Muncie, Ind. -- Ball State head football coach Brady Hoke has announced 21 student-athletes have signed national letters of intent to attend the school and compete on the Cardinals’ football team.

“We are extremely excited about this year’s recruiting class and the future of Ball State football,” Hoke says. “The staff did an outstanding job of evaluating this year’s class. We have a good mix of players from all over the country, and we were able to fill the needs of our football program.”

Ball State will open the 2008 football season Aug. 28, in a home game vs. Northeastern at Scheumann Stadium. The Cardinals are coming off a 7-6 overall record, a Mid-American Conference West Division Co-Championship and an appearance in the International Bowl.

James Cravens
RB 5-11 210 Centerville, Ohio (Centerville) Ron Ullery

HIGH SCHOOL: Earned three letters in football for Coach Ron Ullery ... also lettered two times in track. ... Football: Helped the Elks to a 13-2 record as a senior and a 31-11 mark in his career. ... helped team to an 8-1 Northwest Crossroads Conference record as a junior and senior. ... managed a school record 26 career rushing yards plus had 214 career tackles, four blocked kicks and six forced fumbles in his career. ... had 714 career rushing yards, including a school record 108 in a single game. ... Lowe's Most Valuable Player as a junior and senior. ... school's Most Valuable Receiver and Most Valuable Defensive Lineman as a junior and senior. ... Indiana Football Coaches Association Top-50. ... Track: Competed as a sprinter for Coach Keith Kilmer ... named team's Most Valuable Sprinter as a junior. ... owns a career best: 10.9 in the 100-meter dash, a :22.1 in the 200-meter dash and a :51.6 in the 400-meter run. ... PERSONAL: Son of Jeff Barker and Jimmie Gail. ... born Dec. 16, 1988, in Munster, Ind. ... two sisters. ... full name is Jeff Robert Barker.

Andre Dawson
WR/CB 6-0 172 Lewis Center, Ohio (Olentangy) Ed Terwilliger

HIGH SCHOOL: Earned two letters in football for Coach Ed Terwilliger ... also earned two letters in basketball and four in track and field. ... Football: Helped the Braves to a 6-4 record as a senior and a 21-9 mark in career. ... helped team to a 4-2 Ohio Capital Conference record as a senior. ... all-conference and all-district as a senior. ... Olentangy's Most Valuable Player as a senior. ... tallied 20 receptions with nine touchdowns as a senior. ... also managed 52 tackles, four interceptions, five pass breakups and one defensive touchdown as a senior. ... Basketball: Competing for Coach Chris Kelly. ... averaging 5.3 points, 6.7 assists and 4.6 rebounds per game midway through his senior season. ... helping team to a 13-4 record, including an 8-3 conference mark so far in 2007-08. ... Track: Competes as a sprinter and long jumper for Coach Sam Lehman. ... all-conference second team as a junior after receiving honorable mention as a sophomore. ... two-time team captain. ... PERSONAL: Son of Leon Day and Lynn Dawson. ... born Aug. 7, 1990, in Columbus, Ohio. ... two sisters and one brother. ... full name is Andre Jovan Dawson.

Torieal Gibson
WR 5-9 165 Cleveland, Ohio (Glenville) Ted Ginn

HIGH SCHOOL: Earned four letters in football for Coach Ted Ginn ... also competes in basketball. ... Football: Helped team to a 9-3 record as a senior, including an undefeated mark in the Senate Athletic League. ... helped Glenville to regional finals as a senior. ... all-state and all-league as a senior. ... managed 23 receptions for 314 yards with two touchdowns as a senior. ... also tallied 17 punt returns for 174 yards and one TD as a senior. ... registered 40 career receptions for 749 yards plus 27 punt returns for 219 yards in his career. ... PERSONAL: Son of Carla Gibson. ... born Nov. 22, 1988, in Cleveland, Ohio. ... one brother and one sister. ... owns a 3.4 grade-point average. ... named to Glenville's Honor and Merit Roll. ... full name is Torieal Gibson.
*Jeremy Hill*

**WR 6-2 175 Marietta, Ga. (Marietta)**

**High School Coach:** James Richards

**High School:** Earned two letters in football for Coach James Richards. Also earned two letters in track. **Football:** Helped team to an 8-2 record as a senior and a 14-6 mark in career. All-conference as a senior. Marietta's Most Valuable Player as a senior. Received honorable mention on the all-state team as a senior. Tallied 28 catches for 731 yards with eight touchdowns as a senior. Also registered eight interceptions and 39 tackles in senior season. Managed 69 catches for 1,502 yards and 14 touchdowns in career. Had 60 total tackles in career. **Track:** Competes in the hurdles. Owns personal bests of 14.3 in the 100 high hurdles and 47.9 in the intermediate hurdles. **PERSONAL:** Son of Bernard and Chandra Hill. Born Oct. 23, 1989, in Marietta, Ga. One brother and one sister. Full name is Jeremy Daniel Hill.

