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Tanner earns academic honor for third time

Named First Team Academic All-District

Athletic Communications

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee running back [Phillip Tanner](#) has joined some elite company for his work on and off the football field. Tanner was named Thursday First Team Academic All-District by ESPN the Magazine and the College Sports Information Directors of America. It marks the third straight year he has earned the honor for District 4.

Tanner, a recreation management major, was one of just 25 players named to the first team and one of just two running backs. Tanner will now advance and be put on the national ballot.

The Dallas, Tex., native played in the team's first two games this season before suffering a knee injury and missing the rest of the year. Tanner rushed for 83 yards and a touchdown in his two games to go along with two receptions.

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Phillip Tanner will now be put on the national ballot after being named to the first team. ()