



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THREE FINALISTS NAMED FOR 2023 DOAK WALKER AWARD

Three of the nation's top four rushers are vying for the 2023 national running back award

DALLAS (SMU) – The **PwC SMU Athletic Forum** is proud to announce the three finalists for the **2023 Doak Walker National Collegiate Running Back Award**. The list includes three of nation's top four rushers and represents three different conferences, the ACC, Big 12 and SEC. The 2023 winner will be the first from his school to take home the award.

The winner of the 2023 Doak Walker Award will be unveiled live on ESPN during *The Home Depot College Football Awards* on Dec. 8 from 7-9 p.m. ET. The formal presentation of the award will take place here on the SMU campus at the annual banquet scheduled for Feb. 16, 2024.

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

Ollie Gordon II, Oklahoma State: A three-time Doak Walker National Running Back of the Week this season, Gordon leads the nation with 1,580 rushing yards to go with 20 touchdowns as the Cowboys prepare to play Texas for the Big 12 championship on Saturday. Gordon has run up his numbers despite only having 19 carries in the season's first three games. In the last two weeks alone, Gordon has scored eight touchdowns and run for 332 yards and is now averaging 6.45 yards on 245 carries. He joins Chuba Hubbard (2019) and Kendall Hunter (2010) as a finalist from Oklahoma State.

Omarion Hampton, North Carolina: The nation's fourth-leading rusher with 1,442 yards and 15 touchdowns, he had reeled off six straight 100-yard games at one point and has seven on the season. Hampton was the Doak Walker National Running Back of the Week for his Sept. 9 performance vs. App State (26 carries, 234 yards and three touchdowns) and is the first Doak Walker Award finalist from UNC.

Cody Schrader, Missouri: The SEC's leading rusher by more than 30 yards per game has 1,499 yards on 247 carries, including earning the Doak Walker National Running Back of the Week honor for his 205-yard performance vs. Tennessee the weekend of Nov. 11. The nation's second-leading rusher has 13 rushing touchdowns and has scored in nine straight games after a 217-yard outing vs. Arkansas to close the regular season. Schrader is the second finalist from Mizzou in three years, joining Tyler Badie from 2021.

The Doak Walker Award presented by the PwC SMU Athletic Forum has been awarded to the nation's top running back since 1990.

The Doak Walker Award is a member of the National College Football Awards Association. Founded in 1997, the NCFAA includes college football's most prestigious awards and its 24 awards have honored more than 900 recipients dating back to 1935. This season, 12 NCFAA awards will honor national players of the week each Tuesday. For more information about the NCFAA and its award programs, visit the redesigned [NCFAA.org](https://www.ncfaa.org) or follow on X at [@NCFAA](https://twitter.com/NCFAA).

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



DOAK WALKER AWARD WINNERS AND FINALISTS

Year	Winner.....	Finalists
2022	Bijan Robinson, Texas.....	Chase Brown, Illinois; Blake Corum, Michigan
2021	Kenneth Walker III, Michigan State.....	Tyler Badie, Missouri; Breece Hall, Iowa State
2020	Najee Harris, Alabama.....	Travis Etienne, Clemson; Breece Hall, Iowa State
2019	Jonathan Taylor, Wisconsin.....	J.K. Dobbins, Ohio State; Chuba Hubbard, Oklahoma State
2018	Jonathan Taylor, Wisconsin.....	Travis Etienne, Clemson; Darrell Henderson, Memphis
2017	Bryce Love, Stanford.....	Saquon Barkley, Penn State; Jonathan Taylor, Wisconsin
2016	D’Onta Foreman, Texas.....	Dalvin Cook, Florida State; Donnel Pumphrey, San Diego State
2015	Derrick Henry, Alabama.....	Leonard Fournette, LSU; Christian McCaffrey, Stanford
2014	Melvin Gordon, Wisconsin.....	Ameer Abdullah, Nebraska; Tevin Coleman, Indiana
2013	Andre Williams, Boston College.....	Ka’Deem Carey, Arizona; Bishop Sankey, Washington
2012	Montee Ball, Wisconsin.....	Kenjon Barner, Oregon; Johnathan Franklin, UCLA
2011	Trent Richardson, Alabama.....	Montee Ball, Wisconsin; LaMichael James, Oregon
2010	LaMichael James, Oregon.....	John Clay, Wisconsin; Kendall Hunter, Oklahoma State
2009	Toby Gerhart, Stanford.....	Mark Ingram, Alabama; C.J. Spiller, Clemson
2008	Shonn Greene, Iowa.....	Knowshon Moreno, Georgia; Javon Ringer, Michigan State
2007	Darren McFadden, Arkansas.....	Mike Hart, Michigan; Ray Rice, Rutgers
2006	Darren McFadden, Arkansas.....	Mike Hart, Michigan; Steve Slaton, West Virginia
2005	Reggie Bush, USC.....	Jerome Harrison, Washington State; DeAngelo Williams, Memphis
2004	Cedric Benson, Texas.....	J.J. Arrington, California; Adrian Peterson, Oklahoma
2003	Chris Perry, Michigan.....	Kevin Jones, Virginia Tech; Darren Sproles, Kansas State
2002	Larry Johnson, Penn State.....	Chris Brown, Colorado; Willis McGahee, Miami
2001	Luke Staley, BYU.....	Bruce Perry, Maryland; Travis Stephens, Tennessee
2000	LaDainian Tomlinson, TCU.....	Damien Anderson, Northwestern; Anthony Thomas, Michigan
1999	Ron Dayne, Wisconsin.....	Thomas Jones, Virginia; Shaun Alexander, Alabama
1998	Ricky Williams, Texas.....	Mike Cloud, Boston College; Ron Dayne, Wisconsin
1997	Ricky Williams, Texas.....	Curtis Enis, Penn State; Ahman Green, Nebraska
1996	Byron Hanspard, Texas Tech.....	Darnell Autry, Northwestern; Troy Davis, Iowa State
1995	Eddie George, Ohio State.....	Karim Abdul-Jabbar, UCLA; Tiki Barber, Virginia; Tim Biakabataka, Michigan; Warrick Dunn, Florida State; George Jones, San Diego State; Wasean Tait, Toledo; Moe Williams, Kentucky
1994	Rashaan Salaam, Colorado.....	Ki-Jana Carter, Penn State; Ryan Christopherson, Wyoming; Chris Darkins, Minnesota; Eddie George, Ohio State; Napoleon Kaufman, Washington; Tyrone Wheatley, Michigan; Sherman Williams, Alabama
1993	Byron “Bam” Morris, Texas Tech.....	Lee Becton, Notre Dame; Marshall Faulk, San Diego State; LaShon Johnson, NIU; Calvin Jones, Nebraska; Napoleon Kaufman, Washington; Brent Moss, Wisconsin; Errict Rhett, Florida
1992	Garrison Hearst, Georgia.....	Reggie Brooks, Notre Dame; Trevor Cobb, Rice
1991	Trevor Cobb, Rice.....	Vaughn Dunbar, Indiana; Tommy Vardell, Stanford
1990	Greg Lewis, Washington.....	Nick Bell, Iowa; Sheldon Canley, San Jose State; Tico Duckett, Michigan State; Mike Mayweather, Army; Glyn Milburn, Stanford; Tony Thompson, Tennessee; Jon Vaughn, Michigan



