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C-USA ANNOUNCES FOOTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS

IRVING, Texas – Conference USA announced its 2014 All-Conference football teams today, as selected by the league's 13 head football coaches. All 13 schools were represented with at least one selection and nine placed at least one player on the first team. C-USA champion Marshall produced the most total selections with 12 and first team members with 10 (both league records), followed by UAB with seven players.

Marshall's 10 first-team selections include five from the league's top scoring offense, three from the top C-USA defense and two special teamers. Highlighting the Herd players are QB **Rakeem Cato** (who set NCAA record for most consecutive games with a touchdown pass at 46), RB **Devon Johnson** (league's leading rusher with 1,636 yards at 16 TDs) and LB **Neville Hewitt** (C-USA leading tackler with 114 total stops). Offensive linemen **Chris Jasperse** and **Clint Van Horn** join WR **Tommy Shuler** as other offensive first team selections, while DL **James Rouse**, DB **Darryl Roberts**, P **Tyler Williams** and LS **Matt Cincotta** also claimed first team nods.

UAB earned three spots on the first team with players from all phases of the game. RB **Jordan Howard** (set the school's single-season rushing record with 1,587 yards), DL **Diaheem Watkins** (led the conference in sacks with 10) and electric KR **J.J. Nelson** (tied C-USA single-season record by taking four kick returns back for TDs) were all tabbed first team.

FIU placed two on the first team with the only player receiving multiple spots and added another with second team honors. The nation's top receiving TE **Jonnu Smith** (710 yards and 8 TDs from 61 receptions) is joined by **Richard Leonard**, who was chosen to the first team as a DB and PR. Leonard scored touchdowns with a fumble recovery return, interception return and punt return, while leading C-USA by scooping four fumbles to go along with five INTs.

West division champion Louisiana Tech secured two first team players and three second team members. OL **Mitchell Bell** and DB **Xavier Woods** garner first team accolades, while star RB **Kenneth Dixon** (just five yards shy of the program record with 3,347 career yards) was named Second Team All-C-USA. Dixon had 156 yards and three touchdowns in the C-USA Championship game, giving him 26 total touchdowns on the season (second-most in league history).

Middle Tennessee and Rice each placed one player on the first team and three on the second team. Blue Raiders S **Kevin Byard** (league-high six interceptions) and Owls DE **Brian Nordstrom** (league-best 18.5 tackles for loss and 7.5 sacks) were listed as first team, while Middle Tennessee offensive linemen **Isaiah Anderson** and **Darius Johnson** are joined by LB **T.T. Barber** on second team, along with Rice OL **Nico Carlson**, WR **Jordan Taylor** and DB **Bryce Callahan**.

Old Dominion and Florida Atlantic were the fifth and sixth schools to earn at least two spots on the first team. The Monarchs closed their first season in the league with OL **Josh Mann** and WR **Antonio Vaughan** (league-leading 1,019 yards and 12 receiving touchdowns) being selected, while the Owls listed WR **Lucky Whitehead** (C-USA-best 76 receptions and 1,720 all-purpose yards) and LB **Andrae Kirk** (103 tackles, 10 passes defended).

WKU had the most second team selections with five, while UTSA had four and UTEP three. Hilltoppers QB **Brandon Doughty**, the nation's leader in passing yards (4,344) and TD passes (44), OL **Cameron Clemmons**, RB **Leon Allen** (1,490 yards, 15 total TDs) and **Jared Dangerfield** (league-high 76 receptions) represent the offense, while CB **Wonderful Terry** (two interception returns for touchdowns) made the squad on defense. A pair of defensive and special teams standouts represent the Roadrunners, including DL **Robert Singletary**, S **Triston Wade** (14 passes defended, four interceptions), K **Sean Ianno** (17-of-21 field goals) and LS **Jesse Medrano**. The Miners selections include RB **Aaron Jones** (1,233 yards, 14 total TDs), OL **Jerell Watkins** and KR **Autrey Golden** (two kickoff returns for touchdowns).

The league's individual awards will be released Wednesday, December 10. Conference USA will conclude the 2014 season by sending five teams to bowl games.

