Feb. 2, 2011

Kansas Signs 27 For 2011 Football Season

LAWRENCE, Kan. – Kansas Head Football Coach Turner Gill and his staff hit the states of Texas and Kansas hard, but also added student-athletes from a total of 11 different states in signing its 2011 football class released Wednesday.

In all, KU signed 27 players on Wednesday, including four freshmen who are already on campus and one junior college transfer. The Jayhawks inked 13 offensive players, 13 defensive players and one specialist.

Seven players from the state of Kansas are going to become Jayhawks, including Olathe North teammates and defensive backs Adonis Saunders and Victor Simmons. KU signed two players from Wichita in defensive end Michael Reynolds (Kapauan Mt. Carmel HS) and running back Dreamius Smith (Wichita Heights).

Other Sunflower state signees include Dylan Admire of Blue Valley West, Phil Ford of Bishop Miege, and Ben Heeney of Hutchinson.

The Jayhawks focused on both the offensive and defensive lines with 10 linemen signed, including six on the offensive side. KU also found five linebackers and four defensive backs.

The need for a placekicker was also met as KU signed placekicker Alex Mueller from Grapevine, Texas.

2011 Kansas Signing Class Notable

By Previous School
High School: 26
Junior College: 1

By State
Texas: 9
Kansas: 7
Arkansas: 2
Illinois: 2
California: 1
Colorado: 1
Florida: 1
Georgia: 1
Missouri: 1
Oklahoma: 1
Virginia: 1

- more -

By Position
Offense: 13
- QB: 2
- RB: 3
- WR: 2
- OL: 6

Defense: 13
- DL: 4
- LB: 5
- DB: 4

Specialists: 1
- PK: 1

Teammates
Collin Garrett and Ben Goodman (Beaumont, Texas/West Brook HS)
Adonis Saunders and Victor Simmons (Olathe, Kan./Olathe North HS)

Top-15 Kansas Players
(based on Rivals.com rankings)
No. 6 – Dylan Admire
No. 7 – Dreamius Smith
No. 11 – Ben Heeney
No. 12 – Michael Reynolds
No. 13 – Victor Simmons

2011 Kansas Football Signees

Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown (High School)
Dylan Admire*	OL	6-3	264	Fr.	HS	Overland Park, Kan. (Blue Valley West HS)
Tunde Bakare	LB	5-11	215	Jr.	JC	Woodbridge, Va. (Forest Park HS/Highland CC)
Brock Berglund*	QB	6-4	205	Fr.	HS	Highlands Ranch, Colo. (Valor Christian HS)
Travis Bodenstein	OL	6-5	295	Fr.	HS	Springdale, Ark. (Shiloh Christian HS)
Michael Cummings	QB	6-0	196	Fr.	HS	Killeen, Texas (Killeen HS)
Javonte Daniel	DE	6-4	215	Fr.	HS	LaGrange, Ga. (LaGrange HS)
Phil Ford	OL	6-6	342	Fr.	HS	Shawnee, Kan. (Bishop Miege HS)
Collin Garrett	LB	6-1	205	Fr.	HS	Beaumont, Texas (West Brook HS)
Ben Goodman	DE	6-3	245	Fr.	HS	Beaumont, Texas (West Brook HS)
Julius Green*	DE	6-7	270	Fr.	HS	Houston, Texas (Aldine HS)
Ben Heeney	LB	6-1	195	Fr.	HS	Hutchinson, Kan. (Hutchinson HS)
Jason Hensley	LB	6-2	222	Fr.	HS	Alma, Ark. (Alma HS)
Marquis Jackson	WR	6-0	205	Fr.	HS	Fort Worth, Texas (Arlington Heights HS)
Jake Love	LB	6-0	195	Fr.	HS	Tonkawa, Okla. (Tonkawa HS)
Luke Luhrsen	OL	6-5	275	Fr.	HS	Wheaton, Ill. (Warrenville South HS)
Damon Martin	OL	6-5	265	Fr.	HS	Arlington, Texas (Arlington HS)
Alex Matlock	DB	6-2	190	Fr.	HS	Pflugerville, Texas (Pflugerville HS)
Darrian Miller*	RB	5-10	181	Fr.	HS	Blue Springs, Mo. (Blue Springs HS)
Alex Mueller	PK	5-10	155	Fr.	HS	Grapevine, Texas (Grapevine HS)
Bryan Peters	OL	6-5	305	Fr.	HS	La Mirada, Calif. (La Mirada HS)
Anthony Pierson	RB	5-11	175	Fr.	HS	East St. Louis, Ill. (East St. Louis HS)
Michael Reynolds	DE	6-4	220	Fr.	HS	Wichita, Kan. (Kapauan Mt. Carmel HS)
Chris Robinson	DB	5-9	170	Fr.	HS	Lake Mary, Fla. (Lake Mary HS)
Adonis Saunders	DB	5-11	185	Fr.	HS	Olathe, Kan. (Olathe North HS)
JaCorey Shepherd	WR	5-11	170	Fr.	HS	Mesquite, Texas (Mesquite Horn HS)
Victor Simmons	DB	6-1	185	Fr.	HS	Olathe, Kan. (Olathe North HS)
Dreamius Smith	RB	6-0	205	Fr.	HS	Wichita, Kan. (Wichita Heights HS)

