sr., Wofford

Second Team Specialists

PK Sam Martin, Sr., Appalachian State

P Cass Couey, Sr., The Citadel

RS Tony Washington, Appalachian State

All-Freshman Offense

Shaq Counts, OL, Appalachian State

Malachi Jones, WR, Appalachian State

Sean Price, WR, Appalachian State

Tracey Coppedge, RB, Elon

Reese Hannon, QB, Furman

Jordan Snellings, WR, Furman

Joe Turner, OL, Furman

Tony Philpot, TE, Samford

Jacob Huesman, QB, Chattanooga

Darius Ramsey, RB, Western Carolina

Troy Mitchell, QB, Western Carolina

All-Freshman Defense

Stephen Burns, DL, Appalachian State

Davante Harris, DL, Appalachian State

Mitchell Jeter, DL, The Citadel

James Riley, LB, The Citadel

Mark Thomas, DE, The Citadel

Reggie Thomas, DB, Furman

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Patrick Flowe, LB, Georgia Southern
James Bradberry, DB, Samford
Trey Wesley, DB, Samford
Sertonuse Harris, DB, Western Carolina
Jaleel Lorquet, DB, Western Carolina

All-Freshman Specialists

Alex Hanks, PK, Georgia Southern
Cam Flowers, RS, Wofford
Danny LaMontagne, LS, Furman

2012 Media All-Southern Conference Football Team

Roy M. "Legs" Hawley Offensive Player of the Year - Eric Breitenstein, Sr., RB, Wofford

Defensive Player of the Year - Davis Tull, So., DE, Chattanooga

Freshman of the Year - Sean Price, WR, Appalachian State

Wallace Wade Coach of the Year - Kevin Higgins, The Citadel

First Team Offense

QB Jamal Jackson, Jr., Appalachian State

RB Steven Miller, Sr., Appalachian State

RB Eric Breitenstein, Jr., Wofford

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OL Mike Sellers, Sr., The Citadel
OL Dakota Dozier, Jr., Furman
OL Dorian Byrd, Jr., Georgia Southern
OL Ryan Dudchock, Sr., Samford
OL Jake Miles, Sr., Wofford
TE Colin Anderson, Sr., Furman
WR Sean Price, Fr., Appalachian State
WR Aaron Mellette, Sr., Elon

First Team Defense

DL Ronald Blair, So., Appalachian State
DL Brent Russell, Sr., Georgia Southern
DL Nicholas Williams, Sr., Samford
DL Davis Tull, So, Chattanooga
LB Jeremy Kimbrough, Sr., Appalachian State
LB Wes Dothard, Jr., Chattanooga
LB Rock Williams, Sr., Western Carolina
DB Demetrius McCray, Sr., Appalachian State
DB Troy Sanders, Sr., Appalachian State
DB Jaquiski Tartt, So., Samford
DB D.J. Key, Jr., Chattanooga

First Team Specialists

PK Cameron Yaw, Sr., Samford
P Sam Martin, Sr., Appalachian State
RS Jerodis Williams, Sr., Furman

Second Team Offense

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QB Thomas Wilson, Sr., Elon
RB Jerodis Williams, Sr., Furman
RB Fabian Truss, Jr., Samford
OL Logan Daves, So., Georgia Southern
OL Jacob Kirschenbaum, Sr., Samford
OL Adam Miller, Sr., Chattanooga
OL Calvin Cantrell, Sr., Wofford
OL Ty Gregory, Jr., Wofford
OL (tie) Jared Singleton, Jr., Wofford
TE Faysal Shafaat, So., Chattanooga
WR Andrew Peacock, Jr., Appalachian State
WR Kelsey Pope, Jr., Samford

Second Team Defense

DL Chris Billingslea, Sr., The Citadel
DL Javon Mention, Jr., Georgia Southern
DL Dion Dubose, Sr., Georgia Southern
DL Derrick Lott, Jr., Chattanooga
LB Brandon Grier, Sr., Appalachian State
LB Jonathan Spain, So., Elon
LB Alvin Scioneaux, Jr., Wofford
DB Brandon McCladdie, Jr., The Citadel
DB Darius Eubanks, Sr., Georgia Southern
DB JJ Wilcox, Sr., Georgia Southern
DB Kadeem Wise, Jr., Chattanooga

Second Team Specialists

PK Adam Shreiner, Sr., Elon
P Cass Couey, Sr., The Citadel
RS Fabian Truss, Jr., Samford

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Photo Courtesy: Eric Breitenstein, SoCon Athletics