

2023 FCS NATIONAL AWARDS



STATS PERFORM



GAME CHANGERS

WALTER
PAYTON

EDDIE
ROBINSON

BUCK
BUCHANAN

JERRY
RICE

DORIS
ROBINSON

JANUARY 6, 2024 | FRISCO, TEXAS

NOVEMBER 20, 2023

PRESENTED BY FEDEX GROUND

SCHOOL	1ST	PTS
1 SOUTH DAKOTA ST (11-1)	56	1400
2 MONTANA (10-1)		1344
3 SOUTH DAKOTA (9-2)		1280
4 IDAHO (8-2)		1191
5 MONTANA STATE (8-3)		1088
6 VILLANOVA (8-2)		1052
7 FURMAN (8-2)		1000
8 NORTH DAKOTA ST (8-3)		995
9 ALBANY (8-3)		963
10 FLORIDA A&M (8-1)		828
11 DELAWARE (8-3)		802
12 NORTH DAKOTA (7-4)		754
13 AUSTIN PEAY (7-2)		751
14 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS (7-4)		588
15 SACRAMENTO STATE (7-4)		574
16 NC CENTRAL (8-2)		547
17 MERCER (8-2)		427
18 CHATTANOOGA (7-4)		419
19 MINN (8-2)		396
20 LAFAYETTE (8-2)		268
21 YOUNGSTOWN STATE (7-4)		265

BASEBALL

NBA

Shohei Ohtani Free Agency Rankings: Is Sho-Time Coming to Your Team?

Only is your team to sign megastar Shohei Ohtani and change the franchise's outlook forever? We rank the contenders.

ANDRES CHAVEZ

Maxing Out: Has Tyrese Maxey Aspired to an All-Star Level in Philly?

Few players have started the 2023-24 campaign as hot as Tyrese Maxey of the Philadelphia 76ers. In his first 10 regular-season games, the fourth-year guard is putting up 28.4 points per game.

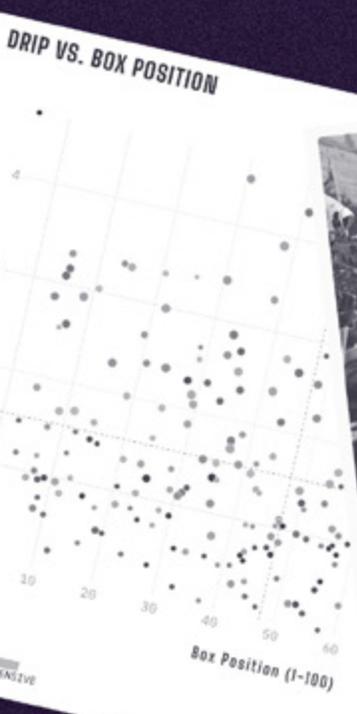
5 DAVE ECCO MAT ISEA



Opta Analyst

DATA-DRIVEN STORYTELLING

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FCS Top 25: No. 2 Montana Enters Playoffs With Highest Ranking Since 2010

NOV 20, 2023 DAVE ECCO 10/23

7 LEAGUE

MORE →

NO	GOALS
0.84	0.91
0.84	0.80
0.82	0.92
0.83	0.64
0.76	0.69

per 90 minutes played

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

PLAYED

- DERMOT O'NEILL
- VICTOR BONIFACE
- NARRY KANE
- LEROY SAINE
- LOIS OPERDA

FRENCH LIGUE 1

PLAYER

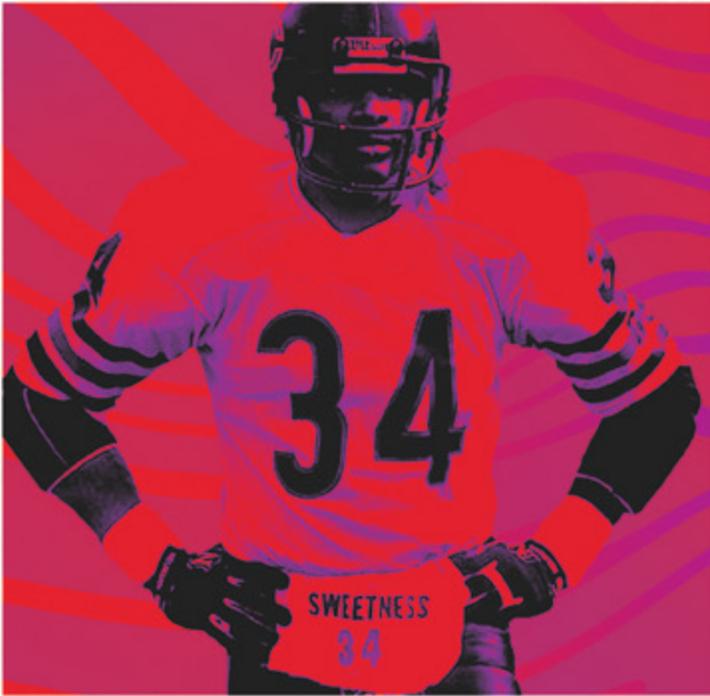
- KYLIAN MBAPPE
- AKOBI ADAMS
- PIERRE-EMERICK AUGIER
- THIJS DALLIERA
- JEREMY LE DOUARON

per 90 min

2023 FCS NATIONAL AWARDS



STATS PERFORM



JANUARY 6, 2024 | FRISCO, TEXAS

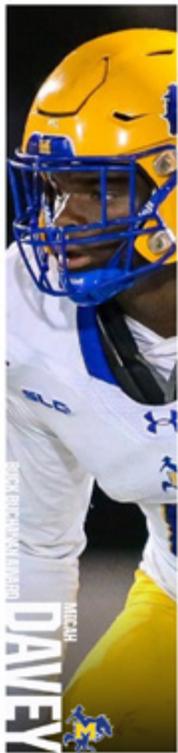


CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FINALISTS



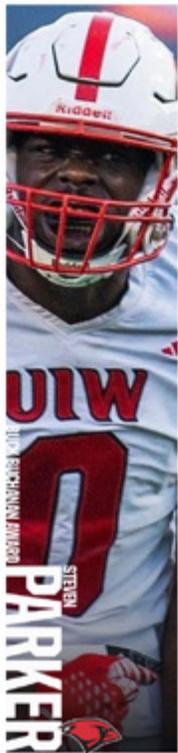
WALTER PAYTON AWARD

ERIKSON
PORTER



BOCK BRIDGMAN AWARD

JACOB
DAVNEY



WALTER PAYTON AWARD

STEPHEN
PARKER



BOCK BRIDGMAN AWARD

JAVY
HUNT



BOCK BRIDGMAN AWARD

ROSEBEE
LOVELACE



WALTER PAYTON AWARD

ACORN
DICHARRY



WALTER PAYTON AWARD

adidas
TIM REBOWME



WALTER PAYTON AWARD

PETER
ROSSOMANDO

THE **MOST** WALTER PAYTON AWARD WINNERS SINCE 2010

EARNED
EVERY
DAY

THE 2023 FCS NATIONAL AWARDS
WILL BE PROUDLY BROADCAST ON

Bally
SPORTS

Please check your local listings



WELCOME

Every year, our goal at Stats Perform is to ensure we take an incremental step forward in everything we do. Our coverage of the FCS is no exception. In fact, you might say it's leading the way. Our early accomplishments included bringing a broader distribution scope to our stories, broadcasting our banquet while continually stepping up its production value, creating an online destination site for our content, and securing the relationships for our legacy awards. More recently, our focus has been on corporate partnerships and engagement – for fans, players and the FCS community at large. And what a leap we made in 2023, helped in large part by our friends at FedEx Ground. The year was highlighted by the creation of our weekly podcast, FCS Delivered, and the on-site presentations of our Player and Team of the Week awards, which proved to be as thrilling for us as they were for the winners. Those experiences were a strong reminder as to why we took on this initiative nine years ago. Hitting the road and being on the ground to be face to face with the very people who make the FCS such a success has validated every investment we've made into it. And judging by the traffic we've seen on The Analyst, which saw a jump of over 50 percent unique viewers this season from last, we're just getting started. Thank you all for not just coming along on this journey with us, but powering it.