* Already on campus this spring.

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No. 13 – Victor Simmons

Dylan Admire
OL, 6-3, 264, Fr., HS
Overland Park, Kan.
(Blue Valley West HS)

Graduated high school early and is enrolled at KU this spring… Ranked as the sixth-best player in the state of Kansas, as well as the 30th-best guard in the nation by Rivals.com… Named first-team 6A all-state by the Wichita Eagle and Topeka Capital Journal… Was a first-team all-Eastern Kansas League pick as both a senior and a junior… Was honorable mention all-metro by the Kansas City Star… Selected to play in the All-American Gridiron Game as well as the Kansas Shrine Bowl all-star game… Recorded 67 pancake blocks as a senior… Born in Overland Park, Kan… Son of Dan and Sheila Admire… Has one sister… Hobbies include photography, playing the guitar and cooking.

Tunde Bakare
LB, 5-11, 215, Jr., JC
Woodbridge, Va.
(Forest Park HS/Highland CC)

Earned all-Jayhawk Conference second-team honors as a sophomore in junior college… Recorded 66 tackles with 6.5 for loss, including 1.5 sacks… Also forced five fumbles and recovered one on the season… As a freshman he registered 80 tackles with 6.5 for loss in nine games… Played linebacker and safety… As a senior at Forest Park High School he was a second-team all-Cardinal District selection after recording 30.5 tackles with eight tackles for loss in eight games… Offensively he scored six touchdowns… Was a first-team all-district selection as a junior… Also played running back and wide receiver… Was an all-district track performer in the 100 and 200… Born in Woodbridge, Va… Son of Mohammed and Marie Bakare… Has two brothers and one sister… Undecided on his major… Would like to run a company in the future… Hobbies include playing video games, watching movies and spending time with his family.

Brock Berglund
QB, 6-4, 205, Fr., HS
Highlands Ranch, Colo.
(Valor Christian HS)

Graduated high school early and is enrolled at KU this spring… Ranked as the third-best player in the state of Colorado and the 13th-best dual-threat quarterback in the nation by Rivals.com… Named the Colorado 4A Player of the Year as a senior… Was a four-year starter… Started every game and led team to a 29-9 record in last three seasons (Valor Christian was also 13-1 his freshman year playing a mixed schedule of JV and other teams in first year of school)… Led Valor Christian to consecutive state titles (3A as a junior and 4A as a senior)… As a senior he was 140 of 229 for 2,150 yards and 23 touchdowns with just five interceptions… Also rushed for 952 yards and nine touchdowns on 130 carries… In 4A state title victory he threw for 280 yards and ran for 122 more… As a junior he completed 109 of 184 passes for 2,226 yards and 30 touchdowns with just four interceptions… Also carried 116 times for 890 yards and 14 touchdowns as team was a perfect 14-0 and won state 3A championship… Also played baseball, basketball and track… Earned all-league honors in both baseball and basketball as a sophomore… Was part of state champion 4x100 and 4x200 relay teams… Finished fourth in the state 200-meters as a junior… Born in Highlands Ranch, Colo… Son of Brett and Pam Berglund… Has one brother… Father played football at Fort Lewis College… Plans to major in business and minor in film.

