

FWAA All-America team announced on ABC-TV

The Football Writers Association of America's 64th All-America team was announced on Dec. 8 and shown on ABC Television.

The FWAA Team, the second longest continuously published team in college football, has been a staple of the college football scene since 1944. And for the fourth straight season, the unveiling of the team has been shown on television. This year's sponsor was AT&T.

The 25-man team is one of the youngest, if not the youngest in history, with 15 underclassmen, including three redshirt freshmen and two sophomores, along with 10 juniors and 10 seniors. The Big 12 (seven selections) and Southeastern (six) conferences dominated the team. No other conference had more than three selections.

Included on the team is LSU's stand-out senior defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey, who became the first player in history to sweep the Outland Trophy (best interior lineman), Bronko Nagurski Trophy (Best Defensive Player) and Lombardi Trophy (best lineman) awards.

Four schools — Arkansas, Kansas, LSU and Missouri — have two players each on the team. There are three repeat All-Americans on the team from 2006: Ohio State junior linebacker James Laurinaitis, Michigan senior offensive tackle Jake Long and Arkansas' junior running back Darren McFadden.

Although the Big 12 had seven players on the team, this is the first time since 1993 that Texas does not have at least one player on the team — a string of 13 straight teams.

The three freshmen on the team — an all-time high — are Missouri's all-purpose star Jeremy Maclin, Texas Tech receiver Michael Crabtree and Tennessee kicker Daniel Lincoln. Crabtree led the nation in receiving; Maclin piled up more all-purpose yards than any freshman in college football history, and Lincoln won two games for the Volunteers with field goals.

Other FWAA All-America team members to win individual awards were quarterback Tim Tebow of Florida (Heisman Trophy, Maxwell and Davey O'Brien Awards), running back Darren McFadden of Arkansas (Doak Walker Award, Walter Camp Player of the Year); wide receiver Michael Crabtree of Texas Tech (Biletnikoff Award); center Jonathan Luigs of Arkansas (Rimington Trophy), and linebacker James Laurinaitis of Ohio State (Butkus).

The FWAA selects the All-America team with the help of its members and an All-America Committee that represents all the regions in the country.



December 2007

Vol. 45, No. 5

Inside this issue:

<i>President's column</i>	2
<i>Eight named finalists for Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award</i>	3
<i>FWAA All-America Team</i>	4-5
<i>LSU's Glenn Dorsey wins Outland Trophy</i>	6
<i>Dorsey also wins Bronko Nagurski Trophy</i>	7

President
Mike Griffith
Knoxville News Sentinel

First Vice President
Ron Higgins
Memphis Commercial Appeal

Second Vice President
George Schroeder
Eugene Register-Guard

Executive Director
Steve Richardson

2007 Directors

Eric Bailey
Tulsa World
Craig Barnes
South Florida Sun-Sentinel
Chip Brown
The Dallas Morning News

Bob Clark
Eugene Register-Guard
Chad Cripe
Idaho Statesman

Buddy Davis
Ruston Daily Leader
Scott Ferrell
Shreveport Times

Robert Gagliardi
Wyoming Tribune-Eagle

Eric Hansen
South Bend Tribune

Bob Holt
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Mike Huguenin
Yahoo.com

Steve Irvine
Birmingham News

Michael Lewis
Salt Lake City Tribune

Andrew Logue
Des Moines Register

Tom Luicci
Newark Star-Ledger

Matt Markey
Toledo Blade

Brett McMurphy
Tampa Tribune

Jeff Metcalfe
Arizona Republic

Robbi Pickeral
Raleigh News & Observer

Carter Strickland
Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Ex-officio
Charles Bloom
SEC/BCS liaison
Joe Hornstein
Central Florida

President's column



MIKE GRIFFITH

By now we've all gotten a taste of one of the most unusual collegiate football seasons in recent history.

Our eyebrows have been raised and our heads scratched as curious scores flashed before us on the scoreboard each weekend.