Brian Orefice
Vice President, U.S. Sports
Stats Perform

STATS PERFORM FCS AWARDS

Awards Committee: Steve Xeller, Brian Orefice, Wayne Ford, Kevin Chroust, Gary Reasons, Philip Sokol, Craig Haley, Stephanie Brown, Brittany Steffen, Conrad Howell, Graham Bell

National Awards Show Co-Hosts: Gary Reasons and Alex Eschelman

TV Production: University of North Texas, Seth Biley

Awards Program Editor/Writer: Craig Haley

Awards Program Graphic Design: Jeffrey Reitzes

Awards Graphics: Matt Sisneros

Awards Design: Vicki Davila and Don Dyen

Awards Banquet Photography: Joyce Bishop

Advertising: Conrad Howell

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Stats Perform

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FCS Coverage: www.theanalyst.com

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FedEx Ground	Back Cover



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Greetings:

As Governor of Texas, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Stats Perform Football Championship Subdivision Awards Banquet, presented by FedEx Ground in Frisco.

Football demands diligence, devotion, and high levels of mental and physical concentration. Your participation highlights your commitment to developing physical fitness, embracing challenges, and inspiring greatness. Texas is proud of the role we have played in developing talented athletes, exemplary competition, and outstanding sportsmanship. The Lone Star State has hosted some of the greatest players in college and professional football history at this event. Players like John Kimbrough, Roger Staubach, and Bo Jackson played some of their best games right here in Texas.

For 38 years, this award has been the culmination of a demanding season's efforts. Tonight's ceremony honors the determination, strong work ethic, and talent of the five recipients, as well as their sacrifices and those of their loved ones. These achievements, and the fulfillment of many hours of dedicated work on and off the field, will no doubt become a cherished memory for years to come.

To the visitors to our great state, Frisco is renowned for its heritage and is legendary for its hospitality. I encourage you to explore and enjoy the many attractions that this fine city offers.

First Lady Cecilia Abbott joins me in extending best wishes for a memorable evening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott".

Greg Abbott
Governor



January 6, 2024

Dear Stats Perform FCS National Awards Attendees,

Welcome to Frisco – one of the best places to live in America and home to the NCAA Division I Football Championship game! You'll find we are a "can-do" city with a creative approach and vision for our future, and sports is an integral part of that future.

Your collegiate achievements and future are what we celebrate tonight. On behalf of the City of Frisco, I want to congratulate the award finalists and winners. We commend you for years of hard work, dedication, and commitment to football. We wish you all the best as you pursue your dreams.

We also congratulate your parents and family for their patience, perseverance, and devotion to you as you pursued your college football careers. We recognize those who raised you were your first "coaches."

Whether you're a competitor or spectator, we invite you to checkout Frisco beyond Toyota Stadium. Within minutes of the home field for the championship game, you can enjoy some of the finest sports venues in the country, more than 9 million square feet of retail, dining, and attractions, and hundreds of pieces of art and sculpture that capture the heritage and the talent of Texas and international artists.

With multiple professional sports teams, national and international athletic organizations, world-class facilities, prestigious sports medicine and rehabilitation centers, and an emerging eSports community, Frisco is the ultimate sports destination. We are proud to be home to the Frisco Rough Riders, AA affiliate to the Texas Rangers; FC Dallas, MLS team; the National Soccer Hall of Fame; the Texas Legends, NBA G League; NHL's Dallas Stars executive offices and practice ice; the Dallas Cowboys headquarters and practice facility; and new home to the PGA of America headquarters.

Frisco is easily accessible from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and Love Field Airport, surrounded by major interstate highways, and close to an entire region full of attractions from "cowboys" to culture.

We have a variety of exceptional award-winning hotels, a spectrum of dining opportunities, and the warm Texas welcome we can promise you every time you visit our city. We hope you will enjoy the excitement of the NCAA Football Championship game at Toyota Stadium and plan to return to Frisco!

Sincerely,

Jeff Cheney
Mayor

2023 WALTER PAYTON AWARD | FCS OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS



2023 BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD | FCS DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS



2023 JERRY RICE AWARD | FCS FRESHMAN PLAYER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS



MJ Flowers
RB | Eastern Illinois



Eli Gillman
RB | Montana



Carter Glassmyer
LB | St Francis



Hunter Green
PK/P | N Colorado



Malachi Hosley
RB | Penn



Jawarn Howell
RB | South Carolina St



Brendan Jenkins
WR | Samford



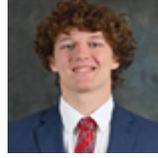
Anthony Johnson
WR | Stony Brook



Jaylon Joseph
DE | Lafayette



Jaylen King
QB | Gardner-Webb



Gavin Lochow
WR | Dayton



Rasheed Lovelace
DT | Nicholls



Connor Moore
LT | Montana State



Dom Nankil
QB | San Diego



Tye Niekamp
LB | Illinois State



Aaron Sears
CB | Stephen F. Austin



Beau Sparks
WR | Utah Tech



VJ Wilkins
WR | Campbell



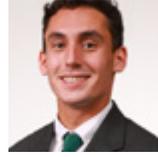
TyJarian Williams
QB | Mississippi Valley St



Griffin Woodell
RB | UAlbany



Luke Yoder
RB | Lehigh



Owen Zalc
PK | Dartmouth

2023 EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD | FCS COACH PLAYER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS



Mark Ferrante
Villanova



Greg Gattuso
UAlbany



Bobby Hauck
Montana



Clay Hendrix
Furman



Tre Lamb
Gardner-Webb



Tim Murphy
Harvard



Bob Nielson
South Dakota



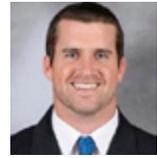
Trei Oliver
NC Central



Tim Robowe
Nicholls



Danny Rocco
VMI



Jimmy Rogers
SD State



Pete Rossomando
Lamar



Jerry Schmitt
Duquesne



Larry Scott
Howard



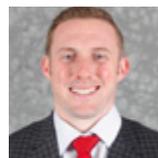
Willie Simmons
Florida A&M



Todd Stepsis
Drake



John Troxell
Lafayette



Scotty Walden
Austin Peay



Todd Whitten
Tarleton



Chris Wilkerson
Eastern Illinois

2023 DORIS ROBINSON AWARD | FCS SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR FINALISTS



Kwaku Adubofour
DL | Harvard



Julian Ashby
LS | Furman



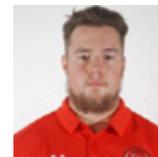
Max Brosmer
QB | UNH



Jason Brown
QB | Jackson State



Will Burke
TE | St. Thomas



Jacob Dicharry
OL | Lamar



Jacob Dobbs
LB | Holy Cross



Anthony Egbo Jr
CB | Abilene Christian



William McRaine
LB | Gardner-Webb



Tommy Mellott
QB | Montana State



David Satkowski
OL | Stonehill



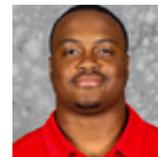
Chad Strickland
OL | Eastern Illinois



Juan Velarde
P | NC Central



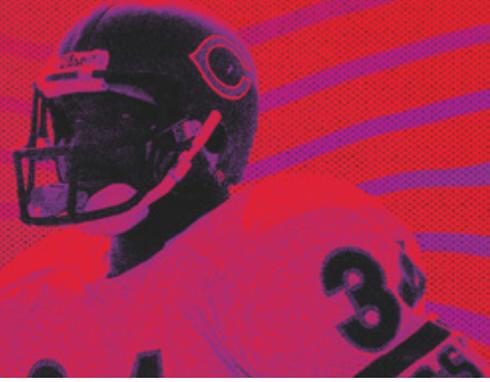
Cole Wisniewski
S | ND State



Jau'Von Young
DL | Austin Peay

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

WALTER PAYTON AWARD FINALISTS



The Stats Perform Walter Payton Award, presented by FedEx Ground and celebrating its 37th season, honors the national offensive player of the year in college football's Division I FCS.



MAX BROSMER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

QUARTERBACK, JUNIOR
6-2, 221, ROSWELL, GEORGIA
ALL-CAA FIRST TEAM

11 games played

294 of 459 (64.1 percent), 3,464 yards, 29 TDs, 5 INTs

145.9 pass efficiency, 5 TD runs

326.4 yards total offense per game



MARK GRONOWSKI, SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

QUARTERBACK, JUNIOR
6-3, 225, NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS
MVFC CO-OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR

14 games played

196 of 286 (68.5%), 2,883 yards, 28 TDs, 4 INTs

182.7 pass efficiency; 249 rush yards, 7 TDs

36-3 career record as starter



JADEN SHIRDEN, MONMOUTH

RUNNING BACK, JUNIOR
5-9, 185, WEST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT
CAA OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR

11 games played

221 carries, 1,478 yards (6.7 ypc), 10 TDs

20 receptions, 120 yards, 1 TD

Third place, 2022 Walter Payton Award



2023 WALTER PAYTON AWARD VOTING RESULTS

Following is a breakdown of the voting results. A first-place vote was worth five points, a second-place vote four points, a third-place vote three points, a fourth-place vote two points and a fifth-place vote one point. The final number is the combined point total.

1. TBA			
2. TBA			
3. TBA			
4. Matthew Siuka	QB	Holy Cross	8-3-4-1-5-71
5. Davius Richard	QB	North Carolina Central	2-7-3-4-2-57
6. Dylan Laube	RB	New Hampshire	2-4-3-4-2-45
7. Isaiah Davis	RB	South Dakota State	6-0-0-3-4-40
8.(tie) CJ Montes	QB	Fordham	3-2-1-5-1-37
8.(tie) Mike DiLiello	QB	Austin Peay	3-3-2-1-2-37
10. Jalen Coker	WR	Holy Cross	1-3-1-4-4-32
11. Cam Miller	QB	North Dakota State	0-2-6-1-1-29
12.(tie) Dymere Miller	WR	Monmouth	1-1-4-0-3-24
12.(tie) Reese Poffenbarger	QB	UAlbany	0-2-2-4-2-24
14. Lan Larison	RB	UC Davis	0-0-4-3-2-20
15. Chedon James	WR	Idaho State	0-2-2-1-3-19
16. Jamar Curtis	RB	Lafayette	0-3-1-1-1-18
17. Cole Gonzales	QB	Western Carolina	0-2-0-2-1-13
18.(tie) Gevani McCoy	QB	Idaho	0-0-1-3-1-10
18.(tie) LaDarius Owens	RB	Texas Southern	0-0-2-2-0-10
20. Sam Franklin	RB	UT Martin	0-0-0-3-2-8
21.(tie) Michael Hiers	QB	Samford	0-1-0-1-1-7
21.(tie) Ty James	WR	Mercer	0-0-1-1-2-7
23. Zevi Eckhaus	QB	Bryant	0-0-1-0-1-4
24.(tie) Hayden Hatten	WR	Idaho	0-0-0-1-0-2
24.(tie) Jyrán Mitchell	RB	Butler	0-0-0-0-2-2
24.(tie) Parker McKinney	QB	Eastern Kentucky	0-0-0-1-0-2
27. Brandon Porter	WR	UIW	0-0-0-0-1-1
28.(tie) Darius Perrantes	QB	Duquesne	0-0-0-0-0-0
28.(tie) Jake Wilcox	QB	Brown	0-0-0-0-0-0
28.(tie) Jeremy Moussa	QB	Florida A&M	0-0-0-0-0-0

PAST WALTER PAYTON AWARD RECIPIENTS

Year	Player	School	Position
1987	Kenny Gamble	Colgate	Running Back
1988	Dave Meggett	Towson State	Running Back
1989	John Friesz	Idaho	Quarterback
1990	Walter Dean	Grambling State	Running Back
1991	Jamie Martin	Weber State	Quarterback
1992	Michael Payton	Marshall	Quarterback
1993	Doug Nussmeier	Idaho	Quarterback
1994	Steve McNair	Alcorn State	Quarterback
1995	Dave Dickerson	Montana	Quarterback
1996	Archie Amerson	Northern Arizona	Running Back
1997	Brian Finneran	Villanova	Wide Receiver
1998	Jerry Azumah	New Hampshire	Running Back
1999	Adrian Peterson	Georgia Southern	Running Back
2000	Louis Ivory	Furman	Running Back
2001	Brian Westbrook	Villanova	Running Back
2002	Tony Romo	Eastern Illinois	Quarterback
2003	Jamaal Branch	Colgate	Running Back
2004	Lang Campbell	William & Mary	Quarterback
2005	Erik Meyer	Eastern Washington	Quarterback
2006	Ricky Santos	New Hampshire	Quarterback
2007	Jayson Foster	Georgia Southern	Quarterback
2008	Armani Edwards	Appalachian State	Quarterback
2009	Armani Edwards	Appalachian State	Quarterback
2010	Jeremy Moses	Stephen F. Austin	Quarterback
2011	Bo Levi Mitchell	Eastern Washington	Quarterback
2012	Taylor Heinicke	Old Dominion	Quarterback
2013	Jimmy Garoppolo	Eastern Illinois	Quarterback
2014	John Robertson	Villanova	Quarterback
2015	Cooper Kupp	Eastern Washington	Wide Receiver
2016	Jeremiah Briscoe	Sam Houston State	Quarterback
2017	Jeremiah Briscoe	Sam Houston State	Quarterback
2018	Devlin Hodges	Samford	Quarterback
2019	Trey Lance	North Dakota State	Quarterback
2020	Cole Kelley	Southeastern Louisiana	Quarterback
2021	Eric Barriere	Eastern Washington	Quarterback
2022	Lindsey Scott Jr.	UIW	Quarterback



