



## GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE

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FireSeeds  
MULTIPLYING LEADERS

### GSC ANNOUNCES 2016-17 FIRESEEDS WINTER ALL-ACADEMIC TEAMS

**BIRMINGHAM, Ala.** - The Gulf South Conference is proud to announce its 2016-17 FireSeeds All-Academic Teams for the winter sports season.

Academic All-GSC Teams are selected by the Gulf South Conference Sports Information Directors (SIDs) and Faculty Athletic Representatives (FARs) in a joint vote. Nominees must have an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.20 or better on a 4.00 scale for their entire academic career and may not be freshmen or first-semester or quarter transfers. The student-athlete must be a significant contributor to the squad. Other factors include leadership, community service and extra-curricular activities. SIDs and FARs are not allowed to vote for their own student-athletes. The number of student-athletes selected in each sport is determined by the number of positions normally involved in the playing of that sport. Ties are not broken.

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

UAH's **Troy Saxton** is on the GSC All-Academic Team for the third time in his career, while Christian Brothers' **Jeff Larkin** appears on the team for the second straight season. Saxton and Larkin were both unanimous selections.

Three first time honorees join the returners, as West Florida's **Jason Laatsch** and **Austin Somerfield** both make it in their final year of eligibility, while Valdosta State's **Beau Justice** earns the honor as just a sophomore.

Saxton, Larkin, and Somerfield were all named 2016-17 CoSIDA Academic All-District.

Larkin is the only all-conference honoree amongst the group.

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Four of the six GSC Women's Basketball All-Academic Team selections are making their second straight appearance on the list, while West Florida's **Katie Bobos** is being honored for the third straight season.

The other three returners are Shorter's **Taylor Adams**, North Alabama's **KeKe Gunter**, and Lee's **Erin Walsh**.

First time honorees **Alex Coyne** (West Florida) and **Kenya Samone' Dixon** (Valdosta State) were each First Team All-GSC selections this season.

In fact, five of the six selections were named all-conference this season (Coyne, Samone' Dixon, Adams, Bobos, and Walsh), and Coyne was named the league's player of the year.

Teammates Bobos and Coyne were both also named 2016-17 CoSIDA Academic All-District.

#### HONOR ROLL

Qualification for the GSC Honor Roll is automatic based on at least a 3.00 grade-point average and does not require a voting process.

UAH had the most honorees, putting 17 student-athletes on the honor roll. Overall, there were 51 men and 97 women who earned this distinction.

## 2016-17 GSC FIRESEEDS FALL GSC ALL-ACADEMIC TEAMS

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

<u>NAME, SCHOOL</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MAJOR</u>	<u>GPA</u>
Beau Justice, Valdosta State	So.	Middle Grades Education	3.50
Jason Laatsch, West Florida	Gr.	Physical Education	4.00
!%*Jeff Larkin, Christian Brothers	Jr.	Business Administration	3.84
!\$*Troy Saxton, Alabama Huntsville	Sr.	Management	3.90
Austin Somerfield, West Florida	Sr.	Business Administration	3.68

!—2015-16 GSC All-Academic

#—2016-17 First Team All-GSC

\*—Unanimous selection

\$—2014-15 GSC All-Academic

%—2016-17 Second Team All-GSC

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

<u>NAME, SCHOOL</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MAJOR</u>	<u>GPA</u>
!%@Taylor Adams, Shorter	Gr.	Sport Management	3.82
!\$%^Katie Bobos, West Florida	Sr.	Pre-Professional Biology	3.67
#^Alex Coyne, West Florida	Sr.	Business Administration	3.81
!KeKe Gunter, North Alabama	Jr.	Criminal Justice	4.00
#Kenya Samone' Dixon, Valdosta State	Jr.	Public Administration	4.00
!%@Erin Walsh, Lee	Jr.	Health Science	4.00

!—2015-16 GSC All-Academic

#—2016-17 First Team All-GSC

@—2015-16 First Team All-GSC

\*—Unanimous selection

\$—2014-15 GSC All-Academic

%—2016-17 Second Team All-GSC

^—2015-16 Second Team All-GSC