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## Gateway Football Announces 2007 All-Conference Squad

For the first time in seven seasons, a Gateway school has swept the league's top three specialty awards as QB **Eric Sanders** and LB **Brannon Carter** of UNI have earned this year's Gateway's top player honors. Panther head coach **Mark Farley**, meanwhile, earns Bruce Craddock Coach of the Year award honors for the second time in his career.

Although Sanders shared first-team QB honors with SIU's Nick Hill (both received an equal number of first-place and second-place votes), the senior signal-caller from UNI had a decisive edge in the Offensive Player of the Year balloting. Entering this week's game, Sanders had led the Panthers to 35 wins in his four-year career as a starter.

Carter, meanwhile, is the first Panther defender since Adam Vogt to win the league's top defensive honor. He leads the league with five interceptions and is third for the Panthers with 78 tackles. UNI led all of FCS in scoring defense in the regular season.

A finalist for the Eddie Robinson Award, given to the nation's top FCS coach, Mark Farley is this year's Gateway Coach of the Year. The Panthers, ranked No. 1 in the FCS and the top seed in this year's playoffs, became the first team in Gateway history to complete a regular season with a perfect 11-0 slate.

### 2007 Gateway Balloting

#### Offensive Player of the Year - Top 3

Pts.	Player, School
45	QB Eric Sanders, UNI
33	QB Nick Hill, Southern Illinois
27	RB Herb Donaldson, Western Illinois

#### Defensive Player of the Year - Top 4

Pts.	Player, School
38	LB Brannon Carter, UNI
23	LB Jason Williams, Western Illinois
23	LB James Terry, Youngstown State
21	LB Kye Stewart, Illinois State

## 2007 all-Gateway Football Conference Team

(selected by coaches, sports information directors and media panel)

### FIRST TEAM

QB --	Nick Hill, Southern Illinois	6-3	210	Sr.	DuQuoin (Ill.) High / Western Kentucky
	Eric Sanders, UNI	6-1	200	Sr.	Oelwein (Iowa) High
RB --	Herb Donaldson, Western Illinois	5-11	225	Jr.	St. Louis (Mo.) CBC High
	Corey Lewis, UNI	6-0	197	Jr.	St. Paul (Neb.) High
FB --	Javid Milton, Western Illinois	5-10	240	Jr.	Houston (Texas) Westfield High
WR --	Johnny Gray, UNI	5-9	185	Jr.	Deerfield Beach (Fla.) High
	Ferlando Williams, Youngstown State	6-0	195	Jr.	Warner Robins (Ga.) Northside High / Georgia Military
TE --	Clay Harbor, Missouri State	6-4	230	So.	Dwight (Ill.) High
OL --	Barret Anderson, UNI	6-3	315	Sr.	Rochester (Minn.) Mayo High
	Brandon Keith, UNI	6-6	331	Sr.	McAlester (Okla.) High
	Darren Marquez, Southern Illinois	6-4	280	Sr.	New Orleans (La.) St. Augustine High
	Chad Rinehart, UNI	6-5	308	Sr.	Boone (Iowa) High
	Brad Samsa, Youngstown State	6-3	280	Jr.	Warren (Ohio) Howland High
	Isaiah Wiggins, Illinois State	6-3	290	Sr.	Chicago (Ill.) Prosser High
PK --	Taylor Rowan, Western Illinois	6-0	185	Jr.	Melbourne (Fla.) High
DL --	James Cloud, Southern Illinois	6-2	215	Jr.	Hackensack (N.J.) High / Coffeyville Community College
	Josh Galloway, Western Illinois	6-3	250	Jr.	Reno (Nev.) High / Glendale Community College
	James Ruffin, UNI	6-4	265	So.	Burnsville (Minn.) High
	Mychal Savage, Youngstown State	6-2	300	Jr.	Hartsdale (N.Y.) New Rochelle High / Hargrave Military
LB --	Brannon Carter, UNI	6-3	233	Sr.	St. Charles (Mo.) Francis Howell North High
	Kye Stewart, Illinois State	6-0	210	Sr.	Nashville (Tenn.) Pearl-Cohn High
	James Terry, Youngstown State	6-2	235	Sr.	Stafford (Va.) Fork Union / Woodbridge High
	Jason Williams, Western Illinois	6-3	225	Jr.	Chicago (Ill.) DuSable High
DB --	Jesse Caesar, Illinois State	5-10	190	Sr.	Rockledge (Fla.) High
	Clayton Johnson, Southern Illinois	5-10	190	Jr.	Miami (Fla.) Central High
	Patrick Stoudamire, Western Illinois	5-11	190	So.	Portland (Ore.) Centennial High
	Clifford Waters, UNI	6-0	203	Sr.	Kirkwood (Mo.) High
P --	Scott Ravanesi, Southern Illinois	6-0	195	So.	Carol Stream (Ill.) Glenbard North High
RS --	Craig Turner, Southern Illinois	5-10	195	Sr.	Boutte (La.) Hahnville High

