

NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE ATHLETES EARN SCHOLAR-ATHLETE STATUS

ORANGE CITY — The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics announced on Tuesday, Dec. 13, football athletes who have been named 2022 Daktronics NAIA Scholar Athletes. Seventeen Red Raider football student-athletes were honored.

To be recognized as an NAIA Scholar Athlete, a student-athlete is nominated by the institution's head coach or sports information director with the criteria of maintaining a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5, appearing on the eligibility certificate for the sport and attending the institution for at least one full academic year.

The Raiders were led by seniors Noah Van't Hof of Lester and Tanner Oleson of Larchwood, who each pick up the honor for the fourth time in their Northwestern careers, both utilizing their COVID seasons.

Five more athletes earned the honor for the third time: seniors Jaden Snyder of Larchwood, Bryce Paulsen of Marshall,

Minnesota, and Garrett Raymon of Hills, Minn. Juniors Adam Gubbels of Council Bluffs and Drake Harder of Bingham Lake, Minn., also have won the honor three times.

Earning the honor for the second time were junior Jordan DeSmet of Larchwood and sophomores Jackson Hofland of Orange City, Parker Fryar of Waukee and Will Faber of Lynden, Washington.

Earning the honor for the first time were senior Lucas Nagel of Little Rock, sophomores Drew Quinlin of Oregon, Missouri, and Ryan Dodds of Jefferson, South Dakota and freshmen Grant Louwagie of Marshall, Minn., Logan Dykstra of Lynden, Wash., and Trystin Voss of Rogersville, Missouri.

Eastern Oregon led the nation with 30 honorees, while Carroll College of Montana and Morningside University followed with 28 and 27, respectively. More than 900 football student-athletes were honored for their work in the classroom.

Rocket league wins conference crown

ORANGE CITY — The Northwestern College Rocket League team completed the 2022 National Esports Collegiate Conference Emergents Great Plains season, defeating Wartburg to win the conference championship on Friday, Dec. 9.

The varsity squad, consisting of junior Brady Wynia of Orange City, freshman Luke Lundquist of Omaha, Nebraska, and freshman Karlton Reuter of Orange City, put together a 16-7 overall record, going 10-1 in NECC matches.

Northwestern opened the year at the Collegiate Esports Invitational in Mankato, Minnesota, where they took fifth place against the region's top competition.

"The tournament was a great way to kick off the season with a burst of matches that provided good game day experience and pressure all at once," said Director of Esports Cole Prescott.

After defeating Southern Illinois of Edwardsville to start the season, the Raiders fell to Wartburg in their second match.

The loss was a motivating factor as Northwestern did not lose an NECC game for the rest of the year.

The Raiders also are a part of the National Association of Collegiate Esports Star League, where they faced opponents from schools across the country. Although Northwestern dropped more matches in their NACE season, it provided a measuring stick for the team ahead of their conference tournament.

"We played a few extremely tough teams and experienced a lot of adversity," said Prescott. "That allowed us to come into the NECC playoffs playing at our peak without being overconfident and careless."

In the NECC Emergents Great Plains tournament, the Raiders defeated Hastings 3-1 in the quarterfinals before a semifinal victory over Concordia of St. Paul, Minn. Northwestern went up 2-0 before giving up the next two, setting up a decisive series finale. A 3-2 win placed the Raiders in the NECC Great Plains title match, where they avenged their loss to Wartburg with a 4-1 win.

"The CSP game the week before couldn't have been any better preparation for the finals against Wartburg," Prescott said. "It kept us grinding hard that final week of practice, and we came in ready to play solid Rocket League. The game against Wartburg was competitive, but we held control for most of the series."

Prescott credits the work of Klayton Wielenga for the success of the team due to his expertise in Rocket League, and is also excited for the future of the Raider program. The team's three varsity members return to the squad for the spring and the 2023 season as they will look to defend their conference championship.

ATHLETES ARE NAMED NAIA FOOTBALL ALL-AMERICANS

ORANGE CITY — The American Football Coaches Association announced on Thursday, Dec. 15, their 2022 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics All-America teams. The 2022 Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) Defensive Player of the Year Parker Fryar of Northwestern College was named a first-team All-American.

"Parker had an outstanding season," said head football coach Matt McCarty. "He played a key role in on of the top defensive units in the nation!"

Fryar, of Waukee, led the Red Raider defense that ranked nationally in multiple statistical categories. The sophomore ball hawk held down a defense that was in the top five in the NAIA, fourth in total defense, allowing an average of 222.8 yards per game, and in rush defense with 59.8 rushing yards on average allowed per game.

For the third-straight season, the linebacker led the team in tackles, recording 108 on the season entering the national championship game. Through 13 games played, Fryar leads the GPAC in total tackles, just one of two athletes in the conference to notch 100-plus stops on the season. Additionally, he was one of four to average 8-plus tackles per game, fourth in the league at 8.3 tackles per contest on average.

As a team captain, Fryar also made a difference in the passing game. Recording six pass break-ups, a four-way tie for second on the team, Fryar was a threat. Two interceptions on the year also is second. Additionally, Fryar tied for first on the team with two forced fumbles on the season.

Fryar earned a second-career All-American honor and first honor by the AFCA. This year's first-team honors marks the first time for him, following NAIA honorable-mention accolades in 2021.

Three Red Raiders are NAIA honorable mention picks for

the 2022 AFCA All-American group: seniors Blake Anderson of Oakland, Nebraska, Greg Will of Spirit Lake and Jaden Snyder of Larchwood.

