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For Immediate Release

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## Hill Trophy Winner Scott, Upshaw Award Winner Collins Headline 2008 *Football Gazette* All-America Team

PITTSBURG, Kan. —Harlon Hill Trophy winner **Bernard Scott** and Gene Upshaw Award winner **Sam Collins** of Abilene Christian headline a talented 2008 *Don Hansen's Football Gazette* NCAA Division II All-America team.

Scott, who captured the Division II National Player of the Year honors after finishing as the 2007 Hill Trophy runner-up, and quarterback **Ted Schlafke**, who led Minnesota Duluth to an unblemished 15-0 record and the 2008 NCAA Division II National Championship, shared Offensive Back of the Year honors. **Charly Martin** of West Texas A&M was named the Receiver of the Year, while Collins garnered Offensive Lineman of the Year accolades. Collins also received the sixth annual NCAA-II Rimington Award as the division's top offensive center. †

On defense, **Troy Pribnow** of Wayne State (Neb.) claimed Lineman of the Year honors, while **Clay Beeler** of West Liberty State earned Linebacker of the Year. **Myles Burnside**s of Northwest Missouri State earned Defensive Back of the Year. Punter **Nick Krut** of East Stroudsburg and return specialist **Samuel Tranks** of Seton Hill shared the Specialist of the Year award.

Minnesota Duluth's **Bob Nielson**, who returned to the sideline following a four-year hiatus in which he served solely as the school's director of athletics to guide the Bulldogs to a 15-0 record and the 2008 NCAA Division II National Championship, and Northwest Missouri State's **Mel Tjeerdsma**, who led the Bearcats to their fourth straight appearance in the NCAA-II National Championship Game, shared National Coach of the Year honors.

Scott, a senior from Vernon, Texas, rushed for 2,156 yards and 28 touchdowns and caught 47 passes for 826 yards and another six TDs. He led Division II in scoring (17.0 ppg) and all-purpose yards (256.8 ypg) and ranked second nationally in rushing with a 179.7 yard average per game. Collins, a senior from Denton, Texas, helped pave the way up front for Scott and the Wildcats. He anchored an offensive line that helped ACU lead Division II in scoring (52.3 ppg) and total offense (558.8 ypg) as the Wildcats posted an 11-1 record and reached the NCAA-II quarterfinals.

Schlafke, a senior from Stevens Point, Wis., helped lead one of the most impressive one-year turnarounds in Division II history as he guided the Bulldogs to a 15-0 record and the national championship one year after UMD battled injuries during a 4-6 campaign in 2007. Schlafke passed for 3,018 yards and 35 touchdowns on the season and he added 495 yards and seven scores on the ground.

This marks the 21st year *Don Hansen's Football Gazette*, a recognized authority on small college football, has selected an NCAA Division II All-America team. The national publication selected All-Region teams with the first-team and second-team All-Region players from each of the four geographic regions (Super Region One – former Northeast; Super Region Two – former Southeast; Super Region Three – former Northwest; Super Region Four – former Southwest) comprising the national ballot, which was voted upon by a select national panel.

A total of 158 players earned some form of *Football Gazette* All-America honors. Players from 69 of the 150 football-playing schools in Division II earned *Football Gazette* All-America accolades. National Champion Minnesota Duluth and National Runner-up NW Missouri State led the way by placing eight players apiece on All-America squad.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** please contact *Football Gazette* National Coordinator Dan Wilkes, Sports Information Director at Pittsburg State University, at 620-235-4147 ([dwilkes@pittstate.edu](mailto:dwilkes@pittstate.edu)). The *Football Gazette* web site is located at [www.donhansen.com](http://www.donhansen.com). The 2008 *Don Hansen's Football Gazette* All-America Team also is available at [www.pittstategorillas.com/footballgazette](http://www.pittstategorillas.com/footballgazette).

† The Boomer Esiason Foundation, which established the Dave Rimington Trophy in 2000 to honor the outstanding NCAA BCS center, expanded that award in 2003 to include the top center on each of the Don Hansen's Football Gazette NCAA FCS, DII, DIII and NAIA All-America squads. The Rimington Trophy web site is located at [www.rimingtontrophy.com](http://www.rimingtontrophy.com). Esiason, a high-octane Maryland quarterback, and Rimington, a nonpareil center for Nebraska, were NFL teammates at Cincinnati in the mid-1980s.

