



# NORTHERN STATE ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS

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**For Immediate Release**

## **RATZSCH NAMED TO PRESEASON ALL-AMERICA SQUAD**

October 10, 2008

**ABERDEEN, S.D.** - Northern State University senior Kevin Ratzsch (Bloomington, Ill.) picked up the first accolades of the 2008-09 men's basketball season Friday when he was named to the Street & Smith's Second Team Preseason All-America squad.

The only player from the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference to be named to the publication's first or second teams, Ratzsch returns to the floor this season after leading the Wolves and finishing fourth in the conference in scoring last season with 16.8 points per game. He also had a team-best 33 steals to go along with 44 blocks on the defensive end of the floor for the Wolves.

The 6-foot-7 forward was a key member of the 2007-08 squad that finished 29-4 overall and advanced to the NCAA Regional championship game before falling to eventual national champions Winona State.

Ratzsch earned All-NSIC and All-Region honors for his efforts on the court last season.

Four other NSIC players earned honorable mention note, including Concordia-St. Paul's Craig Heiman, who led the league in scoring in 2007-08. Minnesota State's Jake Morrow, St. Cloud State's Matt Schneck and Minnesota-Duluth's Brian Sykora were also included on the list.

A complete listing of the preseason teams is as follows:

### **Street & Smith's Top 10**

1. South Carolina-Aiken
2. Findlay (Ohio)
3. Gannon (Pa.)
4. Bentley (Mass.)
5. Augusta State (Ga.)
6. Southwest Baptist (Mo.)
7. Central Washington
8. Grand Valley State (Mich.)
9. Florida Southern
10. C. W. Post (NY)

### **Street & Smith's All-America Teams**

#### **First team**

Chris Commons, USC-Aiken  
Anthony Hilliard, Elizabeth City St.  
Matt Rogers, Southwest Baptist  
Jonathan Schmidt, C.W. Post  
Garret Siler, Augusta State

#### **Second team**

Jake Beltinger, Central Wash.  
Josh Bostic, Findlay  
Malcolm Ingram, Philadelphia  
***Kevin Ratzsch, Northern State***  
Ted Scott, West Virginia State

#### **Honorable Mention**

Lucas Alves, BYU-Hawaii  
Kenny Barker, Alaska-Anchorage  
Drake Beranek, Neb.-Kearney  
Stephen Dennis, Kutztown  
Darren Duncan, Merrimack  
Kendrick Easley, Mount Olive  
Laurence Ekperigin, LeMoyne  
Rob Eldridge, Florida Southern  
Lew Finnegan, Bentley  
Jason Genova, Lewis  
Kyle Goldcamp, Gannon  
Tony Gugino, Hillsdale

#### **Honorable Mention (cont'd.)**

Stan Hall, Alderson-Broaddus  
Craig Heiman, Concordia (Minn.)  
Hunter Henry, NW Missouri State  
Nick Kohs, Christian Brothers  
Jake Linton, Saint Martin's  
Ben Madgen, Augusta State  
Thad McFadden, Fairmont State  
Jake Morrow, Minnesota State  
Anthony Pimble, Southern Indiana  
Matt Schneck, St. Cloud State  
T. J. Smith, Kentucky Wesleyan  
Brian Sykora, Minnesota-Duluth  
Pete Trammell, Grand Valley State  
Marcus Tulli, Pittsburgh-Johnstown  
Jesse Wagstaff, Metro State  
Jason Westrol, Bentley  
DeAaron Williams, N. Kentucky  
Eric Williams, Tarleton State  
Tracey Williams, Clayton State