*Joshua Howard*

**FS 6-1 190 Inkster, Mich. (Inkster)**

**High School Coach:** Jeff Hulme

**High School:** Competed in football for Coach Jeff Hulme. Helped team to a 13-1 record as a senior. Helped the Rangers to a 10-0 start for the first time in school history. Named to Rivals.com Top-50 in the Houston Metro area as a senior. All-district linebacker as a sophomore and all-district free safety as a junior and senior. Managed 99 tackles with two interceptions as a sophomore and 110 tackles with two INTs as a junior. **PERSONAL:** Son of Jon and Jody Hoke. Born May 4, 1989, in Akron, Ohio. Father, Jon, was a football letterman for Ball State from 1976-79 and played for the National Football League's Chicago Bears and Kansas City Chiefs before entering the coaching profession. Father completed his sixth season as an assistant coach with the Houston Texans in 2007-08. Mother, the former Jody Hilles, is a former Ball State Homecoming Queen and the daughter of former Ball State assistant football coach (1972-77) Jim Hilles. Kyle's uncle, Brady Hoke, is the current Ball State head coach and a Ball State alum. Kyle has three sisters. Full name is Austin Michael Holtz.

*Austin Holtz*

**OL 6-5 290 Holt, Mich. (Holt)**

**High School Coach:** Mike Smith

**High School:** Earned three letters in football for Coach Greg Carter. Also lettered three seasons in basketball and four in baseball. **Football:** Helped team to a 10-1 record as a senior and a 28-5 mark in career. Helped Holt to four straight conference championships and a district championship as a senior. Helped team to 26 consecutive wins and four top-10 rankings in the Associated Press Poll. All-state as a senior. All-conference as a junior and senior. **PERSONAL:** Son of Brian and Shaun Holtz. Born Nov. 1, 1989, in Tecumseh, Mich. One brother and one sister. Brother, Tyler, plays football at Grand Valley State. Full name is Austin Michael Holtz.

*Jeremy Lowery*

**OT 6-6 255 Indianapolis, Ind. (Pike)**

**High School Coach:** Derek Moyer

**High School:** Earned four letters in football for Coach Derek Moyer. Also lettered four seasons in track and field. **Football:** Helped team to a 14-1 record as a senior and a 27-19 mark in career. Helped team to the school's first-ever sectional, regional and semistate championships as a senior. Helped Pike to state runnerup finish as a senior. All-state, all-conference and all-county as a senior. Academic All-State as a senior. Indiana Football Coaches Association All-State as a senior. Graded out at 90 percent blocking as a senior and registered 29 pancake blocks. Awarded the Phil Eskew Mental Attitude Award at the Class 5A State Championships. High school teammate of fellow signee Robert Martin. **PERSONAL:** Son of Orlando and Penny Lowry. Born May 18, 1990, in Indianapolis, Ind. Father played football at Ohio State and with the Indianapolis Colts. Uncle, Quentin Lowry, played football at Youngstown State and with the Washington Redskins. Two brothers and one sister. Owns a 3.5 grade-point average and is a member of the Pike Honor Roll. Full name is Scott Read Kova.

*Robert Martin*

**LB 6-2 230 Indianapolis, Ind. (Pike)**

**High School Coach:** Derek Moyer

**High School:** Earned two letters in football for Coach Derek Moyer. Helped team to a 14-1 record as a senior and a 27-19 mark in career. Helped team to the school's first-ever sectional, regional and semistate championships as a senior. Helped Pike to a state runnerup finish as a senior. All-Conference Indiana as a senior. Pike's Most Valuable Player and Defensive MVP as a senior. Indiana Football Coaches Association Top-50. All-state and all-county as a senior. Tallied 124 tackles, 15 tackles for loss, four sacks, two forced fumbles and one fumble caused in final season. High school teammate of fellow signee Cameron Lowry. **PERSONAL:** Son of Robert Martin and Stephanie Young. Born July 22, 1989, in Indianapolis, Ind. Father played football at UTEP. Cousin, Greg Middleton, played football at Indiana. One brother. Full name is Robert Eddie Martin.