In 1993, Esiason created the New York City based foundation that bears his name to raise funds for the treatment and research of cystic fibrosis, a genetic disease his son Gunnar has battled since infancy.

## First Team Offense

POS	NAME	HT	WT	YR	SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
QB	Ted Schlafke	6-0	185	SR	Minnesota Duluth	Stevens Point, Wis.
RB	Bernard Scott	5-11	200	SR	Abilene Christian	Vernon, Texas
RB	Jerry Seymour	5-7	195	SR	Glenville State	Miramar, Fla.
FB	Galen Stone	6-2	225	JR	Saginaw Valley State	Grand Blanc, Mich.
WR	Charly Martin	6-2	210	SR	West Texas A&M	Houston, Texas
WR	Johnny Spevak	6-3	200	JR	Central Washington	Edgewood, Wash.
TE	Jerrell NeSmith	6-2	215	JR	Tusculum	Russellville, Ala.
C	Sam Collins	6-0	270	SR	Abilene Christian	Denton, Texas
OG	Nate Baier	6-3	290	SR	Minnesota Duluth	Bloomer, Wis.
OG	Jeremy Davis	6-3	300	SR	NW Missouri State	Port Neches, Texas
OT	Mitch Cady	6-6	290	SR	Minnesota Duluth	Wayzata, Minn.
OT	Nick Urban	6-5	300	SR	Winona State	Brookfield, Wis.
AP	Trevar Deed	5-11	205	SO	Delta State	Phoenix, Ariz.
PK	Tom Schneider	6-0	195	SR	North Alabama	Walnut Creek, Calif.

## First Team Defense

POS	NAME	HT	WT	YR	SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
DE	Ricky Hope	6-1	250	SR	A&M-Commerce	Poulan, Ga.
DE	Troy Pribnow	6-3	250	SR	Wayne State (Neb.)	Scribner, Neb.
DG/DT	Matt Cox	6-0	260	SR	Western Oregon	Salem, Ore.
DG/DT	Jake Visser	6-2	275	SR	Ferris State	Coopersville, Mich.
LB	Clay Beeler	6-1	225	SO	West Liberty State	Waverly, Ohio
LB	Jared Brock	6-1	232	SR	West Texas A&M	Abernathy, Texas
LB	Ruzell McCoy	5-10	210	SR	Southwestern Oklahoma	Frederick, Okla.
CB	Darren Banks	5-10	185	SR	West Liberty State	Camden, N.J.
CB	Jeff Franklin	5-9	185	SR	Central State (Ohio)	Chicago, Ill.
S	Myles Burnsidess	5-11	195	JR	NW Missouri State	Maryville, Mo.
S	Eric Turner	5-11	175	SR	Glenville State	Weirton, W. Va.
P	Nick Krut	5-11	185	SR	East Stroudsburg	Clarks Summit, Pa.
RS	Samuel Tranks	6-0	185	JR	Seton Hill	Philadelphia, Pa.

## Second Team Offense

POS	NAME	HT	WT	YR	SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
QB	Mike Reilly	6-3	212	SR	Central Washington	Kalispell, Mont.
RB	LaRon Council	5-10	210	JR	NW Missouri State	Kansas City, Mo.
RB	Bobby Coy	5-10	205	JR	Mesa State	Littleton, Colo.
FB	Stefan Adams	5-10	230	JR	Bloomsburg	West Chester, Pa.
WR	Marcel Pestano	6-0	185	SR	California (Pa.)	Lehigh Acres, Fla.
WR	Mike Washington	6-0	190	SR	West Chester	Philadelphia, Pa.
TE	Ryan Paulson	6-4	230	JR	West Chester	Phoenixville, Pa.
C	Chance Galey	6-2	260	SR	Chadron State	Crawford, Neb.
OG	Thomas Battle	6-3	320	SR	Carson-Newman	Chattanooga, Tenn.
OG	Kendall Molz	6-4	275	SR	Pittsburg State	Kiowa, Kan.
OT	Nate Nurse	6-5	295	SO	California (Pa.)	Teaneck, N.J.
OT	Tony Washington	6-7	300	SR	Abilene Christian	New Orleans, La.
AP	Alfonso Hoggard	5-4	150	SO	Clarion	Philadelphia, Pa.
PK	Craig Burriss	5-11	200	SO	Indiana (Pa.)	Medina, Ohio

