



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ALABAMA'S GIBBS IS DOAK WALKER NATIONAL RUNNING BACK OF THE WEEK**

*Junior's two fourth-quarter touchdown bursts allow Crimson Tide to pull away from upset-minded Arkansas*

**DALLAS (SMU)** – Alabama running back **Jahmyr Gibbs** posted a career-high 206 rushing yards and a pair of touchdowns as the Crimson Tide won 49-26 at Arkansas in front of the all-time largest crowd at Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium in Fayetteville. The performance has earned Gibbs the **Doak Walker National Running Back of the Week** honor for games of the weekend of Oct. 1.

Both of Gibbs' scores came in the fourth quarter on 72- and 76-yard bursts to allow Alabama pull away from a 28-23 lead. The 206 yards were the most rushing yards for an Alabama back since Brian Robinson had 204 against Cincinnati in last season's College Football Playoff semifinal.

The 5-11, 200-pounder from Dalton, Ga., added two receptions for 20 yards to finish with 226 all-purpose yards to offset the loss of quarterback Bryce Young, who missed much of the game with an injury. The Tide finished with 317 yards rushing and 555 total yards in improving to 5-0 with its 15th straight win vs. Arkansas.

The Crimson Tide returns home to host Texas A&M on Saturday for a 7 p.m. CT SEC tilt on CBS.

Other candidates for the honor in Week 5 included:

- **Marquez Cooper, Kent State:** Cooper carried 40 times for 240 yards and two touchdowns as Kent State topped Ohio 31-24 in overtime, the Flashes' 11th straight home win. Cooper became the fifth back in school history to have 40 or more carries in a game and his 240 rushing yards are the sixth-most all-time at Kent State, led all rushing totals for the weekend, and are the most for a Kent State back since 2012.
- **Hassan Hall, Georgia Tech:** Hall rushed for 157 yards on 20 carries as Georgia Tech beat a nationally-ranked opponent on the road for the first time since 2016 in a 26-21 win at No. 24 Pitt. Hall's 157 yards were the second-highest total of his career and helped secure a win in Brent Key's debut as the Yellow Jackets' interim head coach.
- **Harrison Waylee, NIU:** Waylee ran for 230 yards and three touchdowns, the highest total for NIU in almost 10 seasons, but the Huskies fell in overtime at Ball State, 44-38. His career-high 230-yard mark on 30 carries included touchdowns runs 52 and 68 yards.

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 is recognizing 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 chooses the weekly recipient. On July 20, a preseason candidates list was released and semifinalists for the award will be named on Nov. 22. A week later, the three finalists will be announced.

The 2022 Doak Walker Award winner will be unveiled live on *The Home Depot College Football Awards*, televised by ESPN on Dec. 8. The annual banquet, where the winner and the recipient of the 2022 PwC Doak Walker Legends Award will be honored, will take place in February on the SMU campus.

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](http://NCFAA.org) for more information.

For more information on the Doak Walker Award, contact Jeff Lockhart ([lockhart@smu.edu](mailto:lockhart@smu.edu)) at the PwC SMU Athletic Forum, visit [doakwalkeraward.com](http://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)
- Week 7 (Oct. 15)
- Week 8 (Oct. 22)
- Week 9 (Oct. 29)
- Week 10 (Nov. 5)
- Week 11 (Nov 12)
- Week 12 (Nov. 19)

## 2022 DOAK WALKER AWARD PRESEASON CANDIDATES LIST

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|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 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       |
| Dashaun 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       |                                     |                                  |