

# Three Stevenson players earn all-state honors

## Romeo's Brown joins Titans' Stone, Fracassa, Mershman

**DETROIT (AP)** — Four players from Macomb County — Stevenson's Corey Stone, Jason Fracassa and D.J. Mershman and **Romeo's Ben Brown** — earned Division 1-2 Associated Press All-State first team honors.

Detroit Southeastern linebacker William Gholston, a 6-foot-7, 255-pound linebacker/tight end, headlines the 2009 Associated Press Division 1-2 All-State team, earning Player of the Year honors as voted on by a 10-person panel of sports writers.

This season Gholston had 115 tackles and 27 sacks. He recovered two fumbles and returned an interception for a touchdown.

Gholston committed to Michigan State before the start of the season, but Southeastern coach Donshell English said it's likely he will take two, possibly more, official visits to other schools. English said those other schools, other than MSU, are Alabama, Florida and Southern California.

Other linebackers selected to the first team include Randy Hogan of Lowell, Brett Egnatuk of Rockford, Justin Cherocci of Brother Rice and Nores Fradi of Dearborn.

## Football

Hogan and Egnatuk each averaged more than 10 tackles per game. Hogan returned two interceptions for touchdowns. Cherocci averaged 16 tackles per game this season. Fradi played in eight games and had 101 tackles.

First-team selections in the secondary are Kevin King of Dearborn Edsel Ford, Chris Laneaux of Portage Northern and Greg Wickliffe of Muskegon. King gained 1,200 yards rushing and led Edsel Ford with 87 tackles. Laneaux had 63 tackles and nine interceptions, and Wickliffe had eight interceptions.

The receivers who made the first team are Mershman of Stevenson, Tony Jones of Grand Blanc, Keontre' Miskel of Muskegon Mona Shores and Pat Lancaster of Gibraltar Carlson.

Mershman has 92 receptions and 20 touchdowns. Jones had 52 receptions for 800 yards and 10 touchdowns. Miskel had 44 receptions for 861 yards and seven touchdowns. Lancaster was a versatile player. He had 422 yards receiving and five TDs.

Six linemen were selected, led by Stone of Stevenson, Connor Kruse of Lowell and Niko Palazeti of Detroit Catholic Central. All three will compete at Ford Field.

The other three are Jordan Sanders of Rochester Adams, Jordan Goetz of Grand Haven and Alvin Fletcher of Muskegon.

The two quarterbacks selected are Fracassa of Stevenson and Devin Gardner of Inkster. Both are unanimous selections. Fracassa owns state records for career passing yards and touchdown passes; Gardner is a dual-threat quarterback who committed to Michigan.

Five running backs were selected, and all five led their respective teams to the playoffs.

**Ben Brown of Romeo rushed for 21 touchdowns and threw for 448 yards.** Charlie Leffingwell of Midland had 1,650 yards, and Jeremy Langford of Westland John Glenn rushed for 2,042 yards. Aaron Bailey of Woodhaven scored 33 touchdowns, and Austin Graham of Lowell rushed for 221 yards in a semifinal victory over Brother Rice.

Placekicker Jeremy Ross of Ann Arbor Pioneer was 8-for-9 on field goal tries and made 45 extra points. The punter selected was Kyle Brindza of Plymouth who averaged 48.2 yards per punt.

Ryan Darby of Rockford was named as specialist. Darby had 18 unassisted tackles, 10 receptions for 179 yards and 87 rushes for 535 yards.

Mike Farley of Grand Haven was named Coach of the Year.

## Division 1-2 All-State team

The 2009 Associated Press Division 1-2 All-State football team, selected by Michigan sports writers:

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** William Gholston, Detroit Southeastern, 6-7, 255, Sr.

**QUARTERBACKS:** Devin Gardner, Inkster, 6-4, 195, Sr.; **Jason Fracassa, Stevenson, 5-9, 175, Sr.**

**RUNNING BACKS:** **Ben Brown, Romeo, 6-0, 190, Sr.;** Jeremy Langford, Westland John Glenn, 6-1, 190, Sr.; Aaron Bailey, Woodhaven, 5-9, 180, Sr.; Austin Graham, Lowell, 6-0, 205, Sr.; Charlie Leffingwell, Midland, 5-9, 195, Sr.

**RECEIVERS:** Pat Lancaster, Gibraltar Carlson, 6-3, 200, Sr.; **D.J. Mershman, Stevenson, 5-11, 175, Sr.;** Tony Jones, Grand Blanc, 6-1, 180, Sr.; Keontre' Miskel, Muskegon Mona Shores, 6-2, 175, Sr.