CONGRATULATES ITS STATS PERFORM FCS NATIONAL AWARDS FINALISTS



MAX BROSMER
PAYTON AWARD
DORIS ROBINSON



DYLAN LAUBE
PAYTON AWARD



DYMERE MILLER
PAYTON AWARD



REESE POFFENBARGER
PAYTON AWARD



JADEN SHIRDEN
PAYTON AWARD



ANTON JUNCAJ
BUCHANAN AWARD



DYLAN KELLY
BUCHANAN AWARD



NATE LYNN
BUCHANAN AWARD



TRISTAN WHEELER
BUCHANAN AWARD



ANTHONY JOHNSON
RICE AWARD



VJ WILKINS
RICE AWARD



GRIFFIN WOODELL
RICE AWARD



MARK FERRANTE
ROBINSON AWARD



GREG GATTUSO
ROBINSON AWARD



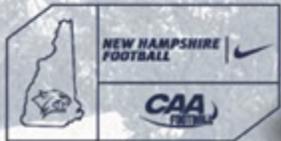
Mr. Brown



**MAX
BROSMER**

WALTER PAYTON

AWARD FINALIST



2023

MONMOUTH CONGRATULATES

**JADEN
SHIRDEN**

*Walter Payton
Award
Finalist*



DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD FINALISTS



The Stats Perform Buck Buchanan Award, presented by FedEx Ground and celebrating its 29th season, honors the national defensive player of the year in college football's Division I FCS.



TERRELL ALLEN, TENNESSEE STATE

DEFENSIVE END, SENIOR
6-0, 275, NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
BIG SOUTH-OVC DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR

11 games played

65 tackles (44 solos), 28 TFL (149 yards),
14.5 sacks

10 QB hurries, 5 forced fumbles, 1 fumble
recovery, 1 pass breakup



DYLAN KELLY, UALBANY

LINEBACKER, SENIOR
6-2, 224, AMHERST, NEW YORK
CAA DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR

15 games played

159 tackles (91 solos), 8.5 TFL (31 yards), 3
sacks (22 yards)

3 QB hurries, 2 interceptions, 2 pass
breakups, 1 forced fumble, 2 fumble
recoveries



BILLY SHAEFFER, LAFAYETTE

LINEBACKER, SENIOR
6-3, 232 WARRINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA
ALL-PATRIOT FIRST TEAM

12 games played

83 tackles (53 solos), 21.5 TFL (105 yards),
10 sacks (70 yards)

8 QB hurries, 5 pass breakups, 5 forced
fumbles



2023 BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD VOTING RESULTS

Following is a breakdown of the voting results. A first-place vote was worth five points, a second-place vote four points, a third-place vote three points, a fourth-place vote two points and a fifth-place vote one point. The final number is the combined point total.

1. TBA			
2. TBA			
3. TBA			
4. Ty French	DE	Gardner-Webb	2-7-6-1-6-64
5. Anton Juncaj	DE	UAlbany	1-8-2-4-5-56
6. PJ Jules	S	Southern Illinois	0-5-4-5-5-47
7. Micah Davey	LB	McNeese	2-3-3-5-5-46
8. Jacob Dobbs	LB	Holy Cross	1-5-4-3-1-44
9. Amir Abdullah	LB	Illinois State	0-6-1-3-2-35
10. Finn Claypool	DE	Drake	0-3-1-5-2-27
11. Brock Mogensen	LB	South Dakota	3-1-1-0-1-23
12. Jay Person	DE	Chattanooga	2-1-0-2-0-18
13.(tie) Braxton Hill	LB	Montana	0-1-2-2-0-14
13.(tie) Kenny Gallop Jr.	S	Howard	1-1-1-0-2-14
15. Logan Blake	LB	Eastern Kentucky	0-1-1-2-0-11
16.(tie) Brody Grebe	DE	Montana State	1-0-1-0-1-9
16.(tie) Daylan Dotson	DE	UT Martin	0-0-1-2-2-9
16.(tie) Isaiah Major	LB	Florida A&M	0-0-2-0-3-9
16.(tie) Jalyx Hunt	LB	Houston Christian	1-1-0-0-0-9
20.(tie) Colton Adams	LB	Alabama State	0-0-1-2-1-8
20.(tie) Lance Wise Jr.	S	Mercer	0-0-1-1-3-8
22.(tie) Erick Hunter	LB	Morgan State	0-0-2-0-0-6
22.(tie) Logan Kopp	LB	North Dakota State	0-0-1-1-1-6
22.(tie) Winston Reid	LB	Weber State	0-0-1-0-3-6
25.(tie) David Walker	DE	Central Arkansas	0-0-0-2-1-5
25.(tie) Thor Griffith	DT	Harvard	0-0-0-2-1-5
27. Eric O'Neill	DE	LIU	0-0-0-0-3-3
28. Tristan Wheeler	LB	Richmond	0-0-0-1-0-2
29. Steven Parker	DE	UIW	0-0-0-0-1-1
30. Nate Lynn	DE	William & Mary	0-0-0-0-0-0

PAST BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD RECIPIENTS

Year	Player	School	Position
1995	Dexter Coakley	Appalachian State	Linebacker
1996	Dexter Coakley	Appalachian State	Linebacker
1997	Chris McNeil	North Carolina A&T	Defensive End
1998	James Milton	Western Illinois	Linebacker
1999	Al Lucas	Troy State	Defensive Tackle
2000	Edgerton Hartwell	Western Illinois	Linebacker
2001	Derrick Lloyd	James Madison	Linebacker
2002	Rashean Mathis	Bethune-Cookman	Cornerback
2003	Jared Allen	Idaho State	Defensive End
2004	Jordan Beck	Cal Poly	Linebacker
2005	Chris Gocong	Cal Poly	Defensive End
2006	Kyle Shotwell	Cal Poly	Linebacker
2007	Kroy Biermann	Montana	Defensive End
2008	Greg Peach	Eastern Washington	Defensive End
2009	Arthur Moats	James Madison	Defensive End
2010	J.C. Sherritt	Eastern Washington	Linebacker
2011	Matt Evans	New Hampshire	Linebacker
2012	Caleb Schreiber	Montana State	Defensive End
2013	Brad Daly	Montana State	Defensive End
2014	Kyle Emanuel	North Dakota State	Defensive End
2015	Deon King	Norfolk State	Linebacker
*2015	Tyrone Holmes	Montana	Defensive End
2016	Karter Schult	Northern Iowa	Defensive End
2017	Darius Jackson	Jacksonville State	Defensive End
2018	Zach Hall	Southeast Missouri State	Linebacker
2019	Dante Olson	Montana	Linebacker
2020	Jordan Lewis	Southern	Defensive End
2021	Isaiah Land	Florida A&M	Linebacker
2022	Zeke Vandenburg	Illinois State	Linebacker