Anderson, a senior captain, brought formidable coverage against opponents at a tight-end position. Anderson was third on the team with 509 receiving yards on the third-best 40 catches. Anderson grabbed five touchdown throws and averaged 39.2 yards per game. Anderson also won First Team All-Conference honors for the Red Raiders this season.

Will was instrumental on the offensive line for Northwestern. Whether it was protecting the pocket or blocking on a run, Will helped pace an offense that has put up the second-best offensive numbers this season, an average of 467.2 yards per game, including a top-10 rushing offense at 206.8 rushing yards per game, ninth in the NAIA. Will also received First Team All-Conference recognition.

Snyder, a captain at defensive back, helped to shore up the back end of the top-five defense in the NAIA this season, a unit that allowed an average of 222.8 yards per contest before the Saturday, Dec. 17, NAIA championship contest. Snyder was tied for the team lead with eight pass break-ups, also recording two interceptions. Snyder also recorded 20 tackles, 12 being solo tackles from a safety position. Snyder also received first-team all-conference honors this season.

The AFCA's NAIA All-America Selection Committee is made up of two head coaches from each of the AFCA's seven 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.

We're a UPS drop off location!
Drop off your Christmas packages to us!
-Starting at \$4 per package



Pluim Print & Publishing 113 Central Avenue SE
Orange City, IA 51041

SCHEDULE

NORTHWESTERN

- Thursday, Dec. 29**
Men's basketball versus Dakota State, Bellevue Classic, Bellevue, Neb., 2 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 30**
Men's basketball versus Bellevue, Bellevue Classic, Bellevue, Neb., 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 6, 2023**
Basketball hosts Jamestown, women at 5 p.m., men at 6:45 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023**
Wrestling at Hastings Open, Hastings, Neb., 9 a.m.
Basketball hosts Hastings, women at 2 p.m., men at 3:45 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2023**
Basketball at Mount Marty, women at 6 p.m., men at 7:45 p.m.
Wrestling at Briar Cliff, Sioux City, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 13, 2023**
Wrestling at Jamestown, 4:30 p.m.
Wrestling versus Dickinson State, Jamestown, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023**
Indoor track and field at Dordt Indoor Open, 9:30 a.m.
Basketball hosts Midland, women at 2 p.m., men at 3:45 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023**
Basketball at Briar Cliff, 6 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.

Schedule (times are approximate)

UNITY CHRISTIAN

- Saturday, Dec. 31**
Boys hockey at Watertown, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2023**
Girls basketball at Bishop Heelan, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 6, 2023**
Basketball at Remsen St. Mary, girls at 6 p.m., boys at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023**
Basketball hosts Sioux Falls Christian, girls at 2 p.m., boys at 6 p.m.
Girls hockey hosts Watertown, Sioux Center, 2:30 p.m.
Boys hockey hosts Brandon Valley, 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023**
Girls hockey hosts Mitchell, 11:45 a.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023**
Basketball at Boyden-Hull, girls at 6 p.m., boys at 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023**
Boys basketball hosts Gehlen Catholic, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 13, 2023**
Basketball hosts Hinton, girls at 6:15 p.m., boys at 7:30 p.m.
Girls hockey at Sioux Falls, 7:45 p.m.
Boys hockey at Brookings, 8 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023**
Girls hockey hosts Aberdeen, 4:30 p.m.

Schedule (times are approximate)

MOC-FLOYD VALLEY

- Thursday, Dec. 22**
Basketball at Rock Valley, girls at 6 p.m., boys at 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 2, 2023**
Girls wrestling meet at Orab Invite, Sheldon, 4:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023**
Basketball at Sioux Center, girls at 6 p.m., boys at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 6, 2023**
Wrestling at Jerry Hentges Dual Tournament, Spirit Lake, 4:30 p.m.
Basketball at Okoboji, girls at 6 p.m., boys at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 10, 2023**
Wrestling at West Sioux, 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023**
Wrestling quadrangular at Sibley-Ocheyedan, 6 p.m.
Basketball at Le Mars, girls at 5:30 p.m., boys at 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023**
Wrestling double dual, Sioux Center, girls at 6 p.m., boys at 6:15 p.m.
Basketball at Sibley-Ocheyedan, girls at 6 p.m., boys at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 13, 2023**
Girls wrestling meet, Ridge View, 5 p.m.
Basketball hosts Sheldon, girls at 5 p.m., boys at 7:30 p.m.

Schedule (times are approximate)

If you would like to ADVERTISE Call/Email Luke Perry 712-737-4266 or luke@pluimpublishinginc.com

PREMIER COMMUNICATIONS Looking Ahead NORTHWEST IOWA'S LEADER IN VOICE, VIDEO AND DATA COMMUNICATIONS www.mypremieronline.com • 800-741-8351 339 1st Ave Ne, Sioux Center

Josh Goslinga, AAMS Financial Advisor 614 8th St Se Orange City, IA 51041 712-737-8279
Travis Netten Financial Advisor 614 8th St Se Orange City, IA 51041 712-737-8279
Mark P Lundberg, CFP®, ChFC, CLU Financial Advisor 109 Third St Ne Orange City, IA 51041 712-737-3779
Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING member SIPC

Matthew Weg Agent 715 8th Street SE Orange City, IA 51041 Bus 712-737-2276 matt.weg.d3xm@statefarm.com
State Farm Build a bundle. Save a bundle.