

**MAT ANDRIANO Minnesota State 6-2 215 SS NB**

Don Hansen All-Super Region Three Third Team Defense. Started in 10 games during his senior season, while playing in 11. Andriano received All-NSIC First Team distinction earlier this season as he finished third on the team in tackles with 75. He also recovered two fumbles and defended eight passes. All-Academic. Was named to the All-NSIC Second Team and the team's Safety/Nickel of the Year.

**CONNER BAYS S.W. Oklahoma 6-0 190 SS**

Honorable Mention All-American. SWOSU's career tackles leader for the NCAA era with 295. He led the Great American Conference and ranked fifth in NCAA Division II with 128 tackles – an average of 11.6 per game – at the conclusion of the regular season, a mark that also represents a new single-season school record at SWOSU. Bays earned All-Super Region Three honors from the Don Hansen Football Committee and the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association (D2CCA) while also being selected as a finalist for the Cliff Harris Small College Defensive Player of the Year Award.

**DAMON BENHAM Bemidji State 6-0 205 SS**

Was the only Beaver selected to the Don Hansen NCAA Division II All-Super Region Three First Team. The captain finished 2016 with a Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference-leading seven interceptions, including one returned for a touchdown. He finished his BSU career with 12 interceptions, including one in Bemidji State's 36-23 Mineral Water Bowl win, which ranks him tied for fourth-most all-time in program history. Benham led the BSU secondary, and ranked fourth in the conference, with 16 passes defended and ranked fourth with 75 tackles.

**LANE BLOOM Carson-Newman 6-3 205 SS ST**

Carson-Newman's leading tackler in 2016. As an under-sized linebacker with 4.4 speed, he had 89 tackles, including a team-high 42 solo stops. His 11.5 tackles for loss registered as the top mark on the team and the 10th best total in the SAC. He recovered a pair of fumbles and had a pair of interceptions.

**JARELL BOYD-ROSS Bloomsburg 6-3 225 SS**

A big strong safety. Played in all 11 games for Bloomsburg. Made 49 tackles on the season 27 of them solo. Made one interception on the year against Gannon. Made one fumble recovery on the year. Had four solo tackles, four assisted tackles, and broke up a pass against #11 Indiana (PA).

**OKOYE BOZEMAN Central State 5-11 200 SS**

All-SIAC. Showed his versatility all season long playing at both the defensive back and linebacker positions. Finished the year with 60 tackles, 6 tackles for a loss, 1 sack, 1 forced fumble and 2 pass break ups.

**DONTE CAREY Grand Valley State 6-1 200 SS**

Three year starter. All-GLIAC 2nd-Team. Turned in a solid senior season in the secondary with 39 stops (30 solo/9 assisted), a team-high four interceptions, which ranks second in the GLIAC, and eight pass breakups.

**JARROD CASEY** *Assumption College* **5-10 198 SS FS**

A dynamic force for the Hounds, leading the team with 90 tackles while being the only player in the NE10 with at least two sacks and two interceptions. He finished with 2.5 sacks and three interceptions while breaking up three passes. He was an all-region selection for the past two years. National Bowl selectee.

**STEVE FRANCO** *IUP* **6-3 210 SS**

1st Team All-PSAC, his second postseason honor, earning second team accolades a season ago. One of the top safeties in the region, he has 55 total tackles, two interceptions, and has broken up eight additional passes this year. Franco was part of arguably IUP's biggest play of the year, returning a blocked point after for a score against Seton Hill.

**RICHARD FRANKLIN** *Angelo State* **5-10 210 SS**

LSC 2nd-team. As the team's rover, he broke up seven passes for ASU and also recorded two sacks on the season for a total loss of 19 yards to go with 68 tackles and 4 for a loss.

**MARQUEZ GOLLMAN** *Grand Valley State* **5-11 190 SS**

2016: All-Super Region, All-GLIAC First-Team. Ranked third on the squad in tackles with 73, while also recording two interceptions and 10 pass breakups as a senior. Voss tallied 67 total tackles, 11.5 tackles for loss (-41) and 4.5 QB sacks (-22) during his senior campaign. 2015: All-American, All-GLIAC First-Team as a nickel linebacker, which is essentially a fifth defensive back with a mix of safety, cornerback and linebacker assignments. Recorded 89 tackles, 4.5 TFLs 2 INTs, 4 PBU's and a sack.