## Second Team Defense

POS	NAME	HT	WT	YR	SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
DE	Matt Galadyk	6-4	240	JR	Seton Hill	Colonial, N.J.
DE	Danny Richard	6-4	250	SO	Grand Valley State	West Bloomfield, Mich.
DG/DT	Louis Ellis	6-3	315	SR	Shaw	Jackson, Minn.
DG/DT	Dan Skuta	6-3	265	SR	Grand Valley State	Flint, Mich.
LB	Jeffrey Cargile	5-9	200	SR	Morehouse	Cincinnati, Tenn.
LB	Lardester Hicks-Green	6-1	235	JR	Delta State	Chicago, Ill.
LB	Zach Watkins	6-0	230	JR	Washburn	Independence, Mo.
CB	Devon Hughes	5-11	180	SR	Henderson State	Marlin, Texas
CB	David Raymond	5-11	190	SR	North Alabama	Atlanta, Ga.
S	Dante Dunn	5-10	188	SR	Wayne State (Mich.)	Lansing, Mich.
S	Alex Kuhlman	6-3	205	SO	Pittsburg State	Ness City, Kan.
P	Zach Boyd	6-2	240	SR	Concord (W. Va.)	Christiansburg, Va.
RS	Deante Steele	5-7	175	SO	Shepherd	Woodbridge, Va.

### Third Team Offense

POS	NAME	HT	WT	YR	SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
QB	Corey Russell	6-4	190	SR	Tusculum	Speedwell, Tenn.
RB	Brian McNeill	5-9	180	SR	Nebraska-Omaha	Philadelphia, Pa.
RB	Isaac Odum	6-0	215	SO	Minnesota Duluth	Rochester, Minn.
FB	Jeremy Huber	5-11	242	SR	Augustana (S.D.)	Sioux Falls, S.D.
WR	Julius Pruitt	6-3	210	SR	Ouachita Baptist	Newport, Ark.
WR	DJ Winfield	5-8	170	FR	Minnesota Duluth	Mountain Iron, Mich.
TE	Isaac Stockton	6-3	237	JR	Chadron State	Colorado Springs, Colo.
C	Tubias Lemeke	6-5	340	JR	Minnesota Duluth	Essen, Germany
OG	Matt Bosso	6-2	315	SR	Bloomsburg	Camp Hill, Pa.
OG	Joseph Thompson	6-3	315	SR	Abilene Christian	Dallas, Texas
OT	Terence Crosby	6-3	295	JR	Catawba	Winston-Salem, N.C.
OT	J'Marcus Webb	6-8	320	JR	West Texas A&M	Mesquite, Texas
AP	Caleb Farabi	5-7	171	SR	Pittsburg State	Pittsburg, Kan.
AP	Samuel Tranks	6-0	185	JR	Seton Hill	Philadelphia, Pa.
PK	Matt Adams	5-10	180	SR	Abilene Christian	Abilene, Texas

