

FOR RELEASE

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Butler's Matt Shiltz, Dayton's Christopher Beaschler highlight Pioneer Football League's 23rd Annual Academic Teams

SAINT LOUIS, Mo. – Butler senior quarterback Matt Shiltz and Dayton senior linebacker Christopher Beaschler were named the Pioneer Football League Co-Scholar Athletes of the Year, Wednesday. The two also were among 52 PFL student-athletes selected to the 23rd annual Academic All-PFL Teams, as selected by the league's sports information directors.

It is the second year the PFL has recognized its top student-athletes, both on the field and in the classroom, with the Scholar-Athlete of the Year award. It also is the second year there were two honorees due to a tie in the voting.

Beaschler, from Ada, Ohio, is a mechanical engineering major who accumulated a 3.68 grade-point average entering his senior season at Dayton. He was named to the CoSIDA Academic All-District Teams™ in October. Beaschler is a three-time Academic All-PFL selection and a three-time member of the league's academic honor roll.

On the field, Beaschler led Dayton and was fifth in the PFL in total tackles (98) and solo tackles (53), marshalling a Flyers defense that ranked 16th in the FCS in both pass efficiency defense (105.8) and scoring defense (18.6) at regular season's end. He was a first-team All-PFL selection for a second consecutive year as he helped lead Dayton to a share of the PFL Championship and the league's bid into the Division I Football Championship.

Shiltz, from St. Charles, Illinois, is an accounting major who amassed a sterling 3.93 grade-point average through his first three seasons at Butler. It is the second consecutive season Shiltz has been recognized on the Academic All-PFL team and has been a member of the PFL academic honor roll each of his four seasons.

Returning from an injury-shortened 2014, Shiltz ranked among the nation's top 10 in total offense (5th, 304.7 ypg) and points responsible for (6th, 186). He threw for 2,713 yards (15th in FCS) and 19 touchdowns (21st) to help Butler finish fourth in the regular-season race. Shiltz was a second-team All-PFL selection this season.

Drake senior quarterback Andy Rice, Drake senior linebacker Taylor Coleman and Dayton senior safety Danny Leach each joined an exclusive group of three-time Academic All-PFL honorees – a list that now counts just 36 members in 23 seasons.

In addition, seven student-athletes appear as first-team honorees for a second consecutive year: Beaschler, Shiltz, Davidson senior offensive lineman Josh Daryoush, Dayton senior wide receiver Cory Stuart, Butler senior tight end Zach Wolfe, Stetson junior safety Donald Payne and Morehead State junior punter Pat DiSalvio.

The Academic All-PFL teams are a complement to the Capital One Academic All-America® program presented by the College Sports Information Directors of America. Eleven PFL student-athletes were named to their respective Capital One Academic All-District Teams® this fall. The 2015 Capital One Academic All-America Teams® will be announced Thursday.

Pioneer Football League athletic directors established the Academic All-PFL squads in 1993 as a way to recognize the league's outstanding student-athletes. To be eligible for Academic All-PFL consideration, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 3.30 on a scale of 4.00 and reached their second season both athletically and academically at his current institution.

(more)

2015 PFL Scholar-Athletes of the Year
Christopher Beaschler, Dayton & Matt Shiltz, Butler

2015 Academic All-Pioneer Football League First Team

(as selected by PFL sports information directors)

Student-Athlete	School	Pos.	Class	Hometown	GPA	Major (Minor)
OFFENSE						
Brandon Collins	Butler	WR	Jr.	New Palestine, Ind.	3.82	Finance
Josh Daryoush (1)	Davidson	OL	Sr.	Bethesda, Md.	3.83	Biology
Keegan Gallery	Drake	WR	Jr.	Stillwell, Kan.	3.67	International Business
Alex Jeske	Dayton	QB	So.	Glen Ellyn, Ill.	3.91	Finance
Brian Lang (2)	Valparaiso	OL	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.	3.94	Accounting
Andy Rice (3x, 1)	Drake	QB	Sr.	Stevens Point, Wis.	3.76	Marketing and Management
Matt Shiltz (1)	Butler	QB	Sr.	St. Charles, Ill.	3.93	Accounting
Cory Stuart (1)	Dayton	WR	Sr.	Solon, Ohio	3.83	Pre-Physical Therapy
Zack Wolfe (1)	Butler	TE	Sr.	Crest Hill, Ill.	3.96	Actuarial Science
Tucker Yinger	Dayton	RB	So.	Columbus, Ohio	3.77	Mechanical Engineering
Jimmy Vogel	Dayton	OL	Sr.	Cincinnati, Ohio	3.61	Mechanical Engineering
DEFENSE						
Christopher Beaschler (1)	Dayton	LB	Sr.	Ada, Ohio	3.68	Mechanical Engineering
Davion Belk (2)	Stetson	DL	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.	3.39	Marketing
Devyn Bryant (2)	San Diego	CB	Jr.	San Diego, Calif.	3.47	Mechanical Engineering
Taylor Coleman (3x, 1)	Drake	LB	Sr.	Hawthorn Woods, Ill.	3.77	Finance
Jack Crain	Dayton	LB	So.	Lisle, Ill.	3.91	Accounting
Sean Horan (2)	Butler	LB	Sr.	Kings Mill, Ohio	3.96	Economics
Luke Keller (2)	Morehead State	LB	Sr.	Lucasville, Ohio	3.88	University Studies
David Lazear (2)	Stetson	LB	Jr.	Newark, Del.	3.39	Marketing
Danny Leach (3x, 1)	Dayton	S	Sr.	Downers Grove, Ill.	3.74	Leadership
Max Michaels	San Diego	LB	So.	Poway, Calif.	3.89	Accountancy
Donald Payne (1)	Stetson	S	Jr.	Fayetteville, Ga.	3.38	Finance (Management)
SPECIAL TEAMS						
Brian Akialis (2)	Butler	P	5th-Yr.	Buffalo Grove, Ill.	3.56	Middle/Secondary Education
Mitchell Brown	Campbell	K	So.	Mount Airy, N.C.	3.90	Biology/Pre-Physician Assistant
Pat DiSalvio (1)	Morehead State	P	Jr.	Cincinnati, Ohio	3.83	Biomedical Sciences

