

Bears Sign 24 Players For 2012 Season

Written by Staff Reports

Thursday, 02 February 2012 08:44

On national signing day Wednesday, the Lenoir-Rhyne University Football Team and Head Coach Mike Houston inked the first 24 recruits for the 2012 season. Of the 23 recruits the Bears

signed, 13 hail from the state of North Carolina.

The class breaks down into the following states as well: Georgia (eight), South Carolina (two) and Texas (one). The position with the most signees was offensive line with seven followed by defensive back with four and linebacker, wide receiver and running back with three.

Lenoir-Rhyne looks to build on last year's record-breaking campaign. In 2011, L-R won its first South Atlantic Conference Championship in 17 years. The Bears finished 7-3 on the season including a 6-1 mark in league play. L-R also ended the year on a four-game winning streak.

2012 Lenoir-Rhyne Football Recruiting Class

Placid Ajoku II, DL, 6-2, 240, Powder Springs, Ga. (Hillgrove HS)
Edward Blackburn, WR, 6-5, 210, Kings Mountain, N.C. (Kings Mountain HS)
Victor Brannon, WR, 6-2, 205, Powder Springs, Ga. (McEachern HS)
Damien Butler, DB, 5-11, 175, Woodbine, Ga. (Camden County HS)
Savon Dukes, LB 6-1, 230, Gaffney, S.C. (Gaffney HS)
Zach Ferguson, WR, 6-3, 210, Matthews, N.C. (David W. Butler HS)
Xavier Gill, LB 6-0, 210, Wake Forest, N.C. (Wake Forest-Rolesville HS)
Callan Gillison, OL, 6-1, 285, Alpharetta, Ga. (Chattahoochee HS)
Lucas Hayes, DL, 6-1, 265, Taylorsville, N.C. (Alexander Central HS)
Kaleel Hollis, DB, 5-10, 180, Kannapolis, N.C. (A.L. Brown HS)
Marcus Kincaid, DB, 6-0, 205, Morganton, N.C. (Freedom HS)
Mike Maness, LB 5-11, 200, Burlington, N.C. (Western Alamance HS)
Chris Phillips, OL, 6-1, 275, Elm City, N.C. (Ralph L. Fike HS)
James Phillips, RB, 5-9, 195, Carrollton, Ga. (Carroll Central HS)
Logan Reach, OL 6-3, 245, Bishop, Ga. (Oconee County HS)
Jacob Slagle, OL, 6-2, 245, Sharpsburg, Ga. (Northgate HS)
Brandon Smith, RB, 5-9, 180, Lilesville, N.C. (Anson County HS)
Bryan Veazey, OL, 6-2, 295, Broxton, Ga. (Coffee County HS)
Nathan Benfield, OL, 6-6, 280, Mount Holly, N.C. (East Gaston HS)

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Austin Beaty, RB, 6-3, 225, Friendswood, Texas (Navy)

Ben Carrion, OL, 6-2, 280, Franklin, N.C. (Appalachian State Univ.)

Aaron Leach, DB, 6-1, 195, High Point, N.C. (North Carolina Central Univ.)

Travis Scales, QB, 6-0, 195, Pinecrest, N.C. (Pinecrest HS)

Devin Southerland, K/P, 5-11, 180, Easley, S.C. (Coastal Carolina Univ.)

Photo Courtesy: LRU Football Team, LRU Athletics