

Battle named Bill Snyder Family scholar athlete



Louisburg senior Declan Battle was named as one of 12 Bill Snyder Family/Sunflower Chapter scholar athletes.

Louisburg senior Declan Battle saw a lot of accolades come his way for his work on the football field this past season.

Now he is getting recognized for his work off of it.

Battle was one of 12 Kansas high school senior football players that have been selected by the Coach Bill Snyder Family/Sunflower Chapter of the National Football Foundation as 2023-24 scholar athletes as a result of his performance on and off the field.

The honorees had to be nominated by their head coach. The 12 student athletes will be recognized at the annual chapter awards dinner on May 8, that is conducted at the Burge Union on the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence.

Battle had a big season for the Wildcats on the gridiron as the team's starting quarterback. He is a Kansas Shrine Bowl selection and for good reason.

In 10 games for the Wildcats, Battle completed 105 passes for 1,364 yards and had 16 touchdowns to just two interceptions. He also did a lot of damage on the ground with 1,009 yards rushing and 16 more touchdowns.

As a defensive back, Battle finished with 36 tackles and also had an interception for a touchdown.

Battle broke the school record for passing yards in 2023 and he also earned All-Frontier League and all-state honors.

Off the field, Battle is ranked first in his class of 134 academically. He is also a volunteer at Grace Church and for Guys for Christ.

Battle signed with Washburn University to play back in February and plans to major in Business Management.

The other 11 players to be recognized is Bishop Miege linebacker Justyce Betts, Kingman tight end Tristen Davidson, Norton tight end Roman Hauser, Mill Valley offensive lineman Gus Hawkins, Clay Center defensive back Brody Hayes, Washburn Rural linebacker Jaren Heim, Derby defensive end Mason Hopper, Gardner-Edgerton linebacker Dawson Kindler, Conway Springs linebacker Brayden Kunz, Cheney defensive back Colter McDaniel and St. Thomas Aquinas running back Gianni Rizzi.

The mission of the Coach Bill Snyder Family/Sunflower Chapter National Football Foundation Charter is to recognize outstanding high school seniors who excel on the gridiron, in

the classroom and as leaders in their schools and communities. More than 325 high school football players from the state of Kansas have been honored by the chapter since its inception in 1991.