



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TEN SEMIFINALISTS NAMED FOR 2022 DOAK WALKER AWARD

Three previous semifinalists in contention for national running back honor; Big 12, Big Ten each boast three honored players

DALLAS (SMU) – The **PwC SMU Athletic Forum** is proud to announce the 10 semifinalists for the **2022 Doak Walker National Collegiate Running Back Award**. Headed by three players from each of the Big 12 and Big Ten conferences, the list of honored players includes three repeat semifinalists, two from 2021 (Bijan Robinson of Texas and Deuce Vaughn of Kansas State) and one from the 2020 season (Mohamed Ibrahim of Minnesota). In all, the 10 semifinalists represent six Division I FBS conferences.

Finalists for the 2022 Doak Walker Award will be announced a week from today and the winner will be unveiled live on ESPN during *The Home Depot College Football Awards* on Dec. 8. The formal presentation of the award will take place here on the SMU campus at the annual banquet scheduled for Feb. 17, 2023.

Here's a thumbnail look at the semifinalists, five of whom were honored during the course of the season as the Doak Walker Award National Running Back of the Week:

Israel Abanikanda, Pitt: The nation's scoring leader at 11.6 points per game as well as its second-best all-purpose back with 168.6 yards per game, Abanikanda is tied for the national lead with 19 total touchdowns. His 320-yard, six-touchdown game vs. Virginia Tech are the most by an FBS player in either category this season.

Chase Brown, Illinois: Brown remained the FBS rushing leader over the weekend with 1,582 yards and its all-purpose yards leader at 1,779. He also leads in rushes of 10-plus yards (45), 100-yard games (tied with 10, also an Illinois single-season record) and rushing attempts per game (28.1).

Zach Charbonnet, UCLA: Charbonnet leads the FBS in all-purpose average at 171.0 yards per game. He had a rushing touchdown in 10 straight games prior to Saturday's loss at USC.

Blake Corum, Michigan: Corum rushed for 108 yards and a touchdown last weekend for his eighth-consecutive 100-yard game, despite being limited by injury. The big day moves him up to 1,457 yards and into the top 10 all-time in single-season rushing yards at Michigan.

Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota: A 2020 semifinalist, Ibrahim ran for a career-high 263 yards on 39 carries in Minnesota's loss to Iowa and has now posted 19 consecutive 100-yard rushing games, the longest streak by any FBS player since 2000. He has 11 straight games with a rushing touchdown and is alone atop the FBS with 19 rushing touchdowns.

Quinshon Judkins, Ole Miss: Judkins is now Ole Miss' single-season rushing record holder with 1,385 yards, and now tied with Georgia's Todd Gurley for fourth all-time among SEC freshmen – above them are only Georgia's Herschel Walker (1980, 1,616 yards), Georgia's Nick Chubb (2014, 1,547 yards) and Texas A&M's Johnny Manziel (2012, 1,410 yards).

DeWayne McBride, UAB: McBride has been jockeying for the national leads in rushing yards and yards per game all season. He is currently second in yards per game (144.1) and rushing yards (1,441) and leads the FBS in rushes of 20-plus yards (17) and tied for second (with two others) with 18 rushing touchdowns.

Kendre Miller, TCU: Miller has scored a rushing touchdown in all 11 games this season and his 12 straight streak is the longest active streak in the nation and is second all-time at TCU behind LaDainian Tomlinson's 15 from 1999-2000. Miller has rushed for 1,188 yards and 14 touchdowns this season.



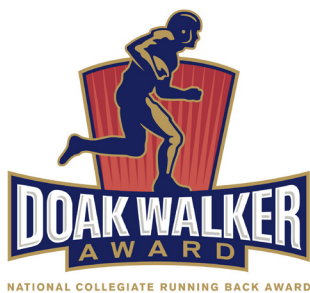
Bijan Robinson, Texas: A repeat selection, Robinson enters the final week of the regular season coming off a career-high day, rushing for 243 yards and four touchdowns in Texas' 55-14 win at Kansas. His third career 200-yard rushing mark puts Robinson's career total now at 3,231 yards, tied for fifth on Texas' all-time chart. He has 17 career 100-yard games.

Deuce Vaughn, Kansas State: Another repeat selection, Vaughn has rushed for 1,148 yards this season, the ninth-best mark in K-State single-season history. He has 31 career rushing touchdowns to tie for fourth on the school's all-time list with 40 total touchdowns. He has scored 240 career points.

