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## Lions accept Wheat Bowl invitation

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# LINDENWOOD

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## Lions accept Wheat Bowl invitation

The athletic program at Lindenwood University received an added incentive recently when the Lions' football program was selected to play in the prestigious Wheat Bowl Football Classic.

Lindenwood athletic director and football coach Dan Kratzer formally accepted the invitation during a press conference last week at the Hyland Performance Arena on the LU campus.

Lindenwood will play Concordia University of Seward, NE in the pre-season headliner that will initiate the Year 2000 football campaign for NAIA membership nationwide. Wheat Bowl VI is scheduled to kick off at 7 p.m. on Aug. 26 at the Sports Complex in Ellinwood, KN.

"We're extremely excited to have Lindenwood University as our first-ever St. Louis-area participant," said Toby Johnson, chairman of the Wheat Bowl's Selection Committee. "Coach Kratzer's program is always competitive in the rugged Heart of America Athletic Conference football wars. Wheat Bowl officials are impressed with the enthusiasm already being generated by both the Lindenwood administrative and athletic leadership."

Kratzer and his Lindenwood coaching staff expect the upcoming edition of Lion football to return to the stature of 1998 when LU finished 8-3 and earned its first post-season NAIA playoff berth.

The Wheat Bowl Classic remains the only NAIA-endorsed pre-season football classic in the country. Two NAIA national champions have appeared in Wheat Bowl contests--defending national champ University of Sioux Falls participated in the 1997 match, while 1999 Wheat Bowl winner Northwestern Oklahoma State University launched what proved to be an unblemished season en route to an NAIA national championship.

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