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## SECOND TEAM

QB --	Tom Zetts, Youngstown State	6-1	210	Sr.	Boardman (Ohio) High
RB --	John Randle, Southern Illinois	5-11	195	Sr.	Wichita (Kan.) Southeast High / University of Kansas
	Rafael Rice, Illinois State	5-11	220	Sr.	Los Alamitos (Calif.) Mater Dei [Santa Ana] / Fullerton JC
FB --	Rick Burgess, Southern Illinois	6-0	215	So.	Palm Beach (Fla.) William T. Dwyer High
WR --	Justin Allen, Southern Illinois	6-0	195	Sr.	Glenpool (Okla.) High / Northeast Oklahoma A&M
	Jason Horton, Illinois State	6-0	185	Sr.	Bolingbrook (Ill.) Neuqua Valley High
TE --	Derrick Bush, Youngstown State	6-4	265	Jr.	Circleville (Ohio) High
OL --	David Arkin, Missouri State	6-5	281	Fr.	Wichita (Kan.) Kapaun High
	Eric Hoffman, UNI	6-5	301	Sr.	St. Cloud (Minn.) St. Cloud Tech High
	Aaron Lockwood, Southern Illinois	6-3	305	Jr.	Topeka (Kan.) Seaman High / Barton County Community College
	Drew Sweeney, Western Illinois	6-4	295	Sr.	Rockford (Ill.) Guilford High
	Josh Tanner, Youngstown State	6-2	305	Sr.	Orlando (Fla.) Edgewater High
PK --	Brian Palmer, Youngstown State	5-11	175	Jr.	Youngstown (Ohio) Mineral Ridge High
DL --	Myles Banford, Youngstown State	6-2	237	Sr.	Anaheim (Calif.) Fountain Valley High / Santa Ana CC
	Mark Huygens, UNI	6-6	277	Jr.	Sergeant Bluff (Iowa) High
	Larry Luster, Southern Illinois	6-0	310	Sr.	Springfield (Ill.) Sacred Heart Griffin High / Harper CC
	Victor Visoky, Western Illinois	6-4	255	Fr.	Northbrook (Ill.) Glenbrook North High
LB --	Shonda Faulkner, Indiana State	6-1	215	Sr.	Poukeepsie (N.Y.) Hudson Valley High
	De'Veon Harris, UNI	6-1	215	Jr.	Pompano Beach (Fla.) Ely High
	Brandin Jordan, Southern Illinois	5-11	215	So.	Kenner (La.) John Curtis Christian High
	Chauncey Mixon, Southern Illinois	6-1	215	So.	Mobile (Ala.) Davidson High
DB --	Vince Gliatta, Youngstown State	6-1	210	Sr.	Canton (Ohio) Central Catholic High / Penn State Univ.
	Robert Hodges, Western Illinois	6-1	190	Jr.	Bradenton (Fla.) Bayshore High
	Darrell Lloyd, UNI	6-0	191	Jr.	O'Fallon (Mo.) Fort Zumwalt High
	Tom Nelson, Illinois State	6-0	200	Jr.	Arlington Heights (Ill.) John Hersey High
P --	Nathan Stokes, Missouri State	5-11	181	Sr.	Ozark (Mo.) High
RS --	Johnny Gray, UNI	5-9	185	Jr.	Deerfield Beach (Fla.) High

### Honorable Mention

**Illinois State:** RB Geno Blow, QB Luke Drone, LB Bill Hronec, KR Jason Horton • **Indiana State:** OL Jack Byrne, P Chris Johansen, OL Zach Odle • **Missouri State:** DB Marcus Colbert, RB Gerald Davis, PK Nathan Stokes, SS Roger Wright • **UNI:** DL Jordan Lacy, FB Ryan Mahaffey, CB Adam Roberts • **Southern Illinois:** TE Ryan Kernes, LB Trevor Moe, OL Shawn Smith, WR Alan Turner • **Western Illinois:** LB Jerome Bennett, LB Travis Cherry, WR Carl Sims • **Youngstown State:** P Ben Nowicki, DL Torrance Nicholson, LB Jeremiah Wright

**OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** QB Eric Sanders, UNI

**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** LB Brannon Carter, UNI

**'BRUCE CRADDOCK' GATEWAY COACH OF THE YEAR:** Mark Farley, UNI

## GATEWAY FOOTBALL CONFERENCE SPECIALTY AWARD WINNERS

### OFFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

1985	Mike Smith, QB, Northern Iowa
1986	Sean Payton, QB, Eastern Illinois
1987	Carl Boyd, RB, Northern Iowa
1988	Paul Singer, QB, Western Illinois
1989	DeAndre Smith, QB, Missouri State
1990	DeAndre Smith, QB, Missouri State
1991	Derrick Franklin, RB, Indiana State
1992	Toby Davis, RB, Illinois State
1993	Kurt Warner, QB, Northern Iowa
1994	Rob St. Sauver, QB, Western Illinois
1995	Dedric Ward, WR, Northern Iowa
1996	Dedric Ward, WR, Northern Iowa
1997	Aaron Stecker, RB, Western Illinois
1998	Karlton Carpenter, RB, S. Illinois
1999	Cornell Craig, WR, S. Illinois
2000	Charles Tharp, RB, Western Illinois
2001	P.J. Mays, RB, Youngstown State
2002	Russ Michna, QB, Western Illinois
2003	Russ Michna, QB, Western Illinois
2004	Joel Sambursky, QB, S. Illinois
2005	Laurent Robinson, WR, Illinois State
2006	Marcus Mason, RB, Youngstown St.
2007	Eric Sanders, QB, Northern Iowa

### DEFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

1985	James Houston, LB, Illinois State
	Mark Farley, LB, Northern Iowa
1986	Brian Gant, LB, Illinois State
1987	Matt Soraghan, LB, Missouri State
1988	John Jurkovic, DT, Eastern Illinois
1989	John Jurkovic, DT, Eastern Illinois
1990	Tim Lance, DB, Eastern Illinois
1991	William Freeney, LB, Northern Iowa
1992	William Freeney, LB, Northern Iowa
1993	Andre Allen, LB, Northern Iowa
1994	Andre Allen, LB, Northern Iowa
1995	Tim Carver, LB, Eastern Illinois
1996	Mike Miano, DL, Missouri State
1997	Harry Deligianis, DT, Youngstown State
1998	James Milton, LB, Western Illinois
1999	Edgerton Hartwell, LB, Western Illinois
2000	Edgerton Hartwell, LB, Western Illinois
2001	Adam Vogt, LB, Northern Iowa
2002	Boomer Grigsby, LB, Illinois State
2003	Boomer Grigsby, LB, Illinois State
2004	Boomer Grigsby, LB, Illinois State
2005	Brent Hawkins, DE, Illinois State
2006	Cameron Siskovic, LB, Illinois State
2007	Brannon Carter, LB, Northern Iowa

### 'BRUCE CRADDOCK' COACHES OF THE YEAR

1985	Darrell Mudra, Northern Iowa
1986	Al Molde, Eastern Illinois
1987	Darrell Mudra, Northern Iowa
	Bruce Craddock, Western Illinois
1988	Bruce Craddock, Western Illinois
1989	Jesse Branch, Missouri State
1990	Jesse Branch, Missouri State
1991	Terry Allen, Northern Iowa
1992	Terry Allen, Northern Iowa
1993	Terry Allen, Northern Iowa
1994	Terry Allen, Northern Iowa
1995	Bob Spoo, Eastern Illinois
1996	Terry Allen, Northern Iowa
1997	Randy Ball, Western Illinois
1998	Todd Berry, Illinois State
1999	Todd Berry, Illinois State
2000	Don Patterson, Western Illinois
2001	Mark Farley, Northern Iowa
2002	Don Patterson, Western Illinois
2003	Jerry Kill, Southern Illinois
2004	Jerry Kill, Southern Illinois
2005	Jon Heacock, Youngstown State
2006	Jon Heacock, Youngstown State
2007	Mark Farley, Northern Iowa