Notes in parentheses: 3x – player is a three-time first-team Academic All-PFL selection; 1-was a first-team selection in 2014; 2-was a second-team selection in 2014.

2015 Academic All-Pioneer Football League Second Team

Student-Athlete	School	Class	Pos.	Hometown	GPA	Major (Minor)
OFFENSE (13 due to a tie in voting)						
Ed Achziger	Marist	Sr.	QB	Dublin, Calif.	3.52	Business Administration
Jack Beck	Drake	Sr.	OL	Whitefish Bay, Wis.	3.57	Marketing
Ben Bolling	Campbell	R-Sr.	WR	Knightdale, N.C.	3.47	Exercise Science
Max Brodbeck	Butler	Sr.	OL	Lima, Ohio	3.45	Computer Science
Danny Cotter	Butler	R-Jr.	WR	Grand Haven, Mich.	3.61	Chemistry
Dalton Dillon	Campbell	Sr.	FB	Colfax, N.C.	3.41	Business Administration
Aaron Johnson	Drake	Sr.	OL	Iowa City, Iowa	3.66	Law, Politics and Society
Jeffrey Keil	Davidson	So.	RB	Tampa, Fla.	3.76	Undeclared
Alex Kenner	Dayton	So.	RB	Cincinnati, Ohio	3.91	Marketing
Zac Morgan	Dayton	Sr.	OT	Mokena, Ill.	3.52	Finance
Tanner Napier	Morehead State	Sr.	WR	Lexington, Ky.	3.30	Sport Management
Ian Palin	Dayton	Sr.	TE	Milwaukee, Wis.	3.53	Entrepreneurship
Seamus Ryan	Marist	Jr.	OL	Sparta, N.J.	3.35	Business Administration
DEFENSE						
Brett Bass	Dayton	Sr.	DB	Avon Lake, Ohio	3.79	Mechanical Engineering
Colt Briggs	Morehead State	So.	DL	Wilmington, Ohio	3.70	Biomedical Sciences
Chad Burdo	Butler	R-So.	DL	Oswego, Ill.	3.87	Finance
Ronald Cooper	Morehead State	Sr.	DL	Atlanta, Ga.	3.35	Engineering Technology
Michael Gray	Dayton	Sr.	DE	Cincinnati, Ohio	3.37	Chemical Engineering
Alex Green	Valparaiso	Sr.	LB	Zionsville, Ind.	3.43	Mechanical Engineering
John Guilford	Valparaiso	Sr.	DE	Spencer, Ohio	3.36	Mechanical Engineering
Alec Moreno	San Diego	R-So.	LB	Poway, Calif.	3.54	Accountancy
Isaak Newhouse	Butler	So.	DB	Grand Haven, Mich.	3.37	Business
Michael Vankat	Drake	Sr.	DL	Omaha, Neb.	3.61	Accounting and Finance
Andrew Yost	Campbell	R-Sr.	LB	Huntersville, N.C.	3.48	Exercise & Sports Science
SPECIAL TEAMS						
Griffin Garland	Jacksonville	So.	LS	Jupiter, Fla.	3.47	Business Aviation
Mike Maccarone	Marist	Jr.	K/P	Gibbstown, N.J.	3.47	Business Administration
Jarrett Morgan	Valparaiso	So.	KR	Cooper City, Fla.	3.33	Sports Management