### Third Team Defense

POS	NAME	HT	WT	YR	SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
DE	TL Asbury	6-5	245	SR	Charleston (W. Va.)	Frazier's Bottom, W. Va.
DE	Sean Paddock	6-2	255	JR	NW Missouri State	Bettendorf, Iowa
DG/DT	Jon Ochs	6-0	250	SR	Bloomsburg	Wind Gap, Pa.
DG/DT	Marc Schiechl	6-3	250	SR	Colorado Mines	Lakewood, Colo.
LB	Michael Dell	6-3	245	JR	West Chester	Hummelstown, Pa.
LB	Matt Freed	5-10	205	SO	East Stroudsburg	Souderton, Pa.
LB	Justin Scott	6-3	235	SR	Tusculum	Jamestown, N.C.
CB	Andrew Jackson	5-11	190	JR	Merrimack	New Britain, Conn.
CB	Terrence Johnson	6-0	195	JR	California (Pa.)	Braddock, Pa.
S	Caylon Hann	5-10	170	SO	N.C.-Pembroke	Homestead, Fla.
S	Sherard Reynolds	5-10	185	SR	Valdosta State	Moultrie, Ga.
S	Tyler Yelk	6-0	200	SR	Minnesota Duluth	Arlington, Wis.
P	John Gregory	6-2	210	JR	Tusculum	Ooltewah, Tenn.
RS	Kelvin Rodgers	6-0	170	JR	Minnesota State	East St. Louis, Ill.

### Honorable Mention

**ALPHABETICAL, BY SCHOOL — A&M-Kingsville:** Jabir Perkins, S; Cody Smith, P; **Abilene Christian:** Emery Dudensing, FB; Billy Malone, QB; **American International:** Travis Poole, WR; Jean Simeon, DG/DT; **Ashland:** Bill Cundiff, QB; Reggie Gamble, OT; Justin Magruder, OG; **Arkansas Tech:** Torrence Wright, C; **Bemidji State:** Terrell Phelps, CB; **California (Pa.):** Juan Butler, S; Corey Garver, TE; **Carson-Newman:** Buck Washington, RB; **Catawba:** Jamelle Cuthbertson, RB; Melquan Fair, DG/DT; **Central Missouri:** DeMarco Crosby, TE; **Central Washington:** Jared Bronson, TE; Josh Gariano, C; **Central Oklahoma:** Jermelle Cudjo, DG/DT; **Chadron State:** Austin Bailey, LB; Aaron Ide, DG/DT; Maurice Threatts, RS; **Colorado State-Pueblo:** Chase Vaughn, DE; **Delta State:** Mark Ellis, OT; Ben Stallings, FB; **Edinboro:** John Bzorek, OG; Trevor Harris, QB; **Fairmont State:** David Hill, DG/DT; **Ferris State:** Kevin Noe, LB; **Findlay:** Anthony Fields, CB; **Fort Hays State:** CJ Lovett, CB; **Grand Valley State:** James Berezik, RB; Todd Carter, PK; **Henderson State:** Greg Godfrey, AP/RS; Garrett Manning, WR; **Hillsdale:** Drew Berube, DE; **Mercyhurst:** Jimmy Kokrak, LB; **Mesa State:** Jared Keating, PK; **Michigan Tech:** Phil Marbrath, RB; **Minnesota Duluth:** Ben Loth, LB; **Missouri Southern:** Jared Brawner, LB; **Missouri Western:** Roger Allen, OG; Soane Etu, DG/DT; Jamie Hanson, P; Dustin Strickler, PK; **Nebraska-Kearney:** Geoff Carnahan, P; **Nebraska-Omaha:** Jeff Souder, LB; **North Alabama:** Will Batson, P; Sam Hathorn, C; A.J. Milwee, QB; **North Greenville:** Andre Bernardi, DE; **Northeastern State:** Jarrett Byers, RS; **NW Missouri State:** Reid Kirby, OT; Joel Osborn, QB; Tom Pestock, OG; Kendall Wright, WR; **Pittsburg State:** Brandon Clark, FB; Rusty Morgan, LB; Mark Smith, QB; **Saginaw Valley State:** Matt Black, CB; John Jacobs, LB; **So. Connecticut State:** Ed Peters, C; **Tiffin:** Dyshaun Edwards, AP; **Truman:** Les Hammers, DE; **Tusculum:** Ryan Tallent, WR; **Tuskegee:** Michael Stevens, C; **Wayne State (Neb.):** Logan Master, WR; **West Alabama:** Garry Pack, LB; **West Chester:** Kennis Jones, C; Brian Staerk, OT; **West Liberty State:** Branden Ore, RB; **West Texas A&M:** Keith Null, QB; **Winona State:** Todd Burkoth, TE; Brent Yule, LB.