



# Press Release

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Longview Lobos sign national letters of intent**

Nine Longview High School student athletes on Wednesday morning signed national letters of intent to study and play at the college level. The standouts from the football, volleyball and ladies' soccer programs made their written commitments in the presence of family, coaches and classmates during a special ceremony in the Lobo Turf Room.

### Football commitments:

#### **Eric Hawkins – University of Arkansas**

2-year varsity letterman  
District 11-5A Offensive Most Valuable Player  
Honorable Mention – All-State

“Eric may be the fastest football player we’ve had at Longview in my 12 years here. He has tremendous character and is an excellent student.” – John King, Longview ISD Athletic Director and Lobos head football coach

#### **Jordan Burton – Stephen F. Austin State University**

3-year varsity letterman  
1<sup>st</sup> Team – All District  
Honorable Mention – All State

“Jordan’s done a little bit of everything for us, so he’ll really be missed. He has been very committed to the program – enough to be a 3-year letterman, which you don’t see much at the 5A level.” – King

#### **Braden King – Sam Houston State University**

2-year varsity letterman  
2<sup>nd</sup> Team – All District  
Honorable Mention – All East Texas

“Toughness. Desire. Late bloomer. Braden gained 40 pounds in the last two years and that put him in the position to earn the scholarship he received.” – King

**Deontre Wilson – Tyler Junior College**

2-year varsity letterman

1<sup>st</sup> Team – All District

Honorable Mention – All East Texas

“Deontre has tremendous talent. He’s going to have several options in terms of what position he’ll play at the next level. He’s a true leader, on and off the field.” – King

**Larry Thomas – Tyler Junior College**

2-year varsity letterman

1<sup>st</sup> Team – All District

“Larry is an outstanding athlete. His best playing days are ahead of him. He’s a late bloomer too, who will surprise some people down the road.” – King

Volleyball commitment:

**Akeea Gilmore – Southwest Christian College**

3-year varsity letterman

Academic All District (2009, 2010, 2011)

Honorable Mention – All District

Honorable Mention – All East Texas

“Akeea will be truly missed next year and have left some heavy shoes to fill on the right side of the court.” – Chaka Jackson, Lady Lobos head volleyball coach

Soccer commitments

**Jordan Adams – Arkansas State University**

Lady Lobo of the Year (2010, 2011)

11-5A Newcomer of the Year

11-5A Defensive MVP

1<sup>st</sup> Team – All District

Tyler Morning Telegraph ‘All East Texas’

“She’s been a stalwart and a mainstay for us in defense for the last three years. She has amazing speed and defensive patience and awareness. Jordan is a great leader.” – Chris Yoder, Lady Lobos head soccer coach

**Molly Grisham – University of North Texas**

1<sup>st</sup> Team – All District

1<sup>st</sup> Team – All Region

11-5A Sophomore of the Year  
Tyler Morning Telegraph 'All East Texas'

"Molly has a personal desire to win every ball in the air and has probably already headed more balls than a lot of college seniors have done." – Yoder

**Morgan Downin – Hartwick College (New York)**

2<sup>nd</sup> Team – All District

Lady Lobo Most Improved Player

"Morgan's learning more and more every game of how to be a leader and to dictate what goes on there in the back." – Yoder