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2025 Doak Walker Award Candidates Announced

DALLAS — The PwC SMU Athletic Forum released today the preseason candidates for the 2025 Doak Walker Award. The Forum annually presents the award to the nation's most outstanding college running back.

The list features 2024 Doak Walker Award semifinalist Makhi Hughes (Oregon). Hughes ran for more than 1,400 yards and ranked 10th nationally in total rushing yards playing for Tulane in 2024. The list also includes Notre Dame junior Jeremiyah Love, who rushed for 1,125 yards and 17 touchdowns, leading the Fighting Irish to the College Football Playoff National Championship Game, and Isaac Brown (Louisville) who rushed for 1,173 as a freshman in 2024.

The PwC SMU Athletic Forum Board of Directors will name ten semifinalists in November, and three finalists, as voted on by the Doak Walker Award National Selection Committee, will also be announced in November. The committee will cast a second vote in December to determine the recipient. The National Selection Committee consists of past recipients, former NFL All-Pro and college All-America running backs, media members and selected special representatives. The recipient of the 2025 Doak Walker Award will be announced live on *The Home Depot College Football Awards* on December 12, 2024.

The award is named for SMU's three-time All-America running back Doak Walker. Each Tuesday of this season, The PwC SMU Athletic Forum will once again announce a Doak Walker National Running Back of the week. University athletic departments nominate candidates for the award and can continue to do so through October.

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Honoring the legends of sports for 36 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 events 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 college football's most prestigious awards. The NCFAA's 25 awards have honored more than 950 recipients since 1935. Visit NCFAA.org for more information.

Following is the remaining 2025 preseason watch list calendar:

*Wed., Aug. 6: Biletnikoff Award
Thu., Aug. 7: Davey O'Brien Award
Fri., Aug. 8: Mackey Award/Rimington Trophy
Mon., Aug. 11: Bednarik Award*

The complete lists of candidates is below.

Sedrick Alexander (Jr.), Vanderbilt
 Kaytron Allen (Sr.), Penn State
 Jo'Shon Barbie (Jr.), Marshall
 Jadan Baugh (So.), Florida
 CJ Baxter (So.), Texas
 Quintrevion Wisner (Jr.), Texas
 Jalen Berger (Sr.), UCLA
 DeSean Bishop (So.), Tennessee
 Davon Booth (Grad), Mississippi State
 Fluff Bothwell (So.), Mississippi State
 Alex Broome (Jr.), Boston College
 Isaac Brown (So.), Louisville
 Xavier Brown (Jr.), Virginia
 Demond Claiborne (Sr.), Wake Forest
 Jonah Coleman (Sr.), Washington
 Cam Cook (Jr.), Jacksonville State
 Ja'Quez Cross (Sr.), Arkansas State
 Bill Davis (So.), Louisiana
 Greg Desrosiers Jr. (Sr.), Memphis
 C.J. Donaldson (Sr.), Ohio State
 Bryson Donelson (So.), Fresno State
 Jay Ducker (Sr.), Temple
 Cam Edwards (Jr.), UConn
 Dylan Edwards (Jr.), Kansas State
 Kaden Feagin (Jr.), Illinois
 Nate Frazier (So.), Georgia
 Sire Gaines (Fr.), Boise State
 Davion Gause (So.), North Carolina
 Julian Gray (Sr.), Liberty
 Marlon Gunn Jr. (Sr.), East Carolina
 Anthony Hankerson (Sr.), Oregon State
 Carson Hanson (Jr.), Iowa State
 Ahmad Hardy (So.), Missouri
 George Hart III (Sr.), WKU
 Dallan Hayden (Jr.), Colorado
 Justice Haynes (Jr.), Michigan
 Jamal Haynes (Sr.), Georgia Tech
 Eli Heidenreich (Sr.), Navy
 Roman Hemby (Sr.), Indiana
 Robert Henry Jr. (Sr.), UTSA
 Daniel Hishaw Jr. (Jr.), Kansas
 Makhi Hughes (Jr.), Oregon
 Sedrick Irvin (Jr.), Stanford
 Bryan Jackson (So.), USC
 Parker Jenkins (Jr.), East Carolina
 Emmett Johnson (Jr.), Nebraska
 Waymond Jordan (Jr.), USC
 Quinten Joyner (So.), Texas Tech
 Aidan Laughery (So.), Illinois
 Jeremiyah Love (Jr.), Notre Dame
 Jordan Marshall (So.), Michigan
 Justin Marshall (So.), Colorado State
 LJ Martin (Jr.), BYU

Tony Mathis Jr. (Sr.), Marshall
 Josh McCray (Sr.), Georgia
 Jordan McDonald (Sr.), Boston College
 Derrick McFall (Fr.), SMU
 Makenzie McGill II (So.), North Texas
 Jam Miller (Sr.), Alabama
 Devin Mockobee (Jr.), Purdue
 London Montgomery (So.), East Carolina
 Myles Montgomery (Sr.), UCF
 Jaquez Moore (Sr.), Duke
 Le'Veon Moss (Jr.), Texas A&M
 Kamari Moulton (So.), Iowa
 Jaden Nixon (Sr.), UCF
 Will Nixon (Sr.), Syracuse
 Cartevious Norton (Sr.), South Florida
 Jaydn Ott (Sr.), Oklahoma
 Rueben Owens II (So.), Texas A&M
 Lincoln Pare (Sr.), Texas State
 Wayshawn Parker (So.), Utah
 Zylan Perry (Jr.), Louisiana
 Jadarian Price (Jr.), Notre Dame
 Evan Pryor (Sr.), Cincinnati
 Nolan Ray (So.), Maryland
 Desmond Reid (Sr.), Pitt
 Jamal Roberts (So.), Missouri
 Braylen Russell (So.), Arkansas
 Abu Sama III (Jr.), Iowa State
 Eli Sanders (Sr.), USC
 Gavin Sawchuk (Jr.), Florida State
 Jo Silver (Sr.), Delaware
 Nicholas Singleton (Jr.), Penn State
 Joquez Smith (Fr.), Temple
 Sutton Smith (Jr.), Memphis
 Hollywood Smothers (So.), N.C. State
 Terion Stewart (Grad), Virginia Tech
 Darius Taylor (Jr.), Minnesota
 Alex Tecza (Sr.), Navy
 Star Thomas (Sr.), Tennessee
 Jai'Den Thomas (So.), UNLV
 Jaivian Thomas (Jr.), UCLA
 A.J. Turner (Jr.), Minnesota
 Tawee Walker (Sr.), Cincinnati
 Bryson Washington (So.), Baylor
 Duke Watson (So.), Louisville
 Micah Welch (So.), Colorado
 Jahiem White (So.), West Virginia
 Noah Whittington (Sr.), Oregon
 Aneyas Williams (So.), Notre Dame
 Leshon Williams (Sr.), Kansas
 Yasin Willis (So.), Syracuse
 Terrez Worthy (Sr.), Temple