Travis Bodenstein
OL, 6-5, 295, Fr., HS
Springdale, Ark.
(Shiloh Christian HS)

Last names is pronounced Bo-den-stIne... A three-time Arkansas AP Super Team selection… First team all state by ArkansasVarsity.com as a senior… Also named 4A all-state by the Arkansas Coaches Association… Was a four-year all-area team selection… Earned EA Sports and Maxpreps All-America honors as a sophomore… As a sophomore he was named to the Arkansas Super Sophomore Team while averaging five pancake blocks per game… Did not allow any sacks as a sophomore in 2008… Team won three straight class 4A state championships… Was a four-year letterwinner… Born in Fayetteville, Ark… Son of Pam Bodenstein… Has three brothers… Brother Jon played baseball at Oklahoma Baptist… Undecided on major… Likes to play ping pong.

Michael Cummings
QB, 6-0, 196, Fr., HS
Killeen, Texas
(Killeen HS)

Missed five games his senior due to a torn ACL, but still threw for 1,167 yards and 10 touchdowns… In his three-year career he threw for 5,237 yards and 45 touchdowns, while running for 2,321 yards and 33 scores… Earned second-team all-district honors as a senior…
Was the district 25-4A newcomer of the year as a sophomore and the offensive MVP as a junior… In his seven-game senior season he was 62 of 128 passing for 1,167 yards and 10 touchdowns with five interceptions… As a junior in 2009 he completed 129 of 237 passes for 2,463 yards and 24 touchdowns with just seven interceptions… He also rushed 148 times for 751 yards and 17 touchdowns… As a sophomore he completed 113 of 205 attempts for 1,680 yards and 11 touchdowns with six interceptions… Rushed 193 times for 1,042 yards and 18 scores… Also lettered in basketball and track and reached the state championship in the discus as a sophomore.

Javonte Daniel
DE, 6-4, 215, Fr., HS
LaGrange, Ga.
(LaGrange HS)

Tabbed all-state honorable mention as a senior… Was all-Bi-City as a senior… Also earned all-area honors as both a junior and senior… Recorded 78 tackles, with five tackles for loss and a sack as a senior… Registered 70 tackles with six tackles for loss as a junior… Played four seasons and started three years.

Phil Ford
OL, 6-6, 342, Fr., HS
Shawnee, Kan.
(Bishop Miege HS)

Earned honorable mention all-state honors as a senior… An all-Eastern Kansas League first-team selection as both a junior and a senior… Earned Eastern Kansas League honorable mention honors as a sophomore… Also was an all-metro honorable mention selection… Was a three-year letterwinner at right tackle… Also played basketball… Born in Kansas City, Mo… Son of Michelle Walker… Has one sister and one brother... Uncle Michael Walker played basketball at Missouri… Plans to major in broadcast journalism… Would like to be a newscaster or a fire fighter… Hobbies include dancing, working out and spending time with friends.

Collin Garrett
LB, 6-1, 205, Fr., HS
Beaumont, Texas
(West Brook HS)

Was a class 5A all-state honorable mention selection as a senior… Also earned all-state recognition as a junior… Named district 5A-21 defensive MVP after both his junior and senior seasons… Was a two-time all-district selection and a two-time all-southeast Texas first-team selection… Registered 155 tackles and returned an interception for a touchdown as a senior… As a junior he recorded 137 tackles… Recorded more than 300 tackles in his career… Recorded four interceptions and forced four fumbles… A two-year letterwinner as an outside linebacker… Also competed in track… Born in Beaumont, Texas… Son of Lisa Gloude and Greg Garrett… Plans to major in psychology… Would like to be a coach or a therapist… Likes to play video games.

