



**BIG SKY ANNOUNCES
ALL-CONFERENCE FOOTBALL TEAMS**

Ogden, Utah (Nov. 24, 2003) -- The Big Sky Conference has announced the 2003 All-Conference football teams along with Offensive Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year. The teams and award winners were selected by the league's eight head coaches.

Montana State and Northern Arizona led the way on the first team with seven players selected from each team. Montana had six players chosen for the first team while Idaho State and Weber State each had four. Eastern Washington, Portland State and Sacramento State each had one player on the first team.

Northern Arizona quarterback Jason Murrietta was named the Offensive Player of the Year. Murrietta, a freshman from Glendale, Ariz., led the Lumberjacks to an 8-3 overall record and a share of the Big Sky title. Murrietta passed for 2,974 yards and 22 touchdowns this season, his first at Northern Arizona. Murrietta is a candidate for the Walter Payton Award, given to the top player in I-AA football.

Montana State safety Kane loane was named the Big Sky Defensive Player of the Year. loane was the leader on an MSU defense that leads the Big Sky in total, pass and scoring defense. A senior from Billings, Mont., loane recorded 130 total tackles during the regular season. loane had 71 solo tackles this season, the most in the Big Sky.

Montana junior running back Justin Green was named the Big Sky Newcomer of the Year. Green rushed for 1,042 yards in the regular season to rank 5th on the Montana single-season records list. A junior from San Diego, Calif., Green rushed for 13 touchdowns this season and averaged 4.5 yards per carry. Green is a transfer from San Diego Mesa College.

Twelve players were selected to the first team for the second year in a row while Chris Snyder of Montana and Jared Allen of Idaho State were chosen to the first team for the third time.

Award Winners

Offensive Player of the Year	Jason Murrietta, Quarterback, Northern Arizona
Defensive Player of the Year	Kane loane, Safety, Montana State
Newcomer of the Year	Justin Green, Running Back, Montana

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FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

Wide Receivers	Sale' Key, Junior, Idaho State Clarence Moore, Senior, Northern Arizona# Johnny Marshall, Senior, Northern Arizona Fred Amey, Junior, Sacramento State#
Tackles	Dylan McFarland, Senior, Montana*# Brent Swaggert, Senior, Montana State#
Guards	Jon Skinner, Senior, Montana Jon Newman, Senior, Weber State*
Center	Matt Raivio, Senior, Northern Arizona#
Tight End	Chris Cwik, Junior, Eastern Washington
Quarterback	Jason Murrietta, Freshman, Northern Arizona
Running Backs	Roger Robinson, Sophomore, Northern Arizona Nick Chournos, Junior, Weber State
Fullback	Brad Weston, Senior, Montana
Placekicker	Chris Snyder, Senior, Montana\$
Return Specialist	Corey Smith, Senior, Montana State

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

Tackles	Mark Weivoda, Senior, Idaho State# Ray Sebestyen, Junior, Montana State
Ends	Jared Allen, Senior, Idaho State\$ Brady Fosmark, Sophomore, Weber State
Outside Linebackers	Brent Meyers, Senior, Montana Mac Mollohan, Sophomore, Montana State Bruce Branch, Junior, Northern Arizona Joey King, Sophomore, Portland State
Inside Linebackers	Roger Cooper, Junior, Montana State*# Matt McFadden, Senior, Weber State*#
Cornerbacks	Emery Beckles, Senior, Idaho State Joey Thomas, Senior, Montana State#
Safeties	Dave DeCoite, Senior, Montana* Kane Ioane, Senior, Montana State*#
Punter	Mark Gould, Senior, Northern Arizona*

*Unanimous selection, #two-time first team selection, \$three-time first team selection

