

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THREE FINALISTS NAMED FOR 2022 DOAK WALKER AWARD

A trio of juniors will contend for the honor of the nation's top running back

DALLAS (SMU) – The PwC SMU Athletic Forum is proud to announce the three finalists for the 2022 Doak Walker National Collegiate Running Back Award.

The Big Ten Conference boasts two of the finalists in **Chase Brown** of Illinois and **Blake Corum** of Michigan. Brown and Corum recently went head-to-head in a last-second 19-17 Michigan win that kept the Wolverines unbeaten. In that battle, both Brown and Corum eclipsed the 100-yard mark. Brown gained 140 yards and ran for two touchdowns on 29 carries, while Corum, despite being hampered by injury, ran for 108 yards and a score. Texas' **Bijan Robinson**, who finished the regular season with six rushing touchdowns and 422 yards over his last two games, represents the Big 12 as a finalist.

The winner of the 2022 Doak Walker Award 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 finalists:

Chase Brown, Illinois (5-11, 205, Jr., London, Ontario): The nation's second-leading rusher with 1,643 yards, Brown led the nation in rushing for much of the season. He is third in the nation with 1,883 all-purpose yards, all coming either rushing or receiving. Brown rushed for at least 98 yards in 11 of Illinois' 12 games and has scored 13 total touchdowns (10 on the ground and three receiving). Brown, who hails from London, Ontario, and prepped at St. Stephen's Episcopal School in Bradenton, Fla., is a fifth-year junior and a Western Michigan transfer. He is the first Doak Walker Award finalist from Illinois.

Blake Corum, Michigan 5-8, 210, Jr., Marshall, Va.): Corum reeled off eight straight 100-yard games before being slowed by injury that limited him in the regular season's final two games. He has run for 18 touchdowns and scored an additional receiving touchdown for the unbeaten Wolverines, who will play for the Big Ten championship on Saturday. Corum has gained 1,463 rushing yards, eighth-best in the country. A true junior, Corum prepped at Baltimore's St. Frances Academy, but calls Marshall, Va., home. He is Michigan's seventh Doak Walker Award finalist and looks to join Chris Perry (2003) as a winner from the school. Mike Hart (2006-07), Anthony Thomas (2000), Tim Biakabatuka (1995), Tyrone Wheatley (1994), Jon Vaughn (1990) have also been finalists for the award.

Bijan Robinson, Texas (6-0, 222, Jr., Tucson, Ariz.): Robinson has scored 20 total touchdowns and is second in the nation in all-purpose yards (1,894), finishing the regular season by rushing for at least 100 yards in nine of his final 10 games. His 18 rushing touchdowns are fourth in the country (tied with Corum) and his 1,580 rushing yards are good for fifth. The true junior hails from Tucson, Ariz., and prepped at Salpointe High School. Texas has had four previous Doak Walker Award winners: D'Onta Foreman (2016), Cedric Benson (2004) and Ricky Williams (1997-98).

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.



DOAK WALKER AWARD WINNERS AND FINALISTS

Year	Winner	Finalists
	•	Travis Etienne, Clemson; Breece Hall, Iowa State
2019		
2018		Travis Etienne, Clemson; Darrell Henderson, Memphis
2017		
2016	-	
		Leonard Fournette, LSU; Christian McCaffrey, Stanford
		Ameer Abdullah, Nebraska; Tevin Coleman, Indiana
2013	Andre Williams, Boston College	Ka'Deem Carey, Arizona; Bishop Sankey, Washington
2012	Montee Ball, Wisconsin	
2011	Trent Richardson, Alabama	
2010	LaMichael James, Oregon	John Clay, Wisconsin; Kendall Hunter, Oklahoma State
2009	Toby Gerhart, Stanford	Mark Ingram, Alabama; C.J. Spiller, Clemson
		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
		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 Biakabatuka, Michigan;
		Warrick Dunn, Florida State; George Jones, San Diego State;
		Wasean Tait, Toledo; Moe Williams, Kentucky
1994	Rashaan Salaam, ColoradoKi-	Jana Carter, Penn State; Ryan Chistopherson, 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	•	Reggie Brooks, Notre Dame; Trevor Cobb, Rice
1991		Vaughn Dunbar, Indiana; Tommy Vardell, Stanford
1990		Nick Bell, Iowa; Sheldon Canley, San Jose State; Tico Duckett, Michigan State;
	Mike Mayweather	r, Army; Glyn Milburn, Stanford; Tony Thompson, Tennessee; Jon Vaughn, Michigan



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

2022 DOAK WALKER AWARD SEMIFINALISTS

Israel Abanikanda, Pitt Chase Brown, Illinois Zach Charbonnet, UCLA Blake Corum, Michigan

Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota Quinshon Judkins, Ole Miss DeWayne McBride, UAB

2022 DOAK WALKER AWARD PRESEASON CANDIDATES LIST

Devon Achane, Texas A&M Braelon Allen, Wisconsin Rasheen Ali, Marshall Ronald Awaft, UTEP Tank Bigsby, Auburn Isiaih Bowser, UCF British Brooks, North Carolina Jarek Broussard, Michigan State Antario Brown, NIU Chase Brown, Illinois Jermaine Brown, UAB Nate Carter, UConn Zach Charbonnet, UCLA Blake Corum, Michigan Travis Dye, USC Justice Ellison, Wake Forest Samson Evans, Eastern Michigan Deshaun Fenwick, Oregon State Alex Fontenot, Colorado Pat Garwo, Boston College Frank Gore Jr., Southern Miss Eric Gray, Oklahoma Gerald Green, Georgia Southern Tucker Gregg, Georgia State Hassan Hall, Georgia Tech

Deion Hankins. UTEP TreVeyon Henderson, Ohio State George Holani, Boise State Evan Hull, Northwestern Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota Dillon Johnson, Mississippi State Roschon Johnson, Texas Austin Jones, USC Johnnie Lang Jr., Arkansas State Keyvone Lee, Penn State Joguavious Marks, Mississippi State DeWayne McBride, UAB Chez Mellusi, Wisconsin Kendre Miller, TCU Jordan Mims, Fresno State Keaton Mitchell, East Carolina Damien Moore, Cal Devin Neal, Kansas Lew Nichols III, Central Michigan Nate Noel, App State Nathaniel Peat, Missouri Camerun Peoples, App State Dominic Richardson, Oklahoma State Johnny Richardson, UCF

Bijan Robinson, Texas Raheim Sanders, Arkansas Will Shipley, Clemson Shaun Shivers, Indiana Jabari Small, Tennessee Chris Smith, Louisiana Dontae Smith, Georgia Tech E.J. Smith, Stanford Tyjae Spears, Tulane Titus Swen, Wyoming Tavion Thomas, Utah Sean Tucker, Syracuse Calvin Tyler Jr., Utah State Sean Tyler, Western Michigan Chris Tyree, Notre Dame Xazavian Valladay, Arizona State Deuce Vaughn, Kansas State Kimani Vidal, Troy Blake Watson, Old Dominion Treshaun Ward, Florida State Harrison Waylee, NIU Jalen White, Georgia Southern Jamyest Williams, Georgia State Nay'Quan Wright, Florida

- - Kendre Miller, TCU Bijan Robinson, Texas Deuce Vaughn, Kansas State