The **Doak Walker Award presented by the PwC SMU Athletic Forum** has been awarded to the nation's top running back since 1990. For the first time, the award has also recognized a national running back of the week this season. A select 20-person committee from the award's full voting body of media and past winners has chosen the weekly national running back of the week recipient.

The Doak Walker Award is a member of the **National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA)**, which encompasses college football's most prestigious awards. The NCFAA's 25 awards have honored more than 800 recipients since 1935. Visit NCFAA.org for more information.

For more information on the Doak Walker Award, contact Jeff Lockhart (lockhart@smu.edu) at the PwC SMU Athletic Forum, visit doakwalkeraward.com and follow on Twitter at [@DoakWalkerAward](https://twitter.com/DoakWalkerAward).



2022 DOAK WALKER NATIONAL RUNNING BACKS OF THE WEEK

- Week 1 (Sept. 3)Chase Brown, Illinois
- Week 2 (Sept. 10) Khalan Laborn, Marshall
- Week 3 (Sept. 17) Samson Evans, Eastern Michigan
- Week 4 (Sept. 24)..... Blake Corum, Michigan
- Week 5 (Oct. 1) Jahmyr Gibbs, Alabama
- Week 6 (Oct. 8) Israel Abanikanda, Pitt
- Week 7 (Oct. 15) Blake Watson, Old Dominion
- Week 8 (Oct. 22) Will Shipley, Clemson
- Week 9 (Oct. 29)Zach Charbonnet, UCLA
- Week 10 (Nov. 5) Devin Neal, Kansas
Edward Saydee, Temple
- Week 11 (Nov 12) Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota

2022 DOAK WALKER AWARD SEMIFINALISTS

Israel Abanikanda, Pitt	Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota	Kendre Miller, TCU
Chase Brown, Illinois	Quinshon Judkins, Ole Miss	Bijan Robinson, Texas
Zach Charbonnet, UCLA	DeWayne McBride, UAB	Deuce Vaughn, Kansas State
Blake Corum, Michigan		

2022 DOAK WALKER AWARD PRESEASON CANDIDATES LIST

Devon Achane, Texas A&M	Deion Hankins, UTEP	Bijan Robinson, Texas
Braelon Allen, Wisconsin	TreVeyon Henderson, Ohio State	Raheim Sanders, Arkansas
Rasheen Ali, Marshall	George Holani, Boise State	Will Shipley, Clemson
Ronald Awaft, UTEP	Evan Hull, Northwestern	Shaun Shivers, Indiana
Tank Bigsby, Auburn	Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota	Jabari Small, Tennessee
Isiah Bowser, UCF	Dillon Johnson, Mississippi State	Chris Smith, Louisiana
British Brooks, North Carolina	Roschon Johnson, Texas	Dontae Smith, Georgia Tech
Jarek Broussard, Michigan State	Austin Jones, USC	E.J. Smith, Stanford
Antario Brown, NIU	Johnnie Lang Jr., Arkansas State	Tyjae Spears, Tulane
Chase Brown, Illinois	Keyvone Lee, Penn State	Titus Swen, Wyoming
Jermaine Brown, UAB	Joquavious Marks, Mississippi State	Tavion Thomas, Utah
Nate Carter, UConn	DeWayne McBride, UAB	Sean Tucker, Syracuse
Zach Charbonnet, UCLA	Chez Mellusi, Wisconsin	Calvin Tyler Jr., Utah State
Blake Corum, Michigan	Kendre Miller, TCU	Sean Tyler, Western Michigan
Travis Dye, USC	Jordan Mims, Fresno State	Chris Tyree, Notre Dame
Justice Ellison, Wake Forest	Keaton Mitchell, East Carolina	Xazavian Valladay, Arizona State
Samson Evans, Eastern Michigan	Damien Moore, Cal	Deuce Vaughn, Kansas State
Deshaun Fenwick, Oregon State	Devin Neal, Kansas	Kimani Vidal, Troy
Alex Fontenot, Colorado	Lew Nichols III, Central Michigan	Blake Watson, Old Dominion
Pat Garwo, Boston College	Nate Noel, App State	Treshaun Ward, Florida State
Frank Gore Jr., Southern Miss	Nathaniel Peat, Missouri	Harrison Waylee, NIU
Eric Gray, Oklahoma	Camerun Peoples, App State	Jalen White, Georgia Southern
Gerald Green, Georgia Southern	Dominic Richardson, Oklahoma State	Jamyest Williams, Georgia State
Tucker Gregg, Georgia State	Johnny Richardson, UCF	Nay'Quan Wright, Florida
Hassan Hall, Georgia Tech		