Ben Goodman
DE, 6-3, 245, Fr., HS
Beaumont, Texas
(West Brook HS)

A two-time first-team 5A-21 all-district selection after both his junior and senior seasons… Earned all-southeast Texas first-team honors… Named to Beaumont Enterprise and Port Arthur News Super Gold Team… Finished his career with 259 tackles, including 20 sacks… As a senior he had 110 tackles, three sacks and 10 pass break ups… Recorded 69 tackles with 10 tackles for loss, seven sacks and one interception as a junior… Has traveled the country competing in calf roping in rodeos… Played basketball as a freshman… Named to district all-academic team… Born in Beaumont, Texas… Son of Ben and Latrissa Goodman… Has one sister… Plans to major in business… Would like to become a college football coach… Hobbies include calf roping, basketball and working out.

Julius Green
DE, 6-7, 270, Fr., HS
Houston, Texas
(Aldine HS)

Already on campus and will participate in spring practice… Was a first-team all-district, all-city and all-area team selection as a senior in 2009… Played defensive end and tight end, while lettering two seasons… Born in Houston, Texas… Son of Julia Green… Has five brothers and sisters… Undecided on his major… Would like to be a coach… Plays basketball, the piano and writes poetry.

Ben Heeney
LB, 6-1, 195, Fr., HS
Hutchinson, Kan.
(Hutchinson HS)

Ranked as the 12th-best player in the state of Kansas and the 58th-best outside linebacker in the nation according to Rivals.com… Was named to the Wichita Eagle's Top 11 football team… Named 5A first-team all-state by the Topeka Capital Journal as a running back… Rushed for 2,083 yards and 39 touchdowns on 246 carries as a senior, setting school records in both yards and touchdowns in a season… Ran for a school-record 333 yards against Salina Central… Defensively he recorded 143 career tackles, including 14 for loss… Added four interceptions.

Jason Hensley
LB, 6-2, 222, Fr., HS
Alma, Ark.
(Alma HS)

Was a three-time all-conference selection… Also earned academic honors… Played in seven games as a senior and recorded 65 tackles and two sacks… As a junior he recorded 118 tackles, six sacks and two fumble recoveries… Made 108 stops with two sacks as a sophomore… Also played running back… Was all-conference in track and holds the school record for the triple jump… Competed in the shot put at the Arkansas Meet of Champions… Earned four letters in track… Was vice president of the student council… Born in Fort Smith, Ark… Son of Doyle and Carman Hensley… Has one brother… Plans to major in kinesiology… Would like to become a coach… Hobbies include golf, swimming and listening to music.

Marquis Jackson
WR, 6-0, 205, Fr., HS
Fort Worth, Texas
(Arlington Heights HS)

Named to Associated Press Class 4A all-state first team… Was a Texas 4A all-state selection by The Old Coach… Named to Fort Worth Star-Telegram Super Team first team… Also named Dallas-Fort Worth all area… Ranked No. 35 on the HSGametime Area Top 100… Listed No. 57 on Inside Texas Top 100… Was a two-time district MVP as well as the sophomore of the year… As a senior he pulled in 43 receptions for 1,181 yards and 14 touchdowns… He averaged 27 yards per catch… He also rushed 58 times for 401 yards and eight more touchdowns… Team won district 6-4A championship… As a junior he had 48 catches for 949 yards and 11 touchdowns… He had 44 receptions for 725 yards and seven touchdowns as a sophomore… Was a two-time all-district basketball player… Competed in track and was a regional qualifier… Born in Fort Worth, Texas… Son of Barbara Roundtree… Has one brother and one sister… Plans to major in business… Would like to start his own business… Likes playing video games and basketball.