There was Appalachian State over Michigan, Stanford over USC and Louisiana-Monroe over Alabama, just to name a few.

Who would have imagined a 3-9 Notre Dame football team?

Then there's Kansas, at one time ranked higher in football than basketball, and Connecticut's football Huskies outshining their basketball brethren.

Those who wanted parity have seen their wish granted.

As a result, now is when, where and why the Plus-One (four-team) playoff should get the necessary push to become a reality in the future.

"I'm working on it," SEC commissioner and BCS chairman Mike Slive said of the Plus-One while attending a recent Tennessee football game.

That's the good news.

In my closing column as FWAA President, I feel the need to also address concerns.

It seems another coach's door closes in this sport we choose to cover each day.

The current norm is a far cry from the days when Gene Stallings met with journalists after practices three days a week in his office, and media were invited to the Bryant Hall lunch room to interview any player of their choosing.

There have been more instances of friction between head coaches and media this year than at any time I can re-

member.

It's disheartening that this is happening even after access and the media's relationship with schools have been identified as issues of concern.

Some 300 people turned out at the CoSIDA Convention in San Diego in July to listen to a panel of media discuss the developing divide between media members and college football institutions and personnel.

The CoSIDA members pointed to the matter of trust as a key factor: How could their coaches trust media now that the Internet has created an avenue for the immediate release of information?

News is broken in bits and pieces before head coaches or sports information directors have an opportunity to digest and/or address it. So what to do?

It is a fair enough question that can only be answered over time with responsible journalism. All of us should take care to handle our stories in the most thorough and professional manner possible while dealing with the urgency brought on by the Web.

The schools and coaches we cover, however, have raised red flags with their actions and behavior as well.

One wonders how Penn State, one of the most tradition-rich collegiate programs in the country, could have sold a press pass to a football game on E-Bay.

The University of Tennessee, once one of the most accessible football programs in the land, has declined to allow media to interview its freshman players.

And yet, on the school's website fans can find question-and-answer sessions with those same freshmen.

That's not just hypocritical, it's an unfair business practice so long as the university is selling advertising on its website.

Perhaps Tennessee took its cue from recently resigned Texas A&M coach Dennis Franchione, who was operating a premium information website on the sly.

Have coaches become so powerful that people like Franchione and South

(Continued on page 8)



Mark
Mangino
Kansas



Ron Zook
Illinois



June Jones
Hawaii



Gary Pinkel
Missouri

Eight named finalists For Robinson Award

DALLAS — The FWAA has announced the eight finalists for the 2007 Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award to be voted upon by the entire membership.

With the 2007 regular season completed, the FWAA, in conjunction with the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, has tabbed the following finalists: Kansas' Mark Mangino, Ohio State's Jim Tressel, Missouri's Gary Pinkel, Illinois' Ron Zook, Air Force's Troy Calhoun, Hawaii's June Jones, Virginia Tech's Frank Beamer and Arizona State's Dennis Erickson.

The finalists will be on a ballot that will be e-mailed to the entire FWAA membership. Members will be asked to vote for their top three choices in the order they are deserving.

The FWAA Coaching Award is named after Robinson, the late coaching legend at Grambling State University for 55 years. He has more Division I victories (408) than any other coach.

The winner of the FWAA/Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award will be announced and honored at a reception on Jan. 4 in New Orleans in conjunction with the BCS 1-2 game.

Mangino led Kansas to 11 straight victories before losing to Missouri. The Jayhawks finished with a 6-6 record the previous season and did not go to a bowl game. The Jayhawks have won more games in a season than any time in their history and will play in the Orange Bowl.

Pinkel led Missouri to its first No. 1 ranking nationally in 47 years and the most victories in school history (11). The Tigers won their first Big 12 North Division title and are playing in their first New Year's Day Bowl Game (Cotton) since 1969.

Zook turned around the Illini from a 2-10 record in 2006 to 9-3 in 2007. It

is the biggest turnaround in college football this season. Included in the victories was an upset of top-ranked Ohio State in Columbus.