2014 C-USA FOOTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

QB – Rakeem Cato, Marshall, Sr.
RB – Devon Johnson, Marshall, Sr.
RB – Jordan Howard, UAB, So.
OL – Chris Jasperse, Marshall, Sr.
OL – Mitchell Bell, Louisiana Tech, Sr.
OL – Clint Van Horn, Marshall, Jr.
OL – Josh Mann, Old Dominion, Sr.
OL – Cyril Lemon, North Texas, Sr.
TE – Jonnu Smith, FIU, So.
WR – Tommy Shuler, Marshall, Sr.
WR – Antonio Vaughan, Old Dominion, Sr.
WR – Lucky Whitehead, Florida Atlantic, Sr.

DEFENSE

DL – Brian Nordstrom, Rice, Jr.
DL – Rakeem Nunez-Roches, SouthernMiss, Sr.
DL – Diaheem Watkins, UAB, Sr.
DL – James Rouse, Marshall, Sr.
LB – Neville Hewitt, Marshall, Sr.
LB – Derek Akunne, North Texas, Sr.
LB – Andrae Kirk, Florida Atlantic, Sr.
DB – Richard Leonard, FIU, Jr.
DB – Kevin Byard, Middle Tennessee, Jr.
DB – Xavier Woods, Louisiana Tech, So.
DB – Darryl Roberts, Marshall, Sr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

K – Corey Acosta, Southern Miss, Sr.
P – Tyler Williams, Marshall, Jr.
KR – J.J. Nelson, UAB, Sr.
PR – Richard Leonard, FIU, Jr.
LS – Matt Cincotta, Marshall, Jr.

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

QB – Brandon Doughty, WKU, Sr.
RB – Kenneth Dixon, Louisiana Tech, Jr.
RB – Aaron Jones, UTEP, So.
RB – Leon Allen, WKU, Jr.
OL – Brian O'Leary, UAB, Sr.
OL – Jerrell Watkins, UTEP, Sr.
OL – Isaiah Anderson, Middle Tennessee, Sr.
OL – Cameron Clemmons, WKU, Sr.
OL – Darius Johnson, Middle Tennessee, Jr.
OL – Nico Carlson, Rice, Sr.
TE – Kennard Backman, UAB, Sr.
WR – Jared Dangerfield, WKU, Jr.
WR – Trent Taylor, Louisiana Tech, So.
WR – Jordan Taylor, Rice, Sr.

DEFENSE

DL – Arnold Blackmon, Marshall, Sr.
DL – Michael Wakefield, FIU, Jr.
DL – Houston Bates, Louisiana Tech, Sr.
DL – Robert Singletary, UTSA, Sr.
LB – Jake Ganus, UAB, Jr.
LB – T.T. Barber, Middle Tennessee, Jr.
LB – Jermaine Holmes, Marshall, Sr.
DB – Triston Wade, UTSA, Sr.
DB – D'Joun Smith, Florida Atlantic, Sr.
DB – James Jones, North Texas, Sr.
DB – Bryce Callahan, Rice, Sr.
DB – Wonderful Terry, WKU, Jr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

K – Sean Ianno, UTSA, Sr.
P – Dalton Schomp, Florida Atlantic, So.
KR – Autrey Golden, UTEP, Jr.
PR – J.J. Nelson, UAB, Sr.
LS – Jesse Medrano, UTSA, Sr.