Jake Love
LB, 6-0, 195, Fr., HS
Tonkawa, Okla.
(Tonkawa HS)

Ranked as the 14th-best player in the state of Oklahoma by Rivals.com… Also listed as the 70th-best outside linebacker in the nation according to Rivals.com… Named all-state by the Oklahoma Football Coaches Association… As a junior he earned honorable mention all-state recognition… In his career he recorded 449 tackles, while offensively he ran for 6,612 yards and 96 touchdowns… As a senior he recorded 122 tackles and had four interceptions… Also rushed 200 times for 1,761 yards and 28 touchdowns… In junior season he led the state in rushing with 2,856 yards and 47 touchdowns… Defensively he recorded 123 tackles… Missed six games as a sophomore but still ran for 1,237 yards and recorded 82 tackles… Freshman season he ran for 758 yards and recorded 123 tackles… Also lettered four years in wrestling, track and baseball… Won state titles in wresting and in the long jump as a junior… Was wrestling state runner up as a sophomore… Born in Ponca City, Okla… Son of Steve Love and Shelly London… Father played football at Northwestern Oklahoma State… Has one brother and two sisters.

Luke Luhrsen
OL, 6-5, 275, Fr., HS
Wheaton, Ill.
(Warrenville South HS)

Was an all-state, all-area and all-conference honoree as a senior… Team won state titles in both his junior and senior seasons… Team also won conference championship each year… Team only lost one football game during his prep career… Played offensive guard and offensive tackle while earning two letters… Also lettered four seasons in hockey, two years in lacrosse and one year in track… Had a hockey hat trick and won a conference title in the shot put… Born in Wheaton, Ill… Son of Kris and Diane Luhrsen… Has two siblings… Dad wrestled at Indiana… Grandfather played football at Illinois… Has cousins who play or played college volleyball… Plans to major in business… Main hobby is music… Can play the drums, guitar, ukulele and piano.

Damon Martin
OL, 6-5, 265, Fr., HS
Arlington, Texas
(Arlington HS)

Was an all-district 4-5A first-team offensive tackle… Named his team's lineman of the year… Lettered three years as an offensive tackle… Three time state Big Man Champion… Born in Irving, Texas… Son of Christine Jones and Damon Martin, Sr… Has five siblings… Plans to major in business.

Alex Matlock
DB, 6-2, 190, Fr., HS
Pflugerville, Texas
(Pflugerville HS)

Was a two-year all-district selection… Served as a team captain… Earned academic all-district honors three times… Recorded 200 tackles, forced eight fumbles, broke up 23 passes and had three interceptions in his three-year prep career… Lettered three seasons as a free safety… Also completed in track and basketball… Born in Austin, Texas… Son of James and Veronica Matlock… Has one sibling… Plans to major in biology and work in general medicine… Hobbies include basketball, reading and playing video games… Serves as a youth basketball coach and youth mentor… Elected freshman class vice president and has received leadership and academic awards.

Darrian Miller
RB, 5-10, 181, Fr., HS
Blue Springs, Mo.
(Blue Springs HS)

Graduated high school early and is enrolled at KU this spring… Ranked as the second-best player in the state of Kansas, as well as the 22nd-best running back in the country by Rivals.com… A three-time all-state first-team selection… Twice was named the Missouri Class 6 offensive player of the year… Named Kansas City Star all-metro first team as a senior… Was named the Missouri Gatorade Player of the Year as a junior… Finished as the Missouri all-time big-class (5 and 6) rushing leader with 6,565 career yards… Recorded 88 career touchdowns… Ran for 2,226 yards and 30 touchdowns as a senior… Posted six 200-yard rushing games in helping Blue Springs to a 9-3 record and the Class 6 quarterfinals… Rushed 309 times for 2,798 yards and 37 touchdowns as a junior… Also pulled in 24 receptions for 375 yards and three more scores… Lettered three years while playing running back, cornerback and returning kicks… Also competed in track and field, lettering four times… Born in Mayview, Mo… Son of Crystal Miller… Likes music, video games and painting… Would like to move to Colorado after graduation.