2023 DOAK WALKER NATIONAL RUNNING BACKS OF THE WEEK

- Week 1 (Sept. 2)Dylan Edwards, Colorado
- Week 2 (Sept. 9)..... Omarion Hampton, North Carolina
- Week 3 (Sept. 16) Trevor Etienne, Florida
- Week 4 (Sept. 23)..... DJ Giddens, Kansas State
- Week 5 (Sept. 30) Ray Davis, Kentucky
- Week 6 (Oct. 7)..... Trey Benson, Florida State
- Week 7 (Oct. 14) Ollie Gordon II, Oklahoma State
- Week 8 (Oct. 21) Ollie Gordon II, Oklahoma State
- Week 9 (Oct. 28) Ollie Gordon II, Oklahoma State
- Week 10 (Nov. 4) Dillon Johnson, Washington
- Week 11 (Nov. 11) Cody Schrader, Missouri

2023 DOAK WALKER AWARD SEMIFINALISTS

Jonathon Brooks, Texas	Ollie Gordon II, Oklahoma State	Damien Martinez, Oregon State
Tahj Brooks, Texas Tech	Omarion Hampton, North Carolina	Cody Schrader, Missouri
Marcus Carroll, Georgia State	R.J. Harvey, UCF	Kimani Vidal, Troy
Blake Corum, Michigan		

2023 DOAK WALKER AWARD PRESEASON CANDIDATES

Rasheen Ali, Marshall	Rahjai Harris, East Carolina	Richard Reese, Baylor
Braelon Allen, Wisconsin	RJ Harvey, UCF	Aidan Robbins, BYU
Kaytron Allen, Penn State	Roman Hemby, Maryland	Kairee Robinson, San Jose State
LeQuint Allen, Syracuse	TreVeyon Henderson, Ohio State	Raheim Sanders, Arkansas
Emani Bailey, TCU	Daniel Hishaw Jr., Kansas	Trey Sanders, TCU
Sieh Bangura, Ohio	George Holani, Boise State	Will Shipley, Clemson
Jovantae Barnes, Oklahoma	Bucky Irving, Oregon	Nicholas Singleton, Penn State
Kevorian Barnes, UTSA	Kaleb Johnson, Iowa	Cam Skattebo, Arizona State
Trey Benson, Florida State	Kobe Johnson, Colorado State	Jabari Small, Tennessee
Tahj Brooks, Texas Tech	Austin Jones, USC	Dontae Smith, Georgia Tech
Antario Brown, NIU	Jawhar Jordan, Louisville	E.J. Smith, Stanford
Jermaine Brown Jr., UAB	Quinshon Judkins, Ole Miss	Kavosiey Smoke, Colorado
Noah Cain, LSU	Reggie Love III, Illinois	Carson Steele, UCLA
Marcus Carroll, Georgia State	Jaylin Lucas, Indiana	Bhayskul Tuten, Virginia Tech
Blake Corum, Michigan	Jo'Quavious Marks, Mississippi State	Kimani Vidal, Troy
Marquis Crosby, Louisiana Tech	Damien Martinez, Oregon State	Treshaun Ward, Kansas State
CJ Donaldson Jr., West Virginia	Tony Mathis Jr., Houston	Dre'Iyn Washington, Louisiana
Donovan Edwards, Michigan	Alton McCaskill, Colorado	Nakia Watson, Washington State
Justice Ellison, Wake Forest	Josh McCray, Illinois	La'Damian Webb, South Alabama
Davion Ervin-Poindexter, WKU	Chez Mellusi, Wisconsin	Noah Whittington, Oregon
Audric Estimé, Notre Dame	Devin Mockobee, Purdue	Michael Wiley, Arizona
Samson Evans, Eastern Michigan	Devin Neal, Kansas	Sy'veon Wilkerson, Colorado
Pat Garwo, Boston College	Nate Noel, App State	Josh Williams, LSU
Rodney Hammond Jr., Pitt	Jaydn Ott, California	Miyam Williams, Ohio State
Deion Hankins, UTEP	Frank Peasant, Middle Tennessee	Jaylen Wright, Tennessee