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Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Newcomer Team; North Dakota State's Trey Lance Sweeps Top Honors

ST. LOUIS — QB Trey Lance of North Dakota State has been named the Missouri Valley Football Conference Newcomer of the Year and the league's Freshman of the Year. He heads a list of 24 student-athletes named to the 2019 Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Newcomer Team. League coaches, sports information directors and a media panel selected the team.

Nine of the league's 10 schools had at least one honoree, while Illinois State and South Dakota State tied for the most selections with five apiece. Of the 24 total honorees, 14 are freshmen or redshirt freshmen.

Lance, a Walter Payton Award and Jerry Rice Award nominee, is the first freshman to earn the MVFC's top offensive honor (Lance was named the MVFC's Offensive Player of the Year on Monday). He's the fourth freshman to win both the league's Freshman and Newcomer of the Year honors. Previous first-year players to sweep those two awards include QB Sawyer Kollmorgen (UNI) in 2012, RB Martin Ruiz (YSU) in 2013, and LB Jabril Cox (NDSU) in 2017.

A native of Marshall, Minn., Lance is the FCS leader in passing efficiency (187.5) and yards per passing attempt (9.99) and ranks second in completion percentage (.689). He led NDSU to 12-0 record and No. 1 national ranking, while throwing 220 passes with 23 TDs and zero interceptions. His 2,187 passing yards this year are sixth in MVFC history by a freshman QB, while Lance is the top rushing QB in the MVFC and second leading rusher at NDSU with 741 yards, 7.0 yards per carry and 10 TDs. Lance had 301 total yards and six TDs in the season-opener against Butler to earn Offensive Player of the Week and Newcomer of the Week. He was also Newcomer of the Week with 232 total yards and three TDs at Illinois State.

| OFFENSE | Ht. | Wt. | Yr. | Hometown (Previous Schools) |
|--|------|-----|-----|---|
| PK Matthew Cook, Northern Iowa | 5-11 | 175 | Fr. | Cedar Falls (Iowa) Cedar Falls High |
| WR Avante Cox, Southern Illinois | 5-10 | 175 | So. | Rochester (Ill.) High / Wyoming |
| WR/FB Dominique Dafney, Indiana State | 6-3 | 235 | Sr. | West Des Moines (Iowa) Valley High / Iowa |
| QB J'Bore Gibbs, South Dakota State | 6-3 | 230 | Fr. | Chicago (Ill.) Phillips High |
| WR Jaxon Janke, South Dakota State | 6-2 | 210 | Fr. | Madison (S.D.) Madison High |
| RB Kobe Johnson, North Dakota State | 5-9 | 177 | Fr. | Lawrenceville (Ga.) Discovery High |
| QB Trey Lance, North Dakota State | 6-3 | 221 | Fr. | Marshall (Minn.) Marshall High |
| QB Will McElvain, Northern Iowa | 5-11 | 197 | Fr. | Des Moines (Iowa) Lincoln High |
| RB Jeff Proctor, Illinois State | 5-8 | 195 | Jr. | Munster (Ind.) Munster High / San Bernardino Valley |
| WR Kacper Rutkiewicz, Illinois State | 5-8 | 165 | Fr. | Mount Prospect (Ill.) John Hersey High |
| OL Adam Solomon, Illinois State | 6-6 | 320 | Sr. | Indianapolis (Ind.) Bishop Chatard High / Illinois |
| RB Javon Williams Jr., Southern Illinois | 6-1 | 239 | Fr. | Centralia (Ill.) Centralia High |