Alex Mueller
PK, 5-10, 155, Fr., HS
Grapevine, Texas
(Grapevine HS)

Ranked as the fifth-best place kicker in the nation according to Rivals.com… Tabbed first-team Class 5A all state by The Old Coach… Named Class 5A all-state honorable mention as a senior by the Associated Press… Earned 5A Dallas-Fort Worth all-area first-team honors… A two-time all-district first-team selection… Made 11 of 13 field goal attempts as a senior, including a long of 47 yards… Also hit kicks of 40 and 44 yards… Made 22 of 24 PATs… In season opener against Midlothian, he kicked a 27-yard field goal with 1:26 left to force overtime and then booted a 44-yarder for the game winner… As a junior he was nine of 12 on field goal attempts and was 32 of 32 on PATs… Was an all-district soccer player… Born in Colleyville, Texas… Son of Steve and Diana Mueller… Has one brother and one sister… Plans to major in business.

Bryan Peters
OL, 6-5, 305, Fr., HS
La Mirada, Calif.
(La Mirada HS)

Ranked as the 40th-best player in the state of California and the 65th-best offensive tackle in the nation by Rivals.com… Was named second-team all-Southern Section by Sectionsports.com… Was a three-year letterwinner as an offensive lineman… Team was 7-4 his senior season… In his junior season the team went 13-1 and won its second straight Suburban League title and a CIF-Southern Section Southern Division championship… Played baseball as a freshman… Born in Fullerton, Calif… Son of Doug and Ellen Peters… Has two brothers… Plans on majoring in business and would like to be a player agent… Hobbies include working out, spending time with friends and playing golf.

Anthony Pierson
RB, 5-11, 175, Fr., HS
East St. Louis, Ill.
(East St. Louis HS)

Ranked as the eighth-best "athlete" in the nation by Rivals.com… Also listed as the fourth-best overall prospect in the state of Illinois by Rivals.com… Considered the top recruit in the St. Louis area by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch… In his career he ran for 5,661 yards, breaking the 1,000-yard mark all four seasons… Scored a total of 76 touchdowns in his prep career… As a senior he rushed for 1,408 yards and 22 touchdowns on just 120 carries (11.7 per attempt) in 10 games… Played his first three seasons at Gateway Tech… Earned Class 4 all-state honors in Missouri as a sophomore.

Michael Reynolds
DE, 6-4, 220, Fr., HS
Wichita, Kan.
(Kapauan Mt. Carmel HS)

Named Class 5A all-state by the Wichita Eagle as a senior… Was a two-time all-metro selection… Named second-team all-city league as a senior… Recorded 45 tackles, including 12 for loss as a senior… Also registered two interceptions in his final prep season… Earned all-city first-team honors and was honorable mention all state as a junior… Lettered three years and played defensive end, linebacker, running back, tight end and kickoff returner during his prep career… Also lettered four years in baseball, earning all-state, all-metro and all-city honors as a pitcher… Was an Under Armour All-American in baseball… Played one year of basketball… Born in Wichita, Kan… Son of Rodney and Kendra Reynolds… Has two sisters and one brother… Father played football at Butler County JC… Plans to major in communications… Likes to play video games.

Chris Robinson
DB, 5-9, 170, Fr., HS
Lake Mary, Fla.
(Lake Mary HS)

Ranked as a top 25 player in central Florida and top 100 in the state of Florida… Earned all-conference honors… Served as a team captain… Finished his career with 134 tackles, nine tackles for loss, five fumble recoveries, 29 passes broken up and five interceptions… Offensively he ran for 641 yards and eight touchdowns, while recording 17 receptions for 296 yards and two scores… As a senior he recorded 49 tackles with four for loss… Also had three interceptions, 10 PBUs and scored two defensive touchdowns… Had one punt return for a touchdown... As a junior he recorded 51 tackles and two interceptions… He also played wide receiver, running back and was a return man… Averaged 12.3 yards per rush and 20.1 yards per reception his junior season… Also competed in track and earned all-conference honors… Lettered three years in football and four in track… Born in Sanford, Fla… Son of Marcie and Reginald Robinson… Has three brothers… Brother Michael played football at Greensboro College and brother Reginald played football at Lindenwood… Plans to major in criminal justice… Likes to play video games.