**MAURICE HALE** *Lake Erie* **6-2 210 SS FS**

All-GLIAC Honorable Mention Team. Finished his senior campaign with a total of 77 tackles, good for second on the team. Hale led the defense with 46 solo tackles, combined with 31 assisted tackles. He had one tackle for loss during the season. Hale had a season-high 12 tackles against Findlay this year. Great leader and tackler in the secondary, makes all the calls and is very productive.

**STEFFON HERD** *Northeastern State* **6-3 210 SS**

Honorable Mention All-MIAA. Team's leading tackler with great size and good cover skills as well. 2016 Stats: 101 tackles, 3.5 TFLs, INT, 3 PBU's, 2 FR.

**JOEY HOPKINS** *Chadron* **6-1 190 SS FS**

Voted team defensive MVP. Converted to a wide receiver last spring, but rejoined the defensive secondary unit for the third game of the season due to injuries at multiple positions. Hopkins went on to finish second on the team in tacklinG, in only nine games played, snagged two interceptions, and forced a critical fumble at South Dakota Mines in a four-point CSC win. The Eagles led the conference in pass defense. 2016 Stats: 71 tackles, 1.5 TFLs, 2 INTs, PBU, FF.

**TERRELL HUDSON** *Ashland University* **5-11 215 SS**

Transfer from Urbana who stepped in and made an immediate impact as the starting strong safety, earning All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference second-team honor in 2015 and 1st team in 2016 when he recorded 67 total tackles (5½ for loss), an interception and a forced fumble.

**EMANUEL IVEY** *Fairmont State* **6-0 210 SS**

A standout safety for the Falcons, became a two-time All-MEC performer following his senior season. Ivey finished the regular season ranking second on the team in tackles (53) and first in pass break-ups. Ivey also picked-off a team-high five passes as a senior.

**JAMAL LACKEY** *Catawba* **6-2 190 SS**

Second team All-South Atlantic Conference for the second consecutive year as a LB. Second team Hansen All-Region 2 selection in 2015. In 2016, was in on 66 tackles with 10 going for losses. He made three sacks and broke up a pair of passes. Lackey forced a fumble and recovered a fumble.

**MALCOLM LEE** *Alderson Broaddus University* **5-11 205 SS**

Great Midwest Athletic Conference All-Conference team. Tallied 48 tackles, five and a half tackles for loss, three sacks, two interceptions, and a fumble forced and recovered in his final season. This season in a 38-13 win at Georgetown, Lee was named the G-MAC defensive player of the week after finishing with two interceptions.

**CURTIS LINDSAY** *West Georgia* **6-0 204 SS**

Received his second-straight First Team All-GSC award as a utility player, collecting 24 tackles and two for a loss on the season.

**KEVIN MALONE** *West Chester University* **5-10 200 SS**

Two-time first-team All-PSAC East defensive back. Named team captain, a leader, not only in the Golden Rams' secondary, but in the locker room and away from the playing field. Developed into one of the top defensive backs in the conference, if not Super Region 1. Has good instincts for the game, reads plays well from his safety position. Three-year letterwinner. Managed to return one interception for a touchdown from 85-yards out in the regular season finale against Clarion. The senior captain also accounted for 21 total tackles.

**KENDALL MARKS** *Millersville* **6-0 205 SS CB**

A versatile defender, played as a safety and corner. Able to tackle with authority and cover receivers. 2016 Stats: 65 tackles, 5.5 TFLs, INT, 5 PBUs, 2 FR, FF.

**CARL MATTOX** *Mars Hill* **6-1 190 SS**

1st Team All-SAC as a LB. Played the Will position. Hard-hitting defender with very good coverage skills. 2016 Stats: 48 tackles, sack, 3 TFLs, 5 PBUs.