*Stats Perform FCS Defensive Player of the Year

CONGRATULATIONS

FCS AWARD FINALISTS

WALTER PAYTON AWARD



BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD



JERRY RICE AWARD



EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD



DORIS ROBINSON SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD





C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD FINALIST

Dylan Kelly

FROM UALBANY ATHLETICS

UAKNOW



WALTER PAYTON AWARD
MATTHEW SLUKA
HOLY CROSS QB



WALTER PAYTON AWARD
JAMAR CURTIS
LAFAYETTE RB

CONGRATULATIONS FCS AWARD CANDIDATES



BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD
&
DORIS ROBINSON AWARD

JACOB DOBBS
HOLY CROSS LB



BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD
BILLY SHAEFFER
LAFAYETTE LB



WALTER PAYTON AWARD
JALEN COKER
HOLY CROSS WR



WALTER PAYTON AWARD
C.J. MONTES
FORDHAM QB



EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD
JOHN TROXELL
LAFAYETTE HEAD COACH



JERRY RICE AWARD
JAYLON JOSEPH
LAFAYETTE DL



JERRY RICE AWARD
LUKE YODER
LEHIGH RB

tsu TENNESSEE STATE FOOTBALL
HISTORICALLY BLACK
U.S.A.

TERRELL ALLEN

BUCK
BUCHANAN
AWARD FINALIST

CONGRATS,
TERRELL

FROM TENNESSEE STATE ATHLETICS
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR FINALIST

NASHVILLE, TENN.
615.957.1100
615.957.1101

FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR

JERRY RICE AWARD



The Stats Perform Jerry Rice Award, presented by FedEx Ground and celebrating its 13th season, honors the national freshman player of the year in college football's Division I FCS.



2023 JERRY RICE AWARD VOTING RESULTS

Following is a breakdown of the voting results. A first-place vote was worth five points, a second-place vote four points, a third-place vote three points, a fourth-place vote two points and a fifth-place vote one point. The final number is the combined point total.

1. Eli Gillman	RB	Montana	31-6-6-2-2-203
2. MJ Flowers	RB	Eastern Illinois	6-11-6-10-7-119
3. Jawarn Howell	RB	South Carolina State	6-6-2-10-1-81
4. Tye Niekamp	LB	Illinois State	3-6-8-3-6-75
5. Griffin Woodell	RB	UAlbany	3-4-8-5-2-67
6. Conner Moore	LT	Montana State	2-3-6-6-6-58
7. Jaylen King	QB	Gardner-Webb	2-6-4-3-5-57
8. Carter Glassmyer	LB	Saint Francis	0-5-4-6-9-53
9. Beau Sparks	WR	Utah Tech	1-3-4-3-7-42
10. VJ Wilkins	WR	Campbell	0-3-1-0-1-16
11.(tie) Hunter Green	PK/P	Northern Colorado	0-0-2-2-4-14
11.(tie) Malachi Hosley	RB	Penn	0-3-0-1-0-14
13. Jaylon Joseph	DE	Lafayette	0-0-3-1-2-13
14. Anthony Johnson	WR	Stony Brook	1-0-1-1-1-11
15.(tie) Dom Nankil	QB	San Diego	1-0-0-0-1-6
15.(tie) Ty'Jarian Williams	QB	Mississippi Valley State	0-0-1-1-1-6
17. Owen Zalc	PK	Dartmouth	0-0-0-1-1-3
18. Brendan Jenkins	WR	Samford	0-0-0-1-0-2
19.(tie) Gavin Lochow	WR	Dayton	0-0-0-0-0-0
19.(tie) Rasheed Lovelace	DT	Nicholls	0-0-0-0-0-0
19.(tie) Aaron Sears	CB	Stephen F. Austin	0-0-0-0-0-0
19.(tie) Luke Yoder	RB	Lehigh	0-0-0-0-0-0

PAST JERRY RICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Year	Player	School	Position
2011	Terrance West	Towson	Running Back
2012	John Robertson	Villanova	Quarterback
2013	Cooper Kupp	Eastern Washington	Wide Receiver
2014	Chase Edmonds	Fordham	Running Back
2015	Case Cookus	Northern Arizona	Quarterback
2016	A.J. Hines	Duquesne	Running Back
2017	Bryson Armstrong	Kennesaw State	Linebacker
2018	Josh Davis	Weber State	Running Back
2019	Trey Lance	North Dakota State	Quarterback
2020	Cameron Ward	UIW	Quarterback
2021	Shedeur Sanders	Jackson State	Quarterback
2022	Gevani McCoy	Idaho	Quarterback

ELI GILLMAN, MONTANA

RUNNING BACK, REDSHIRT FRESHMAN
6-0, 206, DASSEL, MINNESOTA
BIG SKY FRESHMAN OF YEAR



14 games

187 carries, 950 yards (5.1 ypc), 12 TDs

85-yard TD run (Montana record)

14 receptions, 109 yards



2023 FCS FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR

JERRY RICE AWARD WINNER

ELI GILLMAN



CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA



BOBBY HAUCK

EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD FINALIST

BRAXTON HILL

BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD FINALIST



ELI GILLMAN
JERRY RICE AWARD WINNER



TOMMY MELLOTT
DORIS ROBINSON AWARD WINNER

CONGRATS TO OUR TWO AWARD WINNERS AND ALL 10 FINALISTS FROM THE **BIG SKY CONFERENCE**

Walter Payton Award Finalists: Gevani McCoy (Idaho), Lan Larison (UC Davis), Hayden Hatten (Idaho), Chedon James (Idaho State)

Buck Buchanan Award Finalists: Brody Grebe (Montana State), Braxton Hill (Montana), Winston Reid (Weber State)

Jerry Rice Award Finalists: Conner Moore (Montana State), Hunter Green (Northern Colorado)

Eddie Robinson Award Finalist: Bobby Hauck (Montana)

BigSkyConf.com



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FCS AWARD FINALISTS **FCS AWARD FINALISTS** FCS AWARD FINALISTS



WILLIE SIMMONS
FLORIDA A&M
EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD



LADARIUS OWENS
TEXAS SOUTHERN
WALTER PAYTON AWARD



JEREMY MOUSSA
FLORIDA A&M
WALTER PAYTON AWARD



ISAIAH MAJOR
FLORIDA A&M
BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD



COLTON ADAMS
ALABAMA STATE
BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD



JASON BROWN
JACKSON STATE
DORIS ROBINSON AWARD



TY'JARIAN WILLIAM
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE
JERRY RICE AWARD





**JIMMY ROGERS, SOUTH DAKOTA STATE
EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD WINNER**

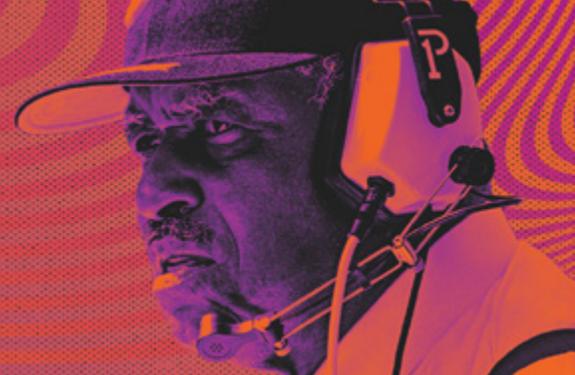
**QB MARK GRONOWSKI, SDSU
WALTER PAYTON AWARD FINALIST**

Congratulations!