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Wide Receivers	Eric Kimble, Sophomore, Eastern Washington Kyler Randall, Senior, Eastern Washington Brett Fowler, Senior, Idaho State Scott Turnquist, Senior, Montana State
Tackles	Kurt Sigler, Senior, Eastern Washington Marko Cavka, Senior, Sacramento State
Guards	Jeff Christiansen, Junior, Eastern Washington Robert Poleki, Senior, Idaho State Mataio Toilolo, Senior, Montana State
Center	Derek Decker, Senior, Montana Ahmad Milby, Senior, Weber State
Tight End	Tom Winn, Senior, Northern Arizona
Quarterback	Erik Meyer, Sophomore, Eastern Washington Travis Lulay, Sophomore, Montana State
Running Backs	Isaac Mitchell, Senior, Idaho State Justin Green, Junior, Montana
Fullback	Ryan Elliott, Montana State
Placekicker	Jeremy Hershey, Senior, Idaho State
Return Specialist	Levander Segars, Junior, Montana

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Tackles	Jonny Varona, Junior, Montana Adam Cordeiro, Senior, Montana State Chris Berg, Junior, Portland State
Ends	Tim Bush, Senior, Montana Jon Montoya, Senior, Montana State
Outside Linebackers	Josh Whitworth, Senior, Idaho State Colton Swan, Senior, Weber State
Inside Linebackers	Joey Cwik, Sophomore, Eastern Washington Ryan Kroeker, Senior, Sacramento State
Cornerbacks	Isaiah Trufant, Sophomore, Eastern Washington Jay Hackett, Senior, Montana State
Safeties	Jessy Hanson, Senior, Eastern Washington Ernie James, Junior, Idaho State Kenneth Qualls, Senior, Montana State
Punter	Jesse Nicassio, Senior, Eastern Washington

HONORABLE MENTION OFFENSE

Wide Receivers - Joe Pierce, Eastern Washington; Ryan Brown, Portland State; Jay Williams, Portland State; Kenan Smith, Sacramento State.

Tackles - Michael Roos, Eastern Washington; Steve Burch, Idaho State; Joe Hirst, Montana State; Sean Funke, Northern Arizona; Jake Sanders, Northern Arizona; Paul McQuistan, Weber State; Chris Rhodes, Weber State.

Guards - David Garrett, Idaho State; Cory Proctor, Montana; Jeff Bolton, Montana State; Matt Cary, Northern Arizona; Chris Frank, Sacramento State.

Centers - Greg Owens, Portland State.

Tight Ends - Edwin Thompson, Idaho State; Willie Walden, Montana; Blake Wolf, Montana State; Josh Rebolz, Weber State.

Quarterbacks - Mark Hetherington, Idaho State; Craig Ochs, Montana.

Running Back - Bruce Molock, Montana State; Ryan Fuqua, Portland State; Tyrone Gross, Sacramento State.

Placekickers - Paul Ernster, Northern Arizona.

Return Specialist - Emery Beckles, Idaho State; Johnny Marshall, Northern Arizona.

HONORABLE MENTION DEFENSE

Tackles - Brandon Myers, Eastern Washington; Harrison Nikolao, Eastern Washington; James Drake, Idaho State; Alan Saenz, Montana; Blake Horgan, Montana; John Perrigo, Northern Arizona; Agatupu Sagapolutele, Portland State; Emil Metroka, Weber State.

Ends - Tom Finnerty, Eastern Washington; Clive Lowe, Montana State; Doug Harding, Northern Arizona; Josh Ratliff, Portland State; Ben Fox, Sacramento State.

Outside Linebackers - Cedric Dawson, Idaho State.

Inside Linebackers - Doug Vincent, Eastern Washington; Anthony Henderson, Idaho State; Ian Gunderman, Northern Arizona; Vince Henman, Northern Arizona.

Cornerbacks - Kevin Edwards, Montana; Nick Swanegan, Portland State; Ramon Payne, Sacramento State; Jeremy Johnson, Sacramento State; Dewey Crayton, Weber State.

Safeties - A.J. Williams, Eastern Washington; Atari Callen, Idaho State; Jeremy Thornburg, Northern Arizona; Jason Jacobs, Northern Arizona; Cody Murphy, Weber State.

Punters - Kyle McQuown, Idaho State; Tyson Johnson, Montana.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Offensive Player of the Year - Jason Murrietta, Quarterback, Northern Arizona

Defensive Player of the Year - Kane loane, Safety, Montana State

Co-Newcomer of the Year - Justin Green, Running Back, Montana