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Gateway Announces 1997 Academic All-Conference Football Team

ST. LOUIS — Thirty-three student-athletes, including 12 who earned first-team honors, highlight the 1997 Gateway Conference all-academic team, announced by the league office today.

Two -- **Matt Gajewski** of Indiana State and **Travis Schipper** of Northern Iowa -- are repeat first-team honorees. Gajewski holds a 3.82 cumulative grade point average and is a life sciences major, while holding down the starting QB job for ISU. Schipper was a senior starting linebacker at Northern Iowa. The accounting major has a 3.67 cumulative grade point average.

The criteria for the Gateway Academic All-Conference team voting parallels the GTE/CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America) standards for academic all-America voting. Nominees must be starters or important reserves with at least a 3.00 cumulative grade point average (4.0 scale). Student-athletes must have reached sophomore academic and athletic standing at their institutions (freshmen are not eligible) and must have completed at least one full academic year at their institution. League sports information directors voted on the team by designating 11 players for first-team honors and 11 players for second-team honors. A total of 52 Gateway student-athletes met the criteria this season.

1997 Gateway Academic All-Conference Football Team

(voting by league SIDs)

FIRST TEAM

Student-Athlete	School	Yr.	GPA	Major	Hometown/Previous School
PK Travis Brawner	Southwest Mo. St.	So.	4.00	Biology	Branson (Mo.) High
WR Jim Farrell	Western Illinois	Sr.	3.80	History	Palatine (Ill.) Fremd High
QB Matt Gajewski	Indiana State	Jr.	3.82	Life Sciences	Nashville (Ill.) High
DB Jeff Killeen	Southwest Mo. St.	So.	3.92	Biology	Omaha (Neb.) Millard South High
OL Jason Krivis	Southern Illinois	Sr.	4.0	Community Health	Crystal Lake (Ill.) Crystal Lake South High
DL Troy Lefevra	Indiana State	So.	3.88	Graphic Design	Huntertown (Ind.) Carroll High
OC Brad Meester	Northern Iowa	So.	3.87	Management	Parkersburg (Iowa) Aplington-Parkersburg High
DE Matt Peterson	Northern Iowa	So.	3.49	Biology	Cedar Falls (Iowa) High
CB Anthony Pannunzio	Youngstown State	Jr.	3.70	Civil Engineering	Canfield (Ohio) High
LB Travis Schipper	Northern Iowa	Sr.	3.67	Accounting	Aplington (Iowa) Aplington-Parkersburg High
OL Brian Sitz	Indiana State	So.	3.60	Safety Management	Rensselaer (Ind.) High
P J.J. Stefancin	Youngstown State	Jr.	3.97	Pre-Medicine	Champion (Ohio) High

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1997 Gateway Academic All-Conference Football Team

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SECOND TEAM

LB Joe Dunn	Indiana State	Sr.	3.38	Sports Management	Cincinnati (Ohio) Anderson High
QB Jeff Hecklinski	Western Illinois	Sr.	3.13	Communications	Palatine (Ill.) High
DL Shannon Jackson	Indiana State	So.	3.50	Criminology	Fort Wayne (Ind.) Harding High
DL Jake Jacobsmeyer	Southwest Mo. St.	Sr.	3.53	Psychology	St. Louis (Mo.) University High
LB Ty Locatelli	Western Illinois	Jr.	3.03	Physical Education	Boulder Creek (Colo.) San Lorenzo High
OL Josh McCall	Western Illinois	So.	3.85	Computer Science	Macomb (Ill.) High
LB Matt Pedersen	Northern Iowa	So.	3.25	Marketing	Hudson (Iowa) High
P Anthony Rozzo	Youngstown State	So.	3.67	Chemistry	McDonald (Ohio) High
TE Brad St. Louis	Southwest Mo. St.	So.	3.23	Nutrition	Belton (Mo.) High
OL Ryan Touhey	Southwest Mo. St.	Sr.	3.56	Health & Physical Education	Springfield (Mo.) Glendale High
OT Jason Whittle	Southwest Mo. St.	Sr.	3.38	Health & Physical Education	Camdenton (Mo.) High
QB Jared Zwick	Youngstown State	So.	3.76	Biology	Orrville (Ohio) High

HONORABLE MENTION

QB Toby Deal (Indiana State); LB Brad Duke (Southwest Missouri State); WR Reggie Fowler (Southern Illinois); OT Andy Pattee (Northern Iowa); LB Cory Pierce (Indiana State); DL Don Shymkewich (Western Illinois); OL Jim VanVlymen (Western Illinois); DB Chris Wilson (Indiana State); DE Luke Wilson (Northern Iowa).

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