*(more)*
Briggs Orsbon
WR 6-0 185 Convoy, Ohio (Crestview) Jason Cross

HIGH SCHOOL: Earned three letters in football for Coach Jason Cross . . . also lettered four seasons in basketball and four in baseball . . . Football: Helped team to a 5-5 record as a senior and a 27-14 mark in his career . . . helped the Knights to the school's first-ever playoff appearance and first-ever Northwest Conference Championship as a sophomore . . . three-time all-conference on defense and all-conference on offense as a sophomore and senior . . . Northwest Conference Player of the Year as a senior and Special Teams Player of the Year as a sophomore and senior . . . all-state second team as a senior . . . all-district as a senior after making second team as a sophomore and junior . . . named to Lima Dream Team as a senior . . . Crestview's Most Valuable Player and Offensive Player of the Year as a junior and senior . . . managed 2,055 all-purpose yards and 146 points scored as a senior . . . rushed for 1,771 yards with 24 touchdowns as a senior plus passed for 977 yards with five TDs . . . managed 6,133 all-purpose yards in career . . . threw for 1,705 yards with 12 touchdowns in career . . . caught 75 passes for 1,103 yards and 12 scores in career . . . set single-game school records for rushing yards (377) and punt return touchdowns (2) . . . set single-season school records for receiving TDs (10), rushing yards (1,771), rushing TDs (24), points scored (146) and all-purpose yards (2,112) . . . set school career records for rushing yards (3,445), rushing TDs (39), touchdowns (56), points scored (338) and all-purpose yards (6,133) . . . Basketball: Earned four letters for Coach Jeremy Best . . . helped team to back-to-back district runnerup finishes as a sophomore and junior . . . helped team to conference title as a junior . . . Crestview Most Valuable Defensive Player as a sophomore and junior . . . Baseball: Earned four letters for Coach Jim Wharton . . . all-conference as a sophomore and junior . . . Northwest Conference Player of the Year as a junior . . . all-state second team and all-district as a junior . . . Crestview's Offensive Player of the Year as a junior . . . PERSONAL: Son of Steve and Kim Page . . . born April 16, 1989, in Dallas, Texas . . . two brothers and one sister . . . owns a 3.89 grade-point average and is a Scholar-Athlete and in the National Honor Society at Crestview . . . full name is Briggs Lynn Orsbon.

Kelly Page
QB 6-3 210 Sunnyvale, Texas (Mesquite) Steve Halpin

HIGH SCHOOL: Earned three letters in football for Coach Steve Halpin . . . also earned three letters in track . . . Football: Helped team to a 7-5 record as a senior and a 17-11 mark in career . . . ranked as the 12th best quarterback in the country by ESPN.com . . . ranked 25th in the nation by Rivals.com . . . passed for 929 yards as a senior . . . passed for 1,287 yards and rushed for 767 yards as a sophomore . . . managed 17 touchdowns as a sophomore . . . selected the District 12 5-A Newcomer of the Year after his sophomore season . . . Track: Competed as a sprinter for Coach Hill . . . qualified for the regionals as a junior as a member of the 400- and 800-meter relay teams . . . PERSONAL: Son of Steve and Kim Page . . . born April 16, 1989, in Dallas, Texas . . . two brothers and one sister . . . owns a 3.6 grade-point average and has been on the Mesquite Honor Roll all four years . . . full name is Kelly Lloyd Page.

Blaine Schafer
OT 6-6 299 Plymouth, Ind. (Plymouth) John Barron

HIGH SCHOOL: Earned three letters in football for Coach John Barron . . . also lettered in basketball and track and field . . . Football: Helped team to a 24-11 record in his career . . . started every game in his career . . . led the Rockies to an undefeated conference season and the North- ern Lakes Conference Championship as a sophomore . . . team captain as a senior . . . all-conference as a junior and senior . . . Indiana Football Coaches Association Top-50 . . . IFCA Junior All-State . . . selected to play in the IFCA All-Star Game in the summer of 2008 . . . all-state as a junior and senior . . . South Bend Tribune Dream Team as a senior and South Bend Tribune All-Area as a junior . . . 2007 Scout.com Cincinnati All-Combine Team . . . PERSONAL: Son of Brent and Sherry Schafer . . . born Aug. 15, 1989, in Plymouth, Ind. . . one brother and one sister . . . owns a 3.6 grade-point average and has been on the Mesquite Honor Roll each semester as a junior and senior . . . full name is Blaine Robert Schafer.

