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A-State Football Places 13 on Athlon's Preseason All-SBC Team

JONESBORO, Ark. (5/24/18) – Including five first-team selections, Arkansas State has placed 13 players on Athlon Sports' 2018 preseason All-Sun Belt Conference football team that was announced Thursday.

The Red Wolves' 13 players tabbed preseason all-conference by the publication tied Appalachian State for the second most in the league, while Troy led Athlon's team with 17. Coastal Carolina, South Alabama and Georgia Southern all had 10 players make the list, and they were followed by Louisiana (9), ULM (8), Georgia State (8) and Texas State (4).

A-State saw six offensive, five defensive and two special teams players make the list. In addition to their five first-team selections, the Red Wolves also saw four players earn second-team honors and two named to both the third and fourth teams.

Representing Arkansas State on the first team were seniors **Justice Hansen** (QB), **Justin McInnis** (WR), **Lanard Bonner** (OL), **Ronheen Bingham** (DE) and **Justin Clifton** (DB). Its second-team choices were senior running back **Warren Wand**, sophomore offensive lineman **Jacob Still**, junior safety **B.J. Edmonds** and junior punter **Cody Grace**.

Sophomore defensive lineman **Hunter Moreton** and junior kicker **Sawyer Williams** earned a place on the third team, while juniors **Omar Bayless** (WR) and **Darreon Jackson** (DB) were fourth-team picks.

Arkansas State returns 12 starters (7 offense/5 defense) and 55 lettermen (24 offense/26 defense/5 special teams) from last year's team that finished the season 7-5 overall and played in the Camellia Bowl. Joining the team this season will also be A-State's latest recruiting class that was ranked No. 1 in the Sun Belt Conference by Rivals.

The Red Wolves are set to open their 2018 campaign at Centennial Bank Stadium on Sept. 1, when they will host Southeast Missouri State before hitting the road one week later for a game in Tuscaloosa against defending national champion Alabama.