HONORABLE MENTION

OFFENSE

QB – Taylor Heinicke, Old Dominion, Sr.
RB – Reggie Whatley, Middle Tennessee, Sr.
RB – Shane Tucker, Middle Tennessee, So.
RB – Jowan Davis, Rice, So.
OL – Scott Inskeep, UTSA, Sr.
OL – Ian Gray, Rice, Sr.
OL – Forrest Lamp, WKU, So.
OL – Tre Carter, Louisiana Tech, Sr.
OL – Antonio Johnson, North Texas, Sr.
OL – Andrew Reue, Rice, Jr.
OL – Matt Simonette, Rice, Sr.
OL – Cameron Tom, Southern Miss, So.
OL – Donald Senat, FIU, Sr.
OL – Eric Lee, UTEP, Jr.
OL – Kirby Wixson, Louisiana Tech, Jr.
OL – Tyler Fisher, Old Dominion, So.
TE – Eric Frohnapfel, Marshall, Sr.
TE – Mitchell Henry, WKU, Sr.
TE – Alex DeLeon, Florida Atlantic, Sr.
TE – David Morgan II, UTSA, Jr.
TE – Eric Tomlinson, UTEP, Sr.
WR – Carlos Harris, North Texas, Sr.
WR – J.J. Nelson, UAB, Sr.
WR – Zach Pascal, Old Dominion, So.
WR – Taywan Taylor, WKU, So.
WR – Casey Martin, Southern Miss, Fr.
WR – Hunter Lee, Louisiana Tech, Sr.
WR – Mario Hull, Rice, Sr.
WR – Michael Thomas, Southern Miss, Fr.
WR – Kam Jones, UTSA, Sr.

DEFENSE

DL – Zach Patt, Rice, Sr.
DL – Shubert Bastien, Middle Tennessee, Sr.
DL – Vernon Butler, Louisiana Tech, Jr.
DL – Ra'Shawde Myers, Marshall, Sr.
DL – Ashaad Mabry, UTSA, Sr.
DL – Denzel Perine, FIU, Jr.
DL – Dasman McCullum, Southern Miss, Sr.
DL – Chris Walton, UAB, Sr.
DL – Trevon Coley, Florida Atlantic, Jr.
DL – Pat McNeil, Middle Tennessee, Jr.
DL – Chad Polk, North Texas, Jr.
DL – Vontarius Dora, Louisiana Tech, Jr.
DL – Roy Robertson-Harris, UTEP, Jr.
DL – Cody Rogers, UTSA, Sr.
LB – Jens Jeters, UTSA, Sr.
LB – Nick Holt, WKU, Jr.
LB – Tony Johnson, Louisiana Tech, Sr.
LB – Terrell Pinson, Louisiana Tech, Sr.
LB – D.J. Simon, Old Dominion, Sr.
LB – Alex Lyons, Rice, So.
LB – D.J. Hunter, Marshall, Jr.
LB – Anthony Wint, FIU, Fr.

LB – James Radcliffe, Rice, Sr.
LB – Anthony Puente, UTEP, Sr.
LB – Davison Colimon, FIU, Jr.
LB – Harris Gaston, UAB, Sr.
DB – Kentrell Brice, Louisiana Tech, Jr.
DB – Adairius Barnes, Louisiana Tech, Jr.
DB – Wes Miller, UTEP, Sr.
DB – Le'Vander Liggins, Louisiana Tech, Sr.
DB – Emmanuel Johnson, Southern Miss, Sr.
DB – Corey Tindal, Marshall, So.
DB – Jimmy Jean, UAB, Sr.
DB – Devin Cockrell, UTEP, So.
DB – Cre'von LeBlanc, Florida Atlantic, Jr.
DB – Julius White, Rice, Sr.
DB – Jacorius Cotton, Southern Miss, Sr.,
DB – Rolan Milligan, UAB, Jr.
DB – Cam Thomas, WKU, Sr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

K – Trevor Moore, North Texas, Fr.
K – Kyle Fischer, Louisiana Tech, So.
K – Garrett Schwettman, WKU, Jr.
K – Ty Long, UAB, Sr.
P – Hunter Mullins, UAB, Sr.
P – Kristian Stern, UTSA, Sr.
P – Eric Keena, North Texas, So.
KR – Richard Leonard, FIU, Jr.
KR – Carlos Henderson, Louisiana Tech, Fr.
KR – Reggie Whatley, Middle Tennessee, Sr.
KR – D'Joun Smith, Florida Atlantic
PR – Tommy Shuler, Marshall, Sr.
PR – Antonio Vaughan, Old Dominion, Sr.
LS – Rick Lovato, Old Dominion, Sr.
LS – Dallas Noriega, UAB, Sr.
LS – Nolan Dowling, WKU, So.

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