Adonis Saunders
DB, 5-11, 185, Fr., HS
Olathe, Kan.
(Olathe North HS)

Named first-team 6A all-state as a running back by the Wichita Eagle and the Topeka Capital Journal… Was tabbed to the Wichita Eagle Top-11 of Kansas third team… Was named all-Sunflower League first team as a running back and second team as a defensive back as a senior… Was honorable mention all-metro by the Kansas City Star… In his career he recorded 140 tackles with five interceptions… Offensively he ran for more than 2,000 yards… Also had 330 career receiving yards… Rushed for 1,554 yards and 20 touchdowns as a senior… Recorded 70 tackles and had three interceptions his final year… Earned honorable mention all-conference as a junior… Team made the state championship game his senior year and won the state title his junior year… Lettered four years in track and won state titles in the 100 meters, 200 meters and 4x100 relay as a sophomore en route to being named the Kansas Gatorade track athlete of the year… Won the KU Relays 100 meters in 2010…
Born in Shawnee Mission, Kan… Son of Jacquelyn and Desmond Saunders… Has three brothers and three sisters… Mother played basketball at Central Missouri State… Sister played basketball at Cowley Community College… Undecided on his major at KU… Likes music and spending time with friends.

JaCorey Shepherd

WR, 5-11, 170, Fr., HS
Mesquite, Texas
(Mesquite Horn HS)

Ranked by Rivals.com as the 82nd-best wide receiver in the country… Listed at No. 26 on HSGameTime's Dallas-area top 100… Earned all-state honorable mention honors and all-district recognition… Pulled in 71 catches for 992 yards and 10 touchdowns as a senior… Had 46 receptions for 672 yards and seven scores as a junior… Lettered three seasons while playing wide receiver, defensive back, punt returner and quarterback… Earned academic all-state honorable mention honors… Also played basketball for three years… Born in Mt. Pleasant, Texas… Son of Jonathan Shepherd and Roshunda Smith… Has three sisters and two brothers… Father played football at Baylor… Plans to major in accounting.

Victor Simmons

DB, 6-1, 185, Fr., HS
Olathe, Kan.
(Olathe North HS)

Ranked by Rivals.com as the 13th-best player in the state of Kansas… Named first-team 6A all-state by the Wichita Eagle and Topeka Capital Journal… Was tabbed to the Wichita Eagle Top-11 of Kansas third team… Was second-team all-metro by the Kansas City Star… Named first-team all-Sunflower League as a defensive back… Named Sunflower League Elite 11… As a senior he rushed for 1,455 yards and 10 touchdowns as a quarterback… Defensively he recorded 85 tackles… Added two interceptions and forced two fumbles… Rushed for 1,034 yards as a junior… Also recorded 46 tackles… Earned honorable mention all-conference as a junior… Team made the state championship game his senior year and won the state title his junior year… Lettered three seasons playing quarterback and free safety… Born in Omaha, Neb… Son of Victor and Denise Simmons… Has one sibling… Plans to major in engineering… Cousin Ashanti Johnson played basketball at Kansas.

Dreamius Smith

RB, 6-0, 205, Fr., HS
Wichita, Kan.
(Wichita Heights HS)

Ranked by Rivals.com as the eighth-best player in the state of Kansas and the 44th-best running back in the country… Was named to the Wichita Eagle's Top 11 football team… Named first-team 6A all-state by the Wichita Eagle… Team won the state championship his senior year… As a senior he rushed 143 times for 1,837 yards and 34 touchdowns… His career numbers included 320 rushes for 3,288 yards and 54 scores… In 2010 state championship game he ran for a school record 286 yards against Olathe North.