



MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

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John Clay, Kendall Hunter, LaMichael James Named Finalists for the 2010 Doak Walker Award

DALLAS, TEXAS – The PricewaterhouseCoopers SMU Athletic Forum today announced **John Clay** of Wisconsin, **Kendall Hunter** of Oklahoma State and **LaMichael James** of Oregon as the three finalists for the 2010 Doak Walker Award. The three finalists were determined by a vote of the 175-member Doak Walker Award National Selection Committee.

The Committee will cast a second vote to determine the recipient of the 2010 Doak Walker Award. The recipient will be announced live on *The Home Depot College Football Awards* at 7:00 p.m. (EST) on Thursday, December 9 on ESPN. The award will be presented at the 2010 Doak Walker Award Presentation Banquet in Dallas on Friday, February 18, 2011.

Clay, a junior from Racine, Wisconsin, has rushed for 929 yards and 13 touchdowns this season. Although Clay has missed two full games due to injury, he has rushed for over 100 yards six times this season and helped lead the Badgers to a 10-1 record and a shot at the Big 10 conference title.

Hunter, a senior from Tyler, Texas, has rushed for 1,461 yards and 16 touchdowns in 2010. He leads the Big 12 in total rushing yards and rushing yards per game and ranks third nationally in total rushing yards. After leading the Big 12 in rushing in 2008, Hunter has returned from an injury-riddled 2009 to help lead the Cowboys to their first 10-1 start in school history.

James, a sophomore from Texarkana, Texas, has rushed for 1,422 yards and scored 18 touchdowns this season. He ranks first nationally in rushing yards per game and points scored per game. After establishing the Pac-10 freshman rushing record in 2009, James has rushed for over 100 yards eight times this season, including a career best 257 yards vs. Stanford.

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In addition to outstanding performance on the field, candidates for the Doak Walker Award must have demonstrated records of leadership and exhibited the characteristics of sportsmanship and fair play associated with Doak Walker.

The award is named after three-time SMU All-America running back and 1948 Heisman Trophy winner Doak Walker. The versatile Walker, who also punted, returned kicks and kicked extra points, led the Mustangs to two Southwest Conference Championships and brought the school into the national spotlight. Walker was drafted by the Detroit Lions and as a rookie led the league in scoring. During his six years with the Lions, he led the team to two NFL championships and was chosen All-Pro four times. Walker is a member of both the College and Pro Football Halls of Fame.

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Honoring the legends of sports for 22 years, the PricewaterhouseCoopers SMU Athletic Forum celebrates outstanding success in athletics. Based in Dallas, the series features major figures from a variety of sports. The PricewaterhouseCoopers SMU Athletic Forum includes four luncheons and the prestigious Doak Walker Award Presentation Banquet.

The Doak Walker Award is a member of the National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA). The NCFAA was founded in 1997 as a coalition of the major collegiate football awards to protect, preserve and enhance the integrity, influence and prestige of the game's predominant awards. The NCFAA encourages professionalism and the highest standards for the administration of its member awards and the selection of their candidates and recipients. For more information, visit the association's official website, ncfaa.org.

-smu.edu/doakwalker-