COACH OF THE YEAR

EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD



The Stats Perform Eddie Robinson Award, presented by FedEx Ground and celebrating its 37th season, honors the national coach of the year in college football's Division I FCS.



JIMMY ROGERS, SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

HEAD COACH
1ST SEASON
MISSOURI VALLEY FOOTBALL CONFERENCE CHAMPION

14-0 record, 8-0 MVFC
No. 1 national ranking, No. 1 playoff seed
Jackrabbits in FCS championship game
FCS-high nine wins over Top 25 opponents
Former SDSU linebacker, assistant coach



PAST EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD RECIPIENTS

Year	Coach	School
1987	Mark Duffner	Holy Cross
1988	Bill Russo	Lafayette
1989	Erk Russell	Georgia Southern
1990	Gene McDowell	Central Florida
1991	Chris Ault	Nevada
1992	Charlie Taaffe	The Citadel
1993	Dan Allen	Boston University
1994	Jim Tressel	Youngstown State
1995	Houston Nutt	Murray State
1996	Darren Barbier	Nicholls State
1997	Andy Talley	Villanova
1998	Paul Johnson	Georgia Southern
1999	Mickey Matthews	James Madison
2000	Joe Glenn	Montana
2001	Pete Lembo	Lehigh
2002	Tommy Tate	McNeese State
2003	Mike Ayers	Wofford
2004	Jerry Kill	Southern Illinois
2005	Sean McDonnell	New Hampshire
2006	Jerry Moore	Appalachian State
2007	Mark Farley	Northern Iowa
2008	Mickey Matthews	James Madison
2009	Henry Frazier III	Prairie View A&M
2010	Tony Samuel	Southeast Missouri State
2011	Rob Ambrose	Towson
2012	Craig Bohl	North Dakota State
2013	Craig Bohl	North Dakota State
2014	Sean McDonnell	New Hampshire
2015	Joe Moglia	Coastal Carolina
*2015	Bruce Barnum	Portland State
2016	K.C. Keeler	Sam Houston State
2017	Will Healy	Austin Peay
2018	Dan Hawkins	UC Davis
2019	Troy Taylor	Sacramento State
2020	Scott Wachenheim	VMI
2021	Deion Sanders	Jackson State
2022	John Stiegelmeier	South Dakota State

*Stats Perform FCS Coach of the Year

2023 EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD VOTING RESULTS

Following is a breakdown of the voting results. A first-place vote was worth five points, a second-place vote four points, a third-place vote three points, a fourth-place vote two points and a fifth-place vote one point. The final number is the combined point total.

1. Jimmy Rogers	South Dakota State	16-8-8-2-4-144
2. Greg Gattuso	UAlbany	9-10-11-6-0-130
3. Bobby Hauck	Montana	10-12-7-3-1-126
4. Bob Nielson	South Dakota	8-7-9-3-4-105
5. Willie Simmons	Florida A&M	3-1-4-5-5-46
6. Chris Wilkerson	Eastern Illinois	2-2-4-5-4-44
7. John Troxell	Lafayette	0-5-1-6-6-41
8. Clay Hendrix	Furman	1-2-5-5-2-40
9. Scotty Walden	Austin Peay	2-2-0-6-8-38
10. Trei Oliver	North Carolina Central	0-1-3-7-3-30
11. Mark Ferrante	Villanova	0-2-1-2-6-21
12. Todd Stepsis	Drake	1-1-0-4-2-19
13. Larry Scott	Howard	1-2-0-0-3-16
14. Pete Rossomando	Lamar	2-0-0-0-1-11
15. Todd Whitten	Tarleton	0-1-1-0-2-9
16. Tre Lamb	Gardner-Webb	1-0-0-1-1-8
17. Tim Murphy	Harvard	0-0-1-1-0-5
18. Danny Rocco	VMI	0-0-1-0-1-4
19. Tim Rebowe	Nicholls	0-0-0-0-2-2
20. Jerry Schmitt	Duquesne	0-0-0-0-1-1

MEAC

CONGRATULATIONS

2023 STATS PERFORM FCS AWARD FINALISTS

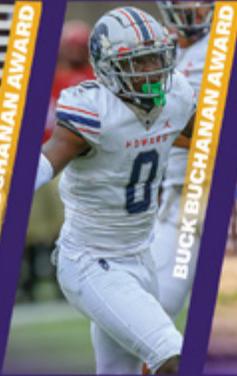
DAVIUS RICHARD



ERICK HUNTER



KENNY GALLOP JR.



JAWARN HOWELL



JUAN VELARDE



TREI OLIVER



LARRY SCOTT



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THE FCS' ELITE PLAY HERE.



DUQUESNE DARIUS PERRANTES
WALTER PAYTON AWARD FINALIST

LIU ERIC O'NEILL
BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD FINALIST

SFU CARTER GLASSMYER
JERRY RICE AWARD FINALIST

DAVID SATKOWSKI
DORIS ROBINSON AWARD FINALIST

DUQUESNE JERRY SCHMITT
EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD FINALIST





COLE GONZALES
WALTER PAYTON AWARD



TY JAMES
WALTER PAYTON AWARD



MICHAEL HIERS
WALTER PAYTON AWARD



JAY PERSON
BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD



LANCE WISE JR.
BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD



BRENDAN JENKINS
JERRY RICE AWARD



JULIAN ASHBY
DORIS ROBINSON SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD



HEAD COACH CLAY HENDRIX
EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD



HEAD COACH DANNY ROCCO
EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD

FCS AWARD FINALISTS



CELEBRATING ITS 31ST SEASON



CONGRATULATES ITS 2023 AWARD FINALISTS



WILL BURKE

DORIS ROBINSON AWARD FINALIST



JYRAN MITCHELL

WALTER PAYTON AWARD FINALIST



FINN CLAYPOOL

BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD FINALIST



GAVIN LOCHOW

JERRY RICE AWARD FINALISTS



DOM NANKIL



TODD STEPSIS

EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD FINALIST



DORIS ROBINSON AWARD



The FedEx Ground FCS Doris Robinson Scholar-Athlete Award, in its ninth season, is presented to a student-athlete in college football's Division I FCS who excels on the playing field, in the classroom and across the community. All 15 conferences involved in the 13 FCS leagues are represented by a finalist.

2022 DORIS ROBINSON AWARD FINALISTS

A Stats Perform committee selected the Doris Robinson Scholar-Athlete recipient. All 15 FCS conferences had a finalist.

Player	School	Position	Year
Kwaku Adubofour	Harvard	Defensive Lineman	Sr.
Julian Ashby	Furman	Long Snapper	Sr.
Max Brosmer	New Hampshire	Quarterback	Grad
Jason Brown	Jackson State	Quarterback	Sr.
Will Burke	St. Thomas	Tight End	R-So.
Jacob Dicharry	Lamar	Offensive Lineman	Jr.
Jacob Dobbs	Holy Cross	Linebacker	5th Year
Anthony Egbo Jr.	Abilene Christian	Cornerback	Sr.
William McRainey	Gardner-Webb	Linebacker	Sr.
Tommy Mellott	Montana State	Quarterback	Jr.
David Satkowski	Stonehill Offensive	Lineman	5th Year
Chad Strickland	Eastern Illinois	Offensive Lineman	Sr.
Juan Velarde	North Carolina Central	Punter	Sr.
Cole Wisniewski	North Dakota State	Safety	Sr.
Jau'Von Young	Austin Peay	Defensive Lineman	Grad



TOMMY MELLOTT, MONTANA STATE

QUARTERBACK, JR.