**DAVONTAE MERRIWEATHER** *West Texas A&M* **6-1 204 SS**

1st Team All-LSC, earned second team all-conference honors in 2015. Finished second on the team in tackles this season with 57. He had 6.5 tackles for loss for 31 yards ranking second on the team, while record 36 solo stops and tying for the team-lead in interceptions with two for 33 yards. He had six pass breakups and three quarterback hurries, along with one forced fumble and one blocked kick. Merriweather played and started in ten games this season earning LSC Defensive Player of the Week honors once and returning an interception for a touchdown in his final game in a WT uniform last Saturday at Western New Mexico in the Buffs' thrilling 37-30 overtime win. He finished his career playing in 19 games with 12 starts. Merriweather recorded 118 tackles with 66 solo stops, along with five interceptions for 78 yards, ten pass breakups, four hurries, 9.5 tackles for loss for 39 yards and two touchdowns off interceptions for 12 points.

**JERRY MICLISSE** *Carson-Newman* **6-2 196 SS**

Carson-Newman's third leading tackler with 55 stops and five tackles for loss. A first-team All-SAC, this is his second time representing the Eagles on an all-conference team. Miclisse topped out with nine tackles in the season finale against Tusculum. He brought an interception 26 yards to the house in C-N's win over Mars Hill.

**CEDRIC POOLE** *Miles* **6-0 196 SS FS**

Named to the Conference Commissioner's Association's All-Super Region 2 First Team. Led the Golden Bears with 60 tackles (49 solo), four interceptions and 12 total passes defended. He tied for lead in interceptions in conference games, including touchdown returns against Morehouse (59 yards) and Tuskegee (58 yards). Poole added two tackles for loss and a fumble recovery.

**TRAVIS SCALES** *Fayetteville* **6-0 200 SS**

All-CIAA Honorable Mention. Led the Broncos with a team-high 70 tackles (38 solo), a sack, a fumble recovery, a pass breakup, and a pass deflection from his ROV position. Transfer from Lenoir-Rhyne.

**RODNEY SINGLETON** *Lenoir-Rhyne* **6-2 190 SS**

1st Team All-SAC. Led the team in tackles with 77 this year to go along with two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble. Singleton, the 2013 SAC Defensive Freshman Of The Year, finished his career with 259 tackles.

**DARIUS THOMAS** *Henderson State* **6-0 185 SS FS**

1st Team All-GAC, totaled 41 tackles and seven passes defended for the season. Recorded a season-best six tackles and had interceptions in back-to-back games against Oklahoma Baptist and Southern Nazarene.

**BRIAN WALKER** *Fayetteville* **5-10 195 SS RS**

Earned All-CIAA Second Team accolades from his SAM position. Transfer from North Carolina. Compiled 25 tackles, 4.5 tackles for a loss, two interceptions, nine pass deflections, and seven pass breakups on the year. He also had 11 kickoff returns for 373 yards and two scores, including a season-long 99 yard return.

**BRIAN WALKER** *Fort Valley State* **6-0 185 SS**

FCS Bowl selectee. Finished the season as a 1st Team SIAC All-Conference player, Fountain City Classic MVP, SIAC Eastern Division and SIAC Champions. Walker led the team in tackles with 69 (41 solos), 12.5 (41 yards) tackle-for-losses, 3 (17 yards) sacks, led the Wildcats and is second in SIAC with six (198 yards) interceptions, 5 pass break-ups, 3 quarterback hurries, one fumble recovery, forced two fumbles, and blocked a kick. As the buck LB Was responsible for defensive play calls, alignment and communication on the field. Good at filling gaps against the run, and with short middle zone pass coverage.

**ONSLOW WILLIAMS Notre Dame College 5-10 225 SS OLB**

All-MEC Second Team. Had a monster season for Notre Dame. He was the team's leading tackler, with 72 on the year, including 43 solo stops. He added 8.5 tackles for a loss, a sack, and came away with two interceptions.

**DONDRE WRIGHT Henderson State 5-11 210 SS FS**

A very good, all-around player. Very solid in all aspects of the defense. Should end up on a CFL roster at least. 2016 Stats: 65 tackles, 2 TFLs, sack, INT, 7 PBUs, FR.

**JACK YOUNG N.W. Missouri 5-10 186 SS**

All-MIAA honorable mention, recorded four interceptions, defended six passes and was credited with a pair of breakups. he had 41 tackles with one coming behind the line of scrimmage.







