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David Bowens of Western Illinois Tabbed Gateway Newcomer of the Year

ST. LOUIS — For the third straight year, a player from Western Illinois is Gateway Football Conference Newcomer of the Year. David Bowens of Western Illinois heads a list of 23 student-athletes named to the 1998 Gateway Football Conference All-Newcomer Team. Gateway coaches, sports information directors and a media panel selected the team.

Bowens, a first-team all-Gateway Conference selection on the defensive line, is a transfer from the University of Michigan. He and Illinois State's Chad Pegues, also a defensive lineman, are the only two Gateway Newcomer Team talents to earn first-team all-Gateway football honors as well.

Bowens is one of four Western Illinois defensive players to earn first-team All-Newcomer honors. Southwest Missouri State (7) and Illinois State (6) led the league with the numbers of players earning selection to the all-newcomer units. The top 11 vote-getters (plus ties) on offense and defense were named to the team, which appears below.

PREVIOUS GATEWAY NEWCOMERS OF THE YEAR	
1997	Aaron Stecker, RB, WIU
1996	Vince Bruno, LB, WIU
1995	Jason Cannon, WR, SMS
1994	Buck Phillips, CB, WIU

OFFENSE	School	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous Schools)
Adam Bengé	Northern Iowa	RB	5-9	185	Fr.	Ankeny (Iowa) High
Aveion Cason	Illinois State	RB	5-9	200	So.	St. Petersburg (Fla.) Lakewood High
Justin Craun	Southwest Mo. State	OL	6-5	277	So.	Weatherford (Texas) High/Iowa
Tacoma Fontaine	Southwest Mo. State	WR	6-1	170	Jr.	Hurst (Texas) Western Hills High/Ranger (Texas) Junior College
Sheraton Fox	Indiana State	QB	5-9	170	Fr.	Bartow (Fla.) High
Cory Grow	Illinois State	WR	6-1	195	Jr.	St. George (Utah) Hunter High/Dixie Community College
Jeff Hewitt	Southwest Mo. State	WR	5-11	182	So.	Jacksonville (Fla.) Bishop Kenny High/Fort Scott (Kan.) CC
Andy King	Illinois State	OL	6-3	300	Fr.	Lincoln (Ill.) High
Eric Owens	Southwest Mo. State	OL	6-5	278	Fr.	Creston (Iowa) High
Jeff Ryan	Youngstown State	QB	6-1	185	Fr.	Boardman (Ohio) High
Dorrick Roy	Northern Iowa	TE	6-3	246	Sr.	Inglewood (Calif.) Montclair Prep/Nebraska
Sam Zanders	Illinois State	RB	5-11	215	Jr.	Arlington (Va.) Washington & Lee High/Clemson
DEFENSE	School	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous Schools)
David Bowens	Western Illinois	DL	6-4	245	Jr.	Pontiac (Mich.) Orchard Lakes (Mich.) St. Mary's High/Michigan
Abie Camacho	Western Illinois	DL	6-2	270	Sr.	Crestwood (Ill.) Palos Heights Shepard High/Northern Illinois
Sam Elmore	Western Illinois	CB	6-1	180	So.	Banning (Calif.) High/Wisconsin
Mike Gailey	Southwest Mo. State	DB	6-0	182	Fr.	Russellville (Ark.) High
Edgerton Hartwell	Western Illinois	LB	6-2	230	Jr.	Las Vegas (Nev.) Cheyenne High/Wisconsin
Isaac Harvin	Southwest Mo. State	DB	6-0	190	Jr.	Ft. Myers (Fla.) Cape Coral High/Garden City (Kan.) CC
P.J. Jones	Southwest Mo. State	LB	6-4	255	Fr.	Bonne Terre (Mo.) North County High
Jack Mitchell	Northern Iowa	DL	6-3	261	Jr.	Redondo Beach (Calif.) Redondo Union High/Iowa State
Chad Pegues	Illinois State	DL	6-2	285	Sr.	Gainesville (Texas) High/Miami
Bart Scott	Southern Illinois	LB	6-2	200	Fr.	Warson (Mich.) Southeastern High
Marcus White	Illinois State	LB	6-3	230	Jr.	Evanston (Ill.) High/Wisconsin