6-0, 192, BUTTE, MONTANA

ALL-BIG SKY SECOND TEAM (2022 AND 2023)

2023: 1,749 yards of total offense, 15 total TDs, 62.7 completion percentage (nine games)

Career: 3,241 passing yards, 24 TDs; 2,477 rushing yards, 28 TDs; 1 TD reception



MSU's starting QB in 2021 FCS championship game

4.00 GPA in Financial Engineering

Service/charity include I Love This Life foundation (suicide awareness and prevention non-profit); Hope and Love (HOLO) brand/988 crisis line; Shriners Children's Hospital; Big Brothers Big Sisters of America

PAST DORIS ROBINSON AWARD RECIPIENTS

Year	Coach	School	Position
2015	Dalton Screws	Jacksonville State	Wide Receiver
2016	Tyler Swafford	Eastern Kentucky	Quarterback
2017	Jake Wieneke	South Dakota State	Wide Receiver
2018	Christopher Infantino	Stony Brook	Offensive Lineman
2019	Alex Pechin	Bucknell	Punter
2020	Jessie Malit	North Carolina Central	Defensive End
2021	ZeVeyon Furcron	Southern Illinois	Offensive Lineman
2022	Jake Chisholm	Dayton	Running Back



T O M M Y M E L L O T T
D O R I S R O B I N S O N A W A R D W I N N E R

CONGRATULATIONS FROM MONTANA STATE ATHLETICS

STATS PERFORM FCS NATIONAL AWARDS NAMESAKES



WALTER PAYTON AWARD FCS OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY, 1971-74
CHICAGO BEARS, 1975-87
PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME, 1993
COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME, 1996

The Stats Perform Walter Payton Award, established by The Sports Network in 1987 and now presented by FedEx Ground, honors the outstanding offensive college football player on the FCS level. The winner is chosen by a national media panel.

When the Payton Award was established, it was the only such award to be presented to an individual player in the FCS. Payton, who played collegiately at Jackson State, set the NCAA record for points scored in a career with 464. He scored 66 touchdowns and rushed for 3,563 yards at the Southwestern Athletic Conference school, also serving as a place-kicker. He set nine school records during his career.

But Payton's collegiate accomplishments pale in comparison to the numbers he posted with the Chicago Bears. He set the NFL career rushing record with 16,726 yards (later bested by Emmitt Smith) and scored 750 points in his career. He was a two-time NFL MVP, a Super Bowl XX champion and a nine-time Pro Bowl selection, and was named to the NFL's prestigious 75th anniversary team.

As dynamic as he was on the field, Payton was equally active in charitable work off the field. He was honorary chairman for the 1983 Heart Association Jump Rope for Health and the Illinois Mental Health Association from 1978-80. He also was involved with the Boy Scouts, March of Dimes, Brian Piccolo Research Fund, United Way and Peace Corps.

In 1999, the NFL renamed its annual humanitarian award the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award. Payton was the 1977 recipient.



BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD FCS DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY, 1959-62
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS, 1963-75
PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME, 1990
COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME, 1996

The Stats Perform Buck Buchanan Award, established by The Sports Network in 1995 and now presented by FedEx Ground, honors the outstanding defensive college football player on the FCS level. The winner is chosen by a national media panel.

At 6-foot-7, 287 pounds, Junious "Buck" Buchanan was the prototype for future NFL defensive linemen. He combined size, speed and outstanding strength, along with an intense work

ethic, to become one of the great defensive tackles of all time. He entered Grambling State on an "if" scholarship, which meant he would receive financial aid if he played well. After a season of playing both varsity football and basketball, he decided to concentrate on football. By the end of Buchanan's All-America career, Grambling coach Eddie Robinson called him "the finest tackle I have ever seen."

The American Football League's Dallas Texans, who would become the Kansas City Chiefs, orchestrated a 1963 draft day trade to select Buchanan with the No. 1 overall pick. The Chiefs went on to join the NFL in 1970, and Buchanan had a streak of eight straight selections to either the AFL All-Star Team or the NFL Pro Bowl. His teams won two AFL championships and Super Bowl IV, and he missed only one game due to injury in his 13-year career.



JERRY RICE AWARD FCS FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE, 1981-84
49ERS, RAIDERS, SEAHAWKS, 1985-2004
COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME, 2006
PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME, 2010

The Stats Perform Jerry Rice Award, established by The Sports Network in 2011 and now presented by FedEx Ground, honors the outstanding college football freshman on the FCS level. The winner is chosen by a national media panel.

If you thought Jerry Rice's style of play was different from anything you had ever seen before, you weren't alone. "Jerry Rice is on a whole other planet," said former NFL wide receiver Cris Carter. "We're on earth; he's somewhere else."

A "blue ribbon" panel assembled by the NFL Network in 2010 agreed with Carter, voting Rice as the greatest player of all time. But before he embarked on his Hall of Fame career, Rice refined his skills at Mississippi Valley State on the FCS (then Division I-AA) level. It was in the Southwestern Athletic Conference that he was a two-time first-team All-American, finishing his career with 310 receptions for 4,851 yards and 50 touchdowns. It included 27 TD receptions in 1984 – the record for all NCAA divisions.

The San Francisco 49ers traded up in the first round of the 1985 NFL Draft to select Rice and he rewarded them with a record-setting career while they won three Super Bowls (XXIII, XXIV and XXIX). He was a 13-time Pro Bowl selection, two-time AP NFL Offensive Player of the Year and Super Bowl XXIII MVP. His many records include NFL career marks for receptions (1,549), receiving yards (22,895), touchdown receptions (197) and touchdowns scored (208).

STATS PERFORM FCS NATIONAL AWARDS NAMESAKES



EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD FCS COACH OF THE YEAR

GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY, 1941-77
FCS' ALL-TIME WINNINGEST COACH
COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

The Stats Perform Eddie Robinson Award, established by The Sports Network in 1987 and now presented by FedEx Ground, honors the outstanding college football coach on the FCS level. The winner is chosen by a national media panel.

Coach Robinson's 408 career victories are the most among FCS schools and only one less than Joe Paterno's Division I-record total at Penn State. In 1997, Robinson retired at Grambling State with a 408-164-15 record over 57 years (55 seasons). His teams won nine black college football national championships.

He arrived at Grambling in 1941 and took the program from an obscure level to international popularity, playing in many major U.S. cities as well as in the first game in Japan to involve college teams (versus Morgan State in 1976).

More than 200 of Robinson's players went on to NFL careers. They included Paul "Tank" Younger, the first player from a predominantly black college to be taken by the NFL (Los Angeles Rams, 1949), and Pro Football Hall-of-Famers such as Willie Brown, Buck Buchanan, Willie Davis and Charlie Joiner. His pupils also included Super Bowl XXII MVP Doug Williams, who succeeded Robinson as Grambling's coach in 1998.



