



NEWS RELEASE

AMERICAN FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION

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WAYNE STATE'S JOIQUE BELL, SAGINAW VALLEY STATE'S JOHN JACOBS HEADLINE 2009 AFCA DIVISION II COACHES' ALL-AMERICA TEAM

WACO, TEX. — Wayne State (Mich.) runningback **Joique Bell** and Saginaw Valley State (Mich.) linebacker **John Jacobs** headline the 2009 AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team announced today by the American Football Coaches Association.

The AFCA has selected an All-America team since 1945 and currently selects teams in all five of its divisions. What makes these teams so special is that they are the only ones chosen exclusively by the men who know the players the best — the coaches themselves.

At the conclusion of the regular season, Bell led all four NCAA divisions in rushing yards per game (189.45), scoring (17.5 points per game) and all-purpose yards (217.5 per game). Jacobs led Division II in total tackles with 149 and ranked third with 71 solo tackles. He also recorded 14.5 tackles for a loss, four interceptions and 3.5 sacks.

2009 AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team

Offense

Pos	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	School	Coach	Hometown (High School)
WR	Frederick Bruno	5-8	205	Jr.	Wayne St. (Neb.)	Dan McLaughlin	Miami, Fla. (Miami Springs)
WR	Mike Harris	6-1	192	Sr.	Shippensburg	Rocky Rees	East Earl, Pa. (Garden Spot)
OL	Nick McDonald	6-5	310	Sr.	Grand Valley St.	Chuck Martin	Sterling Heights, Mich. (Henry Ford II)
OL	Andy Schoonover	6-3	301	Sr.	Minnesota St.-Mankato	Todd Hoffner	Boyceville, Wis. (Boyceville)
C	Jack Hiatt	6-2	255	Sr.	Nebraska-Kearney	Darrell Morris	Arvada, Colo. (Arvada West)
OL	Jared Veldheer	6-9	321	Sr.	Hillsdale	Keith Otterbein	Grand Rapids, Mich. (Forest Hills Northern)
OL	Tony Washington	6-7	305	Sr.	Abilene Christian	Chris Thomsen	New Orleans, La. (Alcee Fortier)
QB	Nick Graziano	6-2	227	Sr.	Arkansas Tech	Steve Mullins	Moraga, Calif. (Campolindo)
RB	Joique Bell*	6-1	223	Sr.	Wayne St. (Mich.)	Paul Winters	Benton Harbor, Mich. (Benton Harbor)
RB	Isaac Odum	6-0	215	Jr.	Minnesota-Duluth	Bob Nielson	Rochester, Minn. (Century)
RB	Jonas Randolph	5-10	185	So.	Mars Hill	Tim Clifton	Daleville, Ala. (Daleville)

Defense

Pos	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	School	Coach	Hometown (High School)
DL	Xavier Brown	6-5	245	Jr.	C.W. Post	Bryan Collins	Bay Shore, N.Y. (Brentwood)
DL	Marc Schiechl	6-3	255	Jr.	Colorado Mines	Bob Stitt	Lakewood, Colo. (Bear Creek)
DL	Eugene Sims	6-6	235	Sr.	West Texas A&M	Don Carthel	Mt. Olive, Miss. (Mize)
DL	Cedric Thornton	6-5	266	Jr.	Southern Arkansas	Bill Keopple	Star City, Ark. (Star City)
LB	Lardester Hicks-Green	6-1	235	Sr.	Delta St.	Ron Roberts	Chicago, Ill. (Steinmetz)
LB	John Jacobs	6-2	230	Sr.	Saginaw Valley St.	Jim Collins	Prudenville, Mich. (Midland Dow)
LB	Zach Watkins	6-0	235	Sr.	Washburn	Craig Schurig	Independence, Mo. (Truman)
LB	Buddy Wood	6-3	214	Sr.	Central Washington	Blaine Bennett	Chattaroy, Wash. (Riverside)
DB	Myles Burnsides	5-11	195	Sr.	Northwest Missouri St.	Mel Tjeerdsma	Maryville, Mo. (Maryville)
DB	Josh Jones	5-10	185	Sr.	Harding	Ronnie Huckeba	Carson, Calif. (Bishop Montgomery)
DB	Quintez Smith	6-0	186	Sr.	Shaw	Darrell Asberry	Dublin, Ga. (Dublin)

Specialists

Pos	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	School	Coach	Hometown (High School)
P	Kevin Berg	6-0	180	Jr.	Chadron St.	Bill O'Boyle	Longmont, Colo. (Longmont)
PK	Greg Zuerlein	6-0	183	Jr.	Nebraska-Omaha	Pat Behrns	Lincoln, Neb. (Pius X)
AP	Akwasi Owusu-Ansah	6-1	205	Sr.	Indiana (Pa.)	Lou Tepper	Columbus, Ohio (Whetstone)

*-2006 AFCA All-American

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Team Background: The AFCA has selected an All-America team every year since 1945. What makes these teams so special is that they are the only ones chosen exclusively by the men who know the players the best — the coaches themselves.

The five teams now chosen for each AFCA division evolved from a single 11-player squad in 1945. From 1945 until 1967, only one team was chosen. From 1967 through 1971, two teams, University Division and College Division, were selected. In 1972, the College Division was split into College I and College II. In 1979, the University Division was split into two teams — FBS and FCS. In 1996, the College I and College II teams were renamed Division II and Division III respectively. In 2006, the AFCA started selecting an NAIA-only team.

From 1965-81, a 22-player (11 offensive, 11 defensive) team was chosen. In 1982, a punter and placekicker were added to the team. In 1997, a return specialist was added, giving us the current 25-player team. The return specialist position was replaced by an all-purpose player in 2006.

Selection Process: The AFCA's Division II All-America Selection Committee is made up of three head coaches from each of the AFCA's nine districts, one of whom serves as a district chairman, along with another head coach who serves as the chairman of the selection committee. The coaches in each district are responsible for ranking the top players in their respective districts prior to a conference call between the district chairmen and the committee chairman on which the team is chosen.

Top Teams: Texas A&M-Kingsville has been represented a total of 32 times by 28 players on the AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team. Trailing Texas A&M-Kingsville is Indiana (Pa.) (18/16), Pittsburg State (17/14), North Alabama (15/14), Northwest Missouri State (15/11), American International (14/13), Carson-Newman (14/13), Grand Valley State (14/13), Ferris State (14/12), Texas A&M-Commerce (14/12).

Consecutive Years: Texas A&M-Kingsville had at least one player named to the AFCA Division II Coaches' All-America Team for 18 straight seasons, from 1986 to 2003, the longest streak by any team in Division II.

Repeat After Me: Texas A&M-Kingsville's **Johnny Bailey** is the only player to earn Coaches' All-America honors in four consecutive years at any level. Bailey was a four-year pick at runningback in 1986-87-88-89.

One Player, Two Schools: Punter **Mark Bounds** is the only player to earn Coaches' All-America honors at two different schools. He was named to the AFCA College Division I team in 1990 while playing for West Texas A&M. He transferred to Texas Tech after West Texas dropped football and earned I-A All-America honors as a Red Raider in 1991.

Class Distinction: This year's Division II Coaches' All-America Team is made up of 17 seniors, seven juniors and one sophomore.

First Time School: **Quintez Smith** of Shaw is the first player from his school to earn AFCA Coaches' All-America Team honors.

For more information on the AFCA and its programs log on to the AFCA's website at www.afca.com.

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