

FOR RELEASE

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Unanimous picks Petersen, Smith and Temple lead 25th Annual All-PFL Teams

Eight repeat first-team selections highlight squads

SAINT LOUIS, Mo. – Fifty-nine student athletes have been named to the 25th All-Pioneer Football League teams, Tuesday. All selections were made by the league's coaches, who were not permitted to vote for their own student-athletes.

San Diego senior defensive lineman Jonathan Petersen, who was the league's unanimous selection as Defensive Player of the Year, was a unanimous pick for First-Team All-PFL. It is the third consecutive year the Torero's defensive leader has earned First-Team All-PFL honors.

Petersen was joined as a unanimous First-Team All-PFL honoree by Dayton punter Sean Smith and Butler wide receiver Pace Temple. It is the second consecutive season three student-athletes were unanimous First-Team choices by the league's coaches.

In addition to Petersen, Marist wide receiver Juston Christian, Dayton defensive back and return specialist Christian Searles and Dayton's Smith also were named First-Team All-PFL for a third time in their career. Searles earned First-Team All-PFL honors at two different positions in the same season for the second time in his career and has earned five first-team citations in his career.

A further three 2017 honorees received their second first-team award, each from San Diego: quarterback Anthony Lawrence and offensive linemen Miles McArdle and Daniel Cooney.

A testament to the league's burgeoning underclassmen ranks, fifteen of the first and second-team All-PFL selections were freshmen or sophomores in 2017. That total includes a quartet of freshmen named All-PFL: first-team selection Davidson freshman running back Wesley Dugger as well as second team honorees Campbell quarterback Daniel Smith, San Diego freshman running back Emilio Martinez, Dayton tight end Adam Trautman and Stetson defensive back JJ Henderson.

In addition to the 59 student-athletes recognized on the league's first and second teams, 74 student-athletes received honorable mention recognition.

The Academic All-PFL team, highlighted by the league's Scholar-Athlete of the Year, will be released Wednesday, concluding the league's awards week.

(more)

2017 Pioneer Football League Major Award Winners

(announced Monday)

Offensive Player of the Year: Anthony Lawrence, San Diego

Defensive Player of the Year: Jonathan Petersen, San Diego (unanimous)

Special Teams Player of the Year: Christian Searles, Dayton

Freshman Offensive Player of the Year: Daniel Smith, Campbell

Freshman Defensive Player of the Year: JJ Henderson, Stetson

Coach of the Year: Dave Cecchini, Valparaiso

Scholar-Athlete of the Year: To be announced, Wednesday

2017 All-Pioneer Football League First Team

(as selected by PFL head coaches)

Pos.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown
OFFENSE (3 RBs due to tie in voting)						
WR	Pace Temple (U, 2)	Butler	6-2	200	Jr.	Geneva, Ill.
WR	Juston Christian (1, 3x)	Marist	6-0	186	Jr.	Owings Mills, Md.
WR	Justin Priest	San Diego	6-2	212	Sr.	Sacramento, Calif.
QB	Anthony Lawrence (1)	San Diego	6-1	195	RJr.	La Mesa, Calif.
TE	Ross Dwelley (2)	San Diego	6-5	240	RSr.	El Dorado Hills, Calif.
RB	Sam Schrader	Butler	5-10	210	RSr.	Mishawaka, Ind.
RB	Wesley Dugger	Davidson	6-0	192	Fr.	Cincinnati, Ohio
RB	Tucker Yinger (H)	Dayton	6-0	191	Sr.	Columbus, Ohio
FB	Zach Nelson	San Diego	6-2	240	RSo.	Danville, Calif.
OL	Payson Wick (H)	Drake	6-3	282	5th.	Floosmoor, Ill.
OL	Ryan Lemke (H)	Drake	6-3	297	5th	Germantown, Wis.
OL	Miles McArdle (1)	San Diego	6-3	290	Sr.	Napa, Calif.
OL	Joe Hurney (2)	San Diego	6-2	290	Sr.	Charlotte, N.C.
OL	Daniel Cooney (1)	San Diego	6-8	315	RJr.	Western Springs, Ill.
DLFENSE						
DL	Emmanuel Olenga	Campbell	6-4	260	RSo.	Charlotte, N.C.
DL	Nathan Clayberg (H)	Drake	6-4	282	Sr.	Pella, Iowa
DL	Tanner Evans (H)	Drake	6-5	269	So.	Jackson, Wis.
DL	Jonathan Petersen (U, 1, 3x)	San Diego	6-1	240	RSr.	Poway, Calif.
LB	Jack Crain (2)	Dayton	6-2	227	RSr.	Lisle, Ill.
LB	Willie Barrett (2)	Marist	5-11	227	RJr.	Holiday, Fla.
LB	Max Michaels	San Diego	6-3	280	RSo.	Poway, Calif.
LB	Jeb Boudreaux (2)	Stetson	5-10	200	5th	Mobile, Ala.
DB	Carlos Merritt	Campbell	6-0	195	RSr.	Union City, Ga.
DB	Christian Searles (1, 3x)	Dayton	5-9	182	Sr.	Chicago, Ill.
DB	Sean Lynch	Drake	5-9	181	Sr.	Hawthorn Woods, Ill.
DB	Colton Giorgi	San Diego	6-1	208	Sr.	El Dorado Hills, Calif.
SPECIAL TEAMS						
PK	Drew Bevelhimer	Butler	6-1	185	So.	Indianapolis, Ind.
P	Sean Smith (U, 1, 3x)	Dayton	6-4	222	Jr.	Avondale, Pa.
RS	Christian Searles (1)	Dayton	5-9	192	Sr.	Chicago, Ill.
LS	Conrad Mueller (H)	Davidson	5-11	193	Sr.	Waxhaw, N.C.

Notes in parentheses: U-indicates a player was a unanimous first-team selection, 4x-is a four-time first-team All-PFL selection; 3x-is a three-time first-team All-PFL selection, 1-was a first-team selection in 2016, 2-was a second-team selection in 2016, H-was a honorable mention selection in 2016; FR-was a Freshman Player of the Year in 2016.

2017 All-Pioneer Football League Second Team

Pos.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown
OFFENSE (3 RBs, 6 OLs due to ties in voting)						
WR	Aaron Blockmon	Campbell	6-1	206	RJr.	Sanford, N.C.
WR	Steven Doran	Drake	6-3	212	Jr.	Germantown, Wis.
WR	Jarin Higginbotham	Morehead State	6-0	195	RJr.	Liberty Township, Ohio.
QB	Daniel Smith	Campbell	6-0	200	RFr.	Leesburg, Va.
TE	Adam Trautman	Dayton	6-1	225	Fr.	Williamsburg, Mich.
RB	Irvin Riley	Jacksonville	5-9	185	So.	Savannah, Ga.
RB	Marcellus Calhoun	Marist	6-0	197	RSr.	Columbus, Ohio
RB	Emilio Martinez	San Diego	5-9	190	Fr.	Salinas, Calif.
FB	Keenan Simpson	Jacksonville	5-7	205	So.	Summerville, S.C.
OL	Shuler Littleton	Campbell	6-7	300	RJr.	York, S.C.
OL	Ben Gauthier	Dayton	6-2	275	Jr.	Avon, Ohio
OL	Jordan Lewinsky	Drake	6-5	290	Sr.	Mequon, Wis.
OL	Richard Duncan-Murphy	Marist	6-3	325	RSr.	Bensalem, Pa.
OL	Liam Maloney	Morehead State	6-4	328	RSr.	Liberty Township, Ohio
OL	Tom Schofield	Valparaiso	6-3	285	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.
DLFENSE						
DL	Chad Burdo	Butler	6-1	275	RSr.	Oswego, Ill.
DL	Josh Willis	Butler	6-2	234	RSr.	Bowie, Md.
DL	Mack Marrin	Drake	6-2	246	5th	Mendota Heights, Minn.
DL	Eddie Zinn-Turner	Marist	6-1	298	RSo.	Malvern, Ohio
LB	Ethan Brunhofer	Butler	6-2	220	Sr.	Denver, Colo.
LB	Mike Maize	Drake	5-11	238	5th	Des Plaines, Ill.
LB	Trevor Tufano	Jacksonville	5-11	210	So.	New Smyrna Beach, Fla.
LB	Nick Turner	Valparaiso	6-1	225	Jr.	Gurnee, Ill.
DB	Isaak Newhouse	Butler	6-1	200	Sr.	Grand Haven, Mich.
DB	Griffin Garland	Jacksonville	6-0	195	Sr.	Jupiter, Fla.
DB	Ray Clark	San Diego	5-11	201	Sr.	Brentwood, Calif.
DB	JJ Henderson	Stetson	5-10	161	RFr.	Tampa, Fla.
SPECIAL TEAMS						
PK	Trevor Smith	Davidson	6-3	195	Sr.	Tampa, Fla.
P	Jack Flatau	San Diego	5-9	180	RSr.	Oceanside, Calif.
RS	Bailey Gessinger	Valparaiso	5-10	165	So.	Napanee, Ind.
LS	Griffin Garland	Jacksonville	6-0	195	Sr.	Jupiter, Fla.

2017 All-Pioneer Football League Honorable Mention

BUTLER: Connor Andras (DL & LS); Mason Brunner (LB); Bobby Jensen (OL); Duvante Lane (FB); Dakota Sneed (OL). **CAMPBELL:** Mitchell Brown (K); Ray Miller (LB); Jack Ryan (LB); Tyler Shirley (LS); Dante Simmons (CB). **DAVIDSON:** George Hatalowich (DB); Wes Hegemann (OL); Nick Nolting (OL); Bryce Perry Martin (DL); Will Wicks (WR). **DAYTON:** Alex Jeske (QB); David Leisring (DB); Nick Surges (DL); Matt Tunnacliffe (LS). **DRAKE:** Jabari Butler (CB); Devin Cates (WR); Danny Donley (K); Grant Kraemer (QB); Kyrell Newell (CB); Connor Ostrander (TE); Peter Read (DL); Kieran Severa (LB); Terry Wallen (DB); Will Warner (DB). **JACKSONVILLE:** Jake Dempsey (OL); Prince Gray (WR); Tyler Havenner (DL); Jake Howell (OL); Thomas Oporto (LB); Jaleel Roberts (OL); Emon Smith (DB); Calvin Turner Jr. (DB); Caysaun Wakeley (LB). **MARIST:** Wes Beans (DB); Lawrence Dickens (WR); Jordyn Jean-Felix (DB); Brandon Miller (CB); Dan Wittekind (OL). **MOREHEAD STATE:** Braylyn Cook (DB); Brandon Fields (LS); Landon Hurst (WR); Chauncey Johns (DB); Lawson Page (QB); Juanyea Tarver (RS). **SAN DIEGO:** Michael Bandy (WR); KJ Mahoney (LB); Emilio Martinez (RS); Kishan Patel (CB); Trevor Provencio (OL); Connor Spencer (DL); Marcus Vaivao (LB). **STETSON:** Eddie Curry (DL); Jeff Fallabel (DL); Matias Gasc (P); Justin Jordan (WR); Eric Martin (DB); Donald Parham (TE); Andrew Rogalski (OL); Shayne White (DL). **VALPARAISO:** Jack Jarnigan (OL); Dimitrios Latsonas (K); Jarrett Morgan (RB); Donny Navarro (WR); JJ Nunes (DB); Drew Snouffer (LB);