FEDEX GROUND DORIS ROBINSON **SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD** FCS SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

The Doris Robinson Scholar-Athlete Award, first presented by Stats Perform in 2015 and now sponsored by FedEx Ground, honors an FCS student-athlete who excels on the playing field, in the classroom and across the community.

He is selected from 15 finalists – one from each conference involved in the FCS.

Doris Robinson was the wife of legendary Grambling State football coach Eddie Robinson, for whom the FCS coach of the year award is named. Mrs. Robinson spent her life dedicated to educating young people. Known as the "Eternal First Lady of GSU Football," and called "Miss Doris" by everyone on the Grambling campus, she was a school teacher in the local Louisiana community.

Eddie's college sweetheart, Doris stood by his side throughout

a career at Grambling that spanned 57 years from 1941 to 1997. They were married for 66 years until Eddie died in 2007. Doris passed in 2015.

The Doris Robinson Scholar-Athlete Award aligns with FedEx Ground's mission to attract and recruit talent.



MICKEY CHARLES FCS LEGACY AWARDS

Mickey Charles was the CEO and President of The Sports Network who created the FCS National Awards, starting with the Walter Payton and Eddie Robinson awards in 1987. He recognized a gap in national coverage

of the former Division I-AA level of college football, and his company also created a weekly Top 25 media poll ranking the best teams across the nation.

Raised in New York, Charles graduated high school when he was 15 and went on to Columbia University for two years of studies and basketball before he transferred to Division III Kalamazoo College, where he was a basketball captain and earned an appreciation for the smaller levels of college athletics. He went on to Brooklyn Law School.

His background included a wide range of interests and accomplishments, including newspaper syndication, national sports talk shows, feature writing, seminar speaking and consulting. He was a pioneer in the audiotex industry, forming a sports telecommunications group originally focused on telephonic-delivered sports information, which evolved into the Computer Information Network, the international wire service that came to be known in the industry as The Sports Network.

Stats Perform purchased The Sports Network from Charles in February 2015. Since the purchase, Philip Sokol, the former director of operations at The Sports Network, has remained involved with the FCS National Awards, making him the only person to be a part of all 37 seasons.



Stats Perform FCS National Awards Banquet set on Jan. 7, 2023.

THE FINAL WORD

WALTER PAYTON AWARD

“When you look at my dad’s career from high school to college and what he had to do to be able to get to the NFL, and to see these young guys coming up now as finalists for this award is pretty special.”

Jarrett Payton

BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD

“You’re getting recognized for the work that you put out there on the field. Just to be able to be a representative of the award, to have my name entrenched and always associated with the Buck Buchanan Award, it’s amazing.”

Dexter Coakley, two-time recipient and frequent presenter

JERRY RICE AWARD

“It truly means the world to me and it’s unbelievable to be able to have my legacy live on forever. . . . I love to give back and it is amazing to be able to award a deserving freshman based on his accomplishments.”

College Football and Pro Football Hall of Famer Jerry Rice

EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD

“When the names Walter Payton, Buck Buchanan, Jerry Rice and Eddie Robinson are attached to top awards, the message is clear to all involved: ‘You can be anything you dream of as a product of FCS football.’”

1994 Eddie Robinson Award recipient and past presenter Jim Tressel

FEDEX GROUND DORIS ROBINSON SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD

“My grandmother, Doris Robinson, embodied the essence of laboring in love for all humanitarian endeavors that strengthens the wisdom of communities when they are tasked with molding our future through our young people. This award is a perfect parallel to her lifelong commitment to our well-rounded leaders who recognize and strive for distinction through sports, education and the growth of community pursuits that uplift each one of us as citizens of the world.”

Eddie Robinson III

GARY REASONS, FCS NATIONAL AWARDS



Gary Reasons has a distinguished history of serving as master of ceremonies for the Stats Perform FCS Awards Banquet and the national awards broadcast on Bally Sports Networks.

Reasons was an FCS (then Division I-AA) First Team All-America linebacker at Northwestern State, the first player in NCAA history to gain the prestigious honor three consecutive seasons (1981-83). He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1996 as part of the inaugural group of small college players.

A college football television analyst for FOX Sports, Reasons is in his 30th season as a broadcaster. He also is president of Pro Athletes

Team, which brings unique business and healthcare value services to companies and hospital partners while also creating philanthropy for hospital foundations, university athletics and various non-profit organizations.

Drafted into the NFL by the New York Giants in the fourth round in 1984, Reasons spent eight years with the club, helping it win Super Bowls XXI and XXV under coach Bill Parcells. Reasons, Lawrence Taylor, Harry Carson and Carl Banks helped comprise a linebackers unit that is recognized as one of the greatest in NFL history. He finished his nine-year NFL career with a final season in Cincinnati.

Reasons and his wife Terri have been married for 39 years and have three children. The Reasons reside in McKinney, Texas.

ALEX ESCHELMAN, CO-HOST



Alex Eschelman is the co-host of the 2023 FCS National Awards on Bally Sports.

She has served as the director of broadcast and digital media for the Big Sky Conference since January 2023, holding a variety of roles that include hosting live shows, sideline reporting, interviewing coaches and student-athletes, and creating content for the conference’s social media.

She also hosts a weekly show throughout football season called “FCS All-In” on ESPN+ and YouTube.

Eschelman graduated from the University of Arizona with a degree in journalism and sports management in 2019. She spent time as a captain for the U Of A Cheer team.

STATS PERFORM FCS NATIONAL AWARDS VOTING PANEL

Stats Perform: Craig Haley, Gary Reasons. **Big Sky Conference:** Doug Kelly, Tyson Rodgers, Larry Weir. **Big South-OVC Football Association:** Mike Bradd, Brian Cleary, Kyle Schwartz, Mark Simpson. **CAA Football:** Matt Harmon, Scott Klatzkin, Rob Washburn. **Ivy League:** Rick Bender, Craig Larson. **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference:** Kendrick Lewis, Patricia Porter-Mayfield. **Missouri Valley Football Conference:** Dom Izzo, Mike Kern, Randy Reinhardt. **Northeast Conference:** Sarah Boissonneault, Randy Brochu. **Patriot League:** Eric Malanoski, Ryan Sakamoto. **Pioneer Football League:** Cody Bush, Jack Cronin. **Southern Conference:** Scott Keeler, Andrew Miller, Ralan Wardlaw. **Southland Conference:** Matthew Bonnette, James Dixon, James Hill. **Southwestern Athletic Conference:** Ronnie Johnson, Joshua Padilla. **United Athletic Conference:** Steve East, Tony Jones, Brian Morgan, Jake Withee. **National Representatives:** Sean Anderson, Zack Carlton, Riley Corcoran, Joe DeLeone, Steven J. Gaither, Sam Herder, Emory Hunt, Kyle Kensing, Brandon Lawrence, Zach McKinnell, Brian McLaughlin, Jon Passman, Omar Rashon Borja, Ryan Roberts, Kent Schmidt, Phil Sokol, Reggie Thomas, Ralph Ventre, Jamie Williams.



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