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Melvin Gordon Named 2014 Doak Walker Award Recipient

Orlando, Florida – The PwC SMU Athletic Forum announced Melvin Gordon from Wisconsin as the recipient of the 2014 Doak Walker Award on Thursday, December 11, 2014, at *The Home Depot College Football Awards*.

Gordon, a junior from Kenosha, Wisconsin, leads the nation in total rushing yards (2,336), rushing yards per game (179.7) and rushing touchdowns (26). With the Outback Bowl remaining, Gordon's season is the fourth-best mark in FBS history. He has rushed for at least 200 yards in five games this season, including a 408-yard output against Nebraska on Nov. 15, the highest single-game total in FBS history at the time. Gordon was also a 2013 Doak Walker Award semifinalist and joins Ron Dayne (1999) and Montee Ball (2012) as Wisconsin Badgers to win the award.

"Since Melvin stepped on campus, I knew he was destined to do great things," 2012 recipient Ball said. "He's a true student of the game and asked questions about what we saw pre-snap or what we look for during film. I am very proud of his accomplishments and I cannot wait to see the things he'll do at the next level!"

Gordon will receive the award at the Doak Walker Award Presentation Banquet on Friday, February 27, 2015, in Dallas. The 2014 PwC Doak Walker Legends Award recipient, which will be announced at a later date, will also be honored at the banquet.

The Award is named after three-time SMU All-America running back and 1948 Heisman Trophy winner Doak Walker. Walker, who also punted, returned kicks and kicked extra points, led the Mustangs to two Southwest Conference Championships. He was drafted by the Detroit Lions and led the league in scoring his rookie year. During his six years with the Lions, he led the team to two NFL championships and was chosen All-Pro four times. Walker is a member of both the College and Pro Football Halls of Fame.

The recipient of the Doak Walker Award is chosen by a National Selection Committee comprised of members of the media and former players.

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Honoring the legends of sports for 25 years, the PwC SMU Athletic Forum celebrates outstanding success in athletics. Based in Dallas, the series features major figures from a variety of sports. The PwC SMU Athletic Forum includes four luncheons and the prestigious Doak Walker Award Presentation Banquet.

The Doak Walker Award is a member of the National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA) which encompasses the most prestigious awards in college football. The 21 awards boast 678 years of tradition-selection excellence. Visit www.NCFAA.org to learn more about our story.

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