| DEFENSE | Ht. | Wt. | Yr. | Hometown (Previous Schools) |
|--|------|-----|-----|---|
| DB Omar Brown, Northern Iowa | 6-1 | 195 | Fr. | Minneapolis (Minn.) North Senior High |
| P Jack Colquhoun, Southern Illinois | 6-2 | 190 | Jr. | Melbourne (Australia) Carey Baptist / Bond University (Australia) |
| DB Keawvis Cummings, Indiana State | 6-0 | 175 | Sr. | Tupelo (Miss.) Shannon High / Austin Peay |
| CB Diamond Evans, South Dakota State | 5-10 | 195 | Fr. | Chicago (Ill.) Nazareth Academy |
| S Michael Griffin II, South Dakota State | 6-0 | 215 | Jr. | Cottage Grove (Minn.) Park High / Southwest Minnesota State |
| RS/WR Justin Hall, Western Illinois | 5-9 | 185 | Fr. | Homewood (Ill.) Homewood-Flossmoor High / Northern Illinois |
| DE Quinton Hicks, South Dakota State | 6-3 | 235 | Fr. | Wichita (Kan.) Campus High |
| S Clayton Isbell, Illinois State | 6-2 | 220 | Fr. | St. Charles (Ill.) St. Charles East High |
| DB Zaire Jones, Youngstown State | 6-0 | 200 | Jr. | Meridian (Miss.) Meridian High / Vanderbilt |
| LB Aaron Mends, Illinois State | 6-0 | 230 | Sr. | Kansas City (Mo.) Winnetonka High / Iowa |
| DB Marquis Smith, Western Illinois | 5-11 | 185 | Jr. | Ypsilanti (Mich.) Ypsilanti High / Cincinnati |
| LB Jakari Starling, South Dakota | 6-1 | 210 | Fr. | Riviera Beach (Fla.) Palm Beach Lakes High |

NEWCOMERS OF THE YEAR

| | |
|------|----------------------------|
| 1994 | Buck Phillips, CB, WIU |
| 1995 | Jason Cannon, WR, MSU |
| 1996 | Vince Bruno, LB, WIU |
| 1997 | Aaron Stecker, RB, WIU |
| 1998 | David Bowens, DL, WIU |
| 1999 | Charles Sharp, RB, WIU |
| 2000 | Teddy Sims, LB, SIU |
| 2001 | Julian Reese, QB, INS |
| 2002 | M. Abdulqadir, RB, SIU |
| 2003 | Terrance Freeney, RB, UNI |
| 2004 | Brandon Jacobs, RB, SIU |
| 2005 | Marcus Mason, RB, YSU |
| 2006 | Darian Williams, RB, UNI |
| 2007 | Ferlando Williams, WR, YSU |
| 2008 | Brandon Summers, QB, YSU |
| 2009 | Antoine Wilkinson, LB, MSU |
| 2010 | Tirrell Rennie, QB, UNI |
| 2011 | Jewel Hampton, RB, SIU |
| 2012 | Sawyer Kollmorgen, QB, UNI |
| 2013 | Martin Ruiz, RB, YSU |
| 2014 | Tre Roberson, QB, ILS |
| 2015 | Aaron Bailey, QB, UNI |
| 2016 | Chris Streveler, QB, USD |
| 2017 | Jabril Cox, LB, NDSU |
| 2018 | Ryan Boyle, QB, INS |
| 2019 | Trey Lance, QB, NDSU |

FRESHMEN OF THE YEAR

| | |
|------|------------------------------|
| 1999 | Dusty Burk, QB, ILS |
| 2000 | Lee Russell, OLB, WIU |
| 2001 | Tom Petrie, QB, UNI |
| 2002 | Joel Sambursky, QB, SIU |
| 2003 | Justin Haddix, QB, WKU |
| 2004 | Eric Sanders, QB, UNI |
| 2005 | Tom Nelson, DB, ILS |
| 2006 | Brandin Jordan, LB, SIU |
| 2007 | Cody Kirby, QB, MSU |
| 2008 | Kamryn Keys, RB, YSU |
| 2009 | Matt Brown, QB, ILS |
| 2010 | Kurt Hess, QB, YSU |
| 2011 | Austin Sumner, QB, SDSU |
| 2012 | Sawyer Kollmorgen, QB, UNI |
| 2013 | Martin Ruiz, RB, YSU |
| 2014 | Jake Wieneke, WR, SDSU |
| 2015 | Andrew Van Ginkel, DE, USD |
| 2016 | Christian Rozeboom, LB, SDSU |
| 2017 | Jabril Cox, LB, NDSU |
| 2018 | Pierre Strong Jr., RB, SDSU |
| 2019 | Trey Lance, QB, NDSU |