Steven Schott
PK 6-1 165 Massillon, Ohio (Washington) Tom Stacy

HIGH SCHOOL: Earned four letters in football for Coach Tom Stacy . . . helped team to a 6-4 record as a senior and a 30-17 mark in career . . . team captain as a senior . . . Division I All-Ohio, All-Northeast Inland District and all-county as a junior and senior . . . Evening Independent All-Star as a sophomore, junior and senior, and the only sophomore to make the team in 2005 . . . all-district second team and honorable mention all-county as a sophomore . . . set school records for career field goals (30), career extra points (178) and career point scored (261) . . . set school's single-season record for PAT's (61 in 2005) . . . set Washington single-game records for PAT's (10), punts (7), punt yards (287), games played (47) and games scored in (45) . . . connected on seven field goals as a senior with a long of 47 yards . . . made 38 extra points as a senior . . . averaged 38.5 yards per punt and placed seven punts inside the 20-yard line as a senior . . . kicked a 47-yard game-winning field goal against Canton McKinley as a junior . . . three-time champion of Canton Repository Pro Football Hall of Fame East/West All-Star Game Kicking Contest . . . won "Best Kicker Award" at the University of Cincinnati Kicking Camp in 2007 . . . high school teammate of fellow signee Steve Yoder . . . PERSONAL: Son of Mike and Linda Schott . . . born Nov. 9, 1989, in Massillon, Ohio . . . one brother . . . owns a 3.8 grade-point average and has been on the Washington Honor Roll each semester as a junior and senior . . . full name is Steven Michael Schott.

Joshua Smith
DB/WR 6-2 190 Cincinnati, Ohio (Withrow) Doc Camble

HIGH SCHOOL: Earned three letters in football for Coach Doc Camble . . . also lettered three seasons in track and field . . . Football: Helped team to a 9-2 record as a senior and a 22-9 career mark . . . helped team to an 8-0 conference record . . . all-league and all-city as a junior and received honorable mention as a senior . . . Withrow's Most Valuable Defensive Player as a junior . . . tallied 105 tackles and 10 interceptions in career . . . PERSONAL: Son of Robert Byers and Carolynn Smith . . . born Oct. 30, 1989, in Cincinnati, Ohio . . . one brother and one sister . . . full name is Joshua Dwight Smith.

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<td>Cory Sykes</td>
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**HIGH SCHOOL:** Competed in football for Coach Bill Mosel. Also competed in track and field. **Football:** Helped team to a 7-2 record as a senior and a 20-8 mark in career. Helped team to conference championships in 2005 and 2006. Helped team to a 5-1-1 conference record as a senior. All-conference as a senior. All-state second team as a senior. *Daily Southtown* Player of the Year as a senior. Thornton's Most Valuable Player as a senior. Rushed for 1,600 yards and 25 touchdowns in final campaign. Rushed for 3,600 yards and 39 touchdowns in career. **Track:** Competed for Coach Vince McAulife. Won the conference and sectional in the 100- and 200-yard dash as a junior. Qualified for state in the sprints in first three years. **PERSONAL:** Son of Cory Sykes and Shawn Mahan. Born Dec. 13, 1988, in Chicago, Ill. Owns a 3.1 grade-point average and is a member of the National Honor Society. Full name is Cory Leroy Sykes.

| Rashaad White  | RB   | 5-9  | 205  | Rex, Ga. (Stockbridge)            | Steve Collins    |

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Earned three letters in football for Coach Steve Collins. Helped team to a 6-4 record as a senior. Helped school to its first winning season in 17 years. Helped team to a county championship as a senior. All-state and all-conference second team as a senior. Named Stockbridge's Offensive Player of the Year in final campaign. Tallied 989 rushing yards and 147 receiving yards as a senior. Rushed for 2,643 yards in career, while amassing 589 receiving yards in career. Set the school record for consecutive rushes without a fumble (361). Set Stockbridge record for longest run from scrimmage (79 yards) as a senior. **PERSONAL:** Son of Matt Medlock and Amala Odom. Born Feb. 6, 1990, in Waycross, Ga. Full name is Rashaad Hakeem White.

| Steve Yoder    | OL   | 6-3  | 300  | Canal Fulton, Ohio (Massillon Washington) | Tom Stacy       |

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Earned three letters in football for Coach Tom Stacy. Also competed in wrestling and baseball. **Football:** Helped team to a 6-4 record as a senior and a 26-11 mark in career. Helped team to a state runnerup finish in 2005. Team captain as a senior. *ESPN Radio 990* Defensive Player of the Year. All-county as a senior. Selected to play in the Ohio North-South All-Star Game. High school teammate of fellow signee Steven Schott. **Wrestling:** Named to the Stark County Division 1 All-Star Team as a senior. Won three tournaments as a senior and managed five additional top-6 finishes. School's Most Valuable Player as a junior. All-district as a junior and senior. **Baseball:** Managed a .500 batting average and a 3.89 earned-run average as a junior. Pitched a perfect game and hit a grand slam in the same game as a sophomore. **PERSONAL:** Son of Richard and Tammy Yoder. Born Oct. 27, 1989, in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. One sister. Full name is Steve Andrew Yoder.

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