Tressel led the Buckeyes to their third straight Big Ten title and fourth in six years. The 11-1 Ohio State team will face LSU in the BCS Title game on Jan. 7.

Air Force's Troy Calhoun, a first-year head coach, directed the Falcons to a 9-3 record. It was the biggest turnaround in the country by any first-year coach from the 2006 season. Air Force was 4-8 in 2006.

Jones led Hawaii to the school's first outright Western Athletic Conference title and the only unbeaten record in the Division I Bowl Subdivision in 2007. Hawaii will face Georgia in the Sugar Bowl.

Erickson, in his first season at Arizona State, posted 10 victories with the Sun Devils. Arizona State will face Texas in the Holiday Bowl. Arizona State lost only to USC and Oregon during the regular season.

Beamer's Virginia Tech team lost an early-season showdown to LSU, 48-7, and then dropped a heart-breaker to Boston College, 14-10, in the final minutes in Blacksburg. But the Hokies bounced back to beat BC in the Atlantic Coast Conference title game and finish the regular season with an 11-2 record.

Of the candidates, Tressel and Beamer are the only previous winners. Tressel won the Eddie in 2002, the same season his Buckeyes claimed the FWAA's Grantland Rice Trophy, symbolic of the national championship. Beamer won the award in 1999, the same season his Hokies lost to Florida State in the national title game.



Troy
Calhoun
Air Force



Jim Tressel
Ohio State



Dennis
Erickson
Arizona St.



Frank
Beamer
Va. Tech

FWAA ALL-AMERICA OFFENSE



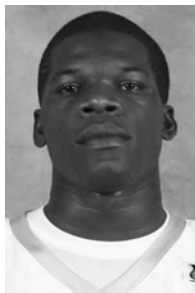
Pos.	Player, School	Ht., Wt.	Cl.
QB	Tim Tebow, Florida	6-3, 234	So.
RB	Darren McFadden, Arkansas	6-2, 215	Jr.
RB	Kevin Smith, Central Florida	6-1, 211	Jr.
WR	Michael Crabtree, Texas Tech	6-3, 222	Fr.
WR	Jordy Nelson, Kansas State	6-3, 217	Sr.
TE	Martin Rucker, Missouri	6-6, 255	Sr.
C	Jonathan Luigs, Arkansas	6-4, 307	Jr.
OL	Anthony Collins, Kansas	6-5, 310	Jr.
OL	Ryan Stanchek, West Virginia	6-4, 295	Jr.
OL	Hercules Satele, Hawaii	6-2, 288	Sr.
OL	Jake Long, Michigan	6-7, 313	Sr.



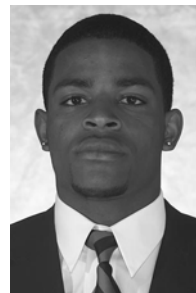
Tebow
Florida



McFadden
Arkansas



Smith
C. Florida



Crabtree
Texas Tech



Nelson
Kansas St.