**LINEMEN:** Connor Kruse, Lowell, 6-5, 315, Sr.; **Corey Stone, Stevenson, 6-1, 275, Sr.;** Niko Palazeti, Detroit Catholic Central, 6-2, 245, Sr.; Jordan Goetz, Grand Haven, 6-0, 255, Sr.; Alvin Fletcher, Muskegon, 5-9, 240, Sr.; Jordan Sanders, Rochester Adams, 6-2, 275, Sr.

**LINEBACKERS:** William Gholston, Detroit Southeastern, 6-7, 255, Sr.; Randy Hogan, Lowell, 6-2, 225, Sr.; Justin Cherocci, Birmingham Brother Rice, 6-0, 221, Sr.; Nores Fradi, Dearborn, 5-11, 205, Sr.; Brett Egnatuk, Rockford, 6-1, 205, Jr.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Greg Wickliffe, Muskegon, 5-7, 175, Sr.; Chris Laneaux, Portage Northern, 6-0, 175, Jr.; Kevin King, Dearborn Edsel Ford, 5-11, 195, Sr.

**SPECIALIST:** Ryan Darby, Rockford, 6-1, 180, Sr.

**PUNTER:** Kyle Brindza, Plymouth, 6-1, 190, Sr.

**PLACEKICKER:** Jeremy Ross, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 5-5, 145, Sr.

**COACH OF THE YEAR:** Mike Farley, Grand Haven.

**SPECIAL MENTION (nominees receiving two or more votes from the 10-member panel)**

**RUNNING BACKS:** Bryce Lindberg, Howell; Austin White, Livonia Stevenson.

**RECEIVERS:** Ricardo Miller, Ann Arbor Pioneer; Dominick Todd, Holt; Baquer Sayed, Dearborn Fordson.

**LINEMEN:** Johnathan Hankins, Detroit Southeastern; Carter Staffeld, Canton; Jeff Dean, Clarkston.

**LINEBACKERS:** **Steve O'Shell, De La Salle;** David Kolanek, Bay City Western; Mike Kinville, Detroit Catholic Central.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Justin Ford, Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills.

**SPECIALIST:** Dior Mathis, Detroit Cass Tech.

**KICKER:** **Robbie Flinn, Romeo.**

**HONORABLE MENTION (nominees receiving one or no votes from the 10-member panel)**

**QUARTERBACKS:** **Ben Filimon, Warren Mott;** Ryan Morley, Grand Blanc, Tyler Hamilton, Fenton; Ali Baird, Dearborn Fordson; Tyler Scarlett, Clarkston; Luke Wiest, Caledonia.

**RUNNING BACKS:** **Justice Wright, Stevenson;** Justice Hayes, Grand Blanc; Spencer Munson, Portage Central; Paris Powell, Detroit Southeastern; Deonte Hurst, East Kentwood.

**RECEIVERS:** Jeremy Jackson, Ann Arbor Huron; Keonte Martin-Manley, Birmingham Brother Rice.

**LINEMEN:** Eshan Farha, Ann Arbor Pioneer; Dan Gear, Southgate Anderson; Bruce Tebelman, Dearborn Edsel Ford; Joe Snyder, Detroit Catholic Central; Sterin Griffin, Inkster; Nick DiMiro, Rochester Adams; Josh Leys, Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills; Kelsey Kilby, Grand Haven; Craig Wilson, Traverse City West.

**LINEBACKERS:** Dontavious Bryant, Detroit King; **Ryan Spicuzzi, Dakota;** Alex Davison, Grand Ledge; D.J. Lynch, Auburn Hills Avondale; Maurice Davenport, Southfield; Jack Quigley, Birmingham Seaholm; Joey Holton, Howell; Desmond Morgan, Holland West Ottawa; David Churchwell, Muskegon; Payton McCallum, Lapeer East; Preston Haggadone, Lapeer West.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Daniel Easterly, Detroit Cass Tech; Travis Kamstra, Grandville; Joe Hines, Jackson; Daniel Lindsey, Inkster.

**SPECIALISTS:** Andrew Dillon, Ypsilanti Lincoln.

**KICKERS:** **Mason Krynski, Eisenhower;** Paul Mudgett, Rockford.

**PUNTERS:** Jimmy Allen, Fenton; Corey Smith, Detroit Catholic Central.

**COACHES:** Tom Mach, Detroit Catholic Central; Noel Dean, Lowell; **Rick Bye, Stevenson.**