

Another All-America Honor for Kimbrough

Written by Mike Flynn

Tuesday, 22 January 2013 15:20

College Sporting News became the latest organization to bestow all-America honors on Appalachian State University linebacker Jeremy Kimbrough (Decatur, Ga./Cedar Grove), naming him to its Fabulous Fifty FCS all-America team on Monday. Kimbrough racked up 143 tackles in 2012, en route to being named the Southern Conference's co-Defensive Player of the Year and finishing as runner-up in voting for the Buck Buchanan Award (NCAA Division I FCS Defensive Player of the Year). His 143 tackles were good for the third-highest total in the nation and seventh in Appalachian State single-season history. He also ranked third in the Southern Conference and among the top 100 nationally with 12.5 tackles for loss (1.04 per game) and 11th in the SoCon with 4.5 sacks.

College Sporting News is the fourth organization to name Kimbrough an all-American in 2012. He also earned first-team accolades from The Sports Network and the Walter Camp Football Foundation and was a second-team selection by the Associated Press.

Kimbrough was selected to participate in last Saturday's Raycom College Football All-Star Classic in Montgomery, Ala. but was forced to sit out of the game due to a quadriceps injury sustained during practices leading up to the contest.

In addition to Kimbrough's honor, wide receiver Sean Price (Reston, Va./South Lakes) was one of two runners-up for College Sporting News' Freshman of the Year award. In just 10 games, Price caught 81 passes for 1,196 yards and eight touchdowns in 2012, shattering the FCS records for receptions (71, set by Cal State Northridge's Drew Amerson in 1999) and receiving yards (1,073, set by Marshall's Randy Moss in 1996). Price's 7.1 receptions and 119.6 yards per game both ranked sixth nationally last season, regardless of class.

McCray Shines in NFLPA Bowl

Former Appalachian State cornerback Demetrius McCray (Covington, Ga./Newton) turned in arguably the best performance by a defensive player in last Saturday's National Football League Players Association Collegiate Bowl in Carson, Calif.

McCray recorded an interception that he returned 38 yards, forced a fumble, broke up a pass

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and tallied a game-high-tying five solo tackles to help lead his National team to a 34-0 win over the American squad in the nationally televised all-star game. The stellar performance surely piqued the interest of professional football scouts heading into next month's NFL Combine, which McCray has been invited to participate in as one of the top prospects for April's NFL Draft.

The 6-0, 185-pounder tied for the Southern Conference lead with four interceptions as a senior at Appalachian State last season, becoming the first Mountaineer cornerback to ever lead the league in interceptions twice (he also paced the SoCon with five INTs in 2011). He finished his career with 10 interceptions, good for a tie for 10th among active NCAA Division I FCS players in 2012.

Additionally, McCray led Appalachian with eight passes defended, ranked sixth on the team with 55 tackles from his cornerback position and forced a fumble in 2012. He was a consensus first-team all-conference selection, earned second-team All-America recognition from the Associated Press and was one of 20 finalists for the Buchanan Award.

COLLEGE SPORTING NEWS 2012 FABULOUS FIFTY FCS ALL-AMERICA TEAM

Coach of the Year: Walt Hameline, Wagner

Offensive Player of the Year: Taylor Heinicke, Old Dominion

Defensive Player of the Year: Marcus Williams, North Dakota State

Offensive Lineman Of The Year: Corey Howard, Central Arkansas

Special Teams Player Of The Year: Austin Shanks, Northern Arizona

Freshmen Of The Year: Vernon Adams, QB, Eastern Washington

Playoff MVP: Brock Jensen, QB, North Dakota State

OFFENSE

QB Taylor Heinicke, Old Dominion, So.

QB Jerick McKinnon, Georgia Southern, Jr.

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RB Miguel Maysonet, Stony Brook, Sr.

RB Deonte Williams, Cal Poly, Sr.

RB Jordan McCord, Colgate, Sr.

RB Zach Zenner, South Dakota State, So.

FB Eric Breitenstein, Wofford, Sr.

AP Walter Powell, Murray State, Jr.

C Corey Howard, Central Arkansas, Sr.

OG Earl Watford, James Madison, Sr.

OG Sean Davies, UC Davis, Sr.

OT Will Post, Eastern Washington, Sr.

OT Bill Turner, North Dakota State, Jr.

OL Kaleb Hopson, Sam Houston State, Sr.

OL Mike Sellers, The Citadel, Jr.

TE Kyle Juszcyk, Harvard, Sr.

TE A.C. Leonard, Tennessee State, So.

WR Brandon Kaufman, Eastern Washington, Jr.

WR Aaron Mellette, Elon, Sr.

WR Erik Lora, Eastern Illinois, Jr.

WR Cordell Roberson, Stephen F. Austin, Sr.

WR Quentin Sims, Tennessee-Martin, Sr.

WR Jordan Harris, Bryant, Jr.

DEFENSE

DT Cody Larsen, Southern Utah, Sr.

DT Brent Russell, Georgia Southern, Sr.

DE Brandon Thurmond, Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Sr.

DE Caleb Schreibeis, Montana State, Sr.

DL Davis Tull, Tennessee-Chattanooga, So.

DL Zach Wagenmann, Montana, So.

DL Mike Catapano, Princeton, Sr.

DL Colton Underwood, Illinois State, Jr.

LB Robert McCabe, Georgetown, Sr.

LB Grant Olson, North Dakota State, Jr.

LB Jeremy Kimbrough, Appalachian State, Sr.

LB Jody Owens, Montana State, Sr.

LB Keith Pough, Howard, Sr.

LB Matt Evans, New Hampshire, Sr.

DB Marcus Williams, North Dakota State, Jr.

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DB Steven Godbolt III, Tennessee State, So.

DB Darnell Taylor, Sam Houston State, Sr.

DB Ben Ericksen, Illinois State, Sr.

DB T.J. Lee III, Eastern Washington, Jr.

DB Kejuan Riley, Alabama State, Sr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

K Jimmy Pavel, Eastern Washington, Sr.

P Patrick Murray, Fordham, Sr.

KR Jerodis Williams, Furman, Sr.

PR Austin Shanks, Northern Arizona, Sr.

LS Rick Lovato, Old Dominion, So.

HONORABLE MENTION

Coach of the Year: Dino Babers, Eastern Illinois

Coach of the Year: Kevin Higgins, The Citadel

Offensive Player of the Year: Eric Breitenstein, Wofford

Freshmen Of The Year: Sean Price, Appalachian State

Freshmen Of The Year: Zak Browning, Southern Utah

QB Michael Colvin, Lehigh, Sr.

RB Shakir Bell, Indiana State, Jr.

OL Terren Jones, Alabama State, Sr.

TE Justin Perillo, Maine, Jr.

TE Colin Anderson, Furman, Sr.

DE Davis Tull, Tennessee-Chattanooga, So.

DB Robert Alford, Southeastern Louisiana, Sr.

DB Jaquiski Tartt, Samford, So.

P Andy Wilder, Northern Arizona, Jr.

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Photo Courtesy: Jeremy Kimbrough, ASU Athletics