Rucker
Missouri



Luigs
Arkansas



Collins
Kansas



Stanchek
W. Virginia



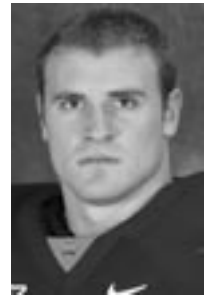
Satele
Hawaii



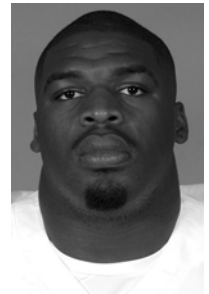
Long
Michigan

ALL-AMERICA DEFENSE, SPECIALISTS

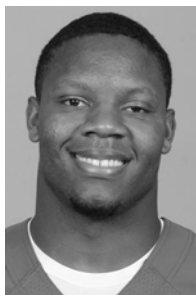
Pos.	Player, School	Ht., Wt.	Cl.
DL	Chris Long, Virginia	6-4, 284	Sr.
DL	Glenn Dorsey, LSU	6-2, 299	Sr.
DL	Sedrick Ellis, Southern California	6-1, 295	Sr.
DL	George Selvie, South Florida	6-4, 245	So.
LB	James Laurinaitis, Ohio State	6-3, 231	Jr.
LB	Curtis Lofton, Oklahoma	6-0, 235	Jr.
LB	J Leman, Illinois	6-2, 240	Sr.
DB	Mike Mickens, Cincinnati	6-0, 165	Jr.
DB	Craig Steltz, LSU	6-2, 204	Sr.
DB	Jamie Silva, Boston College	5-11, 208	Sr.
DB	Aqib Talib, Kansas	6-1, 205	Jr.
P	Louie Sakoda, Utah	5-10, 178	Jr.
K	Daniel Lincoln, Tennessee	6-0, 204	Fr.
KR	Jeremy Maclin, Missouri	6-1, 185	Fr.



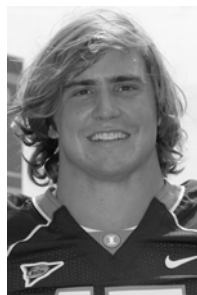
Long
Virginia



Dorsey
LSU



Lofton
Oklahoma



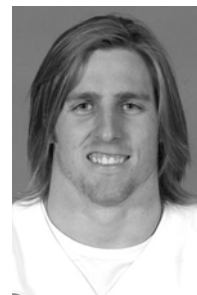
Leman
Illinois



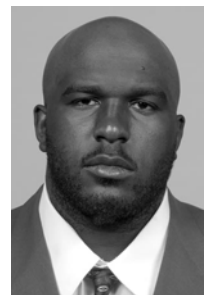
Laurinaitis
Ohio St.



Mickens
Cincinnati



Steltz
LSU



Ellis
USC



Silva
Boston Col.



Talib
Kansas



Sakoda
Utah



Lincoln
Tennessee



Maclin
Missouri



Selvie
So. Florida

LSU's Dorsey sweeps Outland ...

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. – LSU defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey was named the winner of the 62nd Outland Trophy on Dec. 6, three days after collecting the Bronko Nagurski Trophy as the best defensive player in the country.

The winner of the Outland Trophy, which goes to the best interior lineman on offense or defense in college football, was announced during the Home Depot ESPNU College Football Awards Show from The Walt Disney World Resort.

Dorsey became the second player to sweep the Bronko Nagurski and Outland Awards, joining Arizona defensive tackle Rob Waldrop in 1993. Dorsey also won the Rotary Lombardi Award as the nation's best lineman.

Dorsey won the award over Kansas offensive tackle Anthony Collins and Michigan offensive tackle Jake Long, the other two Outland Trophy finalists. The Football Writers Association of America selects the Nagurski and Outland winners from its 25-man All-America team.

Dorsey anchored LSU's defense despite knee, lower back and hamstring injuries suffered during the 2007 season. He has registered 11.5 tackles for 48 yards in losses for the twice-beaten Tigers and made 64 total tackles, 34 unassisted. The 6-2, 299-pound senior has broken up three passes and been a major disruptive force for a defense that helped the Tigers to the BCS title game against Ohio State.

"Yes, it is an honor to see they realize what I put into the game," Dorsey said after receiving the Outland Trophy.

LSU coach Les Miles called Dorsey "a kid on the field you better design a way to block him."

"As a person, he is humble and hard-working," Miles said. "He enjoys his hometown; he's the pied piper. The entire town (of Gonzales, La.) follows him around."

LSU ranks third in total defense (283.85 yards allowed per game), ninth in pass defense (180.77) and



Glenn Dorsey is only the second player to win the Outland and Nagurski Trophies.

14th in rushing defense (103.1).

The Outland Trophy, which has been awarded annually by the FWAA since 1946, is named after the late John Outland, a lineman at Pennsylvania at the turn of the 20th century. The Outland Trophy is the third oldest award in major college football behind the Heisman Trophy and Maxwell Award.

The official 2007 award presentation will be Jan. 10, 2008, in Omaha, Neb., at a banquet sponsored by the Greater Omaha Sports Committee. Oklahoma's Lee Roy Selmon, the 1975 winner, will also receive his trophy there.

PAST OUTLAND WINNERS

1946 George Connor, Notre Dame	1962 Bobby Bell, Minnesota	1978 Greg Roberts, Oklahoma	1994 Zach Wiegert, Nebraska
1947 Joe Steffy, Army	1963 Scott Appleton, Texas	1979 Jim Ritcher, N.C. State	1995 Jonathan Ogden, UCLA
1948 Bill Fischer, Notre Dame	1964 Steve Delong, Tennessee	1980 Mark May, Pittsburgh	1996 Orlando Pace, Ohio State
1949 Ed Bagdon, Michigan State	1965 Tommy Nobis, Texas	1981 Dave Rimington, Nebraska	1997 Aaron Taylor, Nebraska
1950 Bob Gain, Kentucky	1966 Loyd Phillips, Arkansas	1982 Dave Rimington, Nebraska	1998 Kris Farris, UCLA
1951 Jim Weatherall, Oklahoma	1967 Ron Yary, USC	1983 Dean Steinkuhler, Nebraska	1999 Chris Samuels, Alabama
1952 Dick Modzelewski, Maryland	1968 Bill Stanfill, Georgia	1984 Bruce Smith, Virginia Tech	2000 John Henderson, Tennessee
1953 J.D. Roberts, Oklahoma	1969 Mike Reid, Penn State	1985 Mike Ruth, Boston College	2001 Bryant McKinnie, Miami
1954 Bill Brooks, Arkansas	1970 Jim Stillwagon, Ohio State	1986 Jason Buck, BYU	2002 Rien Long, Washington State
1955 Calvin Jones, Iowa	1971 Larry Jacobson, Nebraska	1987 Chad Hennings, Air Force	2003 Robert Gallery, Iowa
1956 Jim Parker, Ohio State	1972 Rich Glover, Nebraska	1988 Tracy Rocker, Auburn	2004 Jammal Brown, Oklahoma
1957 Alex Karras, Iowa	1973 John Hicks, Ohio State	1989 Mohammed Elewonibi, BYU	2005 Greg Eslinger, Minnesota
1958 Zeke Smith, Auburn	1974 Randy White, Maryland	1990 Russell Maryland, Miami (Fla.)	2006 Joe Thomas, Wisconsin
1959 Mike McGee, Duke	1975 Lee Roy Selmon, Oklahoma	1991 Steve Emtman, Washington	
1960 Tom Brown, Minnesota	1976 Ross Browner, Notre Dame	1992 Will Shields, Nebraska	
1961 Merlin Olsen, Utah State	1977 Brad Shearer, Texas	1993 Rob Waldrop, Arizona	

... and Nagurski Trophies

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — LSU tackle Glenn Dorsey has claimed the 2007 Bronko Nagurski Trophy, which annually is awarded to the best defensive player in college football.

Dorsey became the third tackle to win the 15-year-old award as voted upon by the Football Writers Association of America and sponsored by the Charlotte Touchdown Club. The other two tackles to win the award were Warren Sapp of Miami (Fla.) in 1994 and Arizona's Rob Waldrop in 1993. They were the first two winners of the award.

Dorsey beat out the 2006 Nagurski Trophy winner, linebacker James Laurinaitis of Ohio State, who was in attendance and vying to become the second player to win the award in back-to-back years. Northwestern linebacker Pat Fitzgerald won the award in 1995 and 1996.

"It's a great honor," Dorsey said. "It's amazing. They (the other finalists) deserve it as much as I do. I am still at a loss for words."

Dorsey battled knee, back and hamstring injuries during the 2007 season which slowed him during the later stages, but he still managed 11.5 tