

**FOR RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Cody Bush  
Phone: (931) 980-4940  
e-mail: bushc@apsu.edu

## **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, 14 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                |
|---|------------------------------|-----------|------|-----|------|-------------------------|
| <b>OFFENSE</b> (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.  | El Dorado Hills, 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.   |
| <b>DEFENSE</b>                              |                              |           |      |     |      |                         |
| 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     | 6-2  | 246 | 5th  | Gretna, Neb.            |
| 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 | 5-9  | 190 | RSr. | 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. |
| <b>SPECIAL TEAMS</b>                        |                              |           |      |     |      |                         |
| 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                |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|------|-----|------|-------------------------|
| <b>OFFENSE</b> (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.           |
| <b>DEFENSE</b>                                      |                       |                |      |     |      |                         |
| 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.             |
| <b>SPECIAL TEAMS</b>                                |                       |                |      |     |      |                         |
| 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); Nick Nolting (OL); Bryce Perry Martin (DL); Will Wicks (WR). **DAYTON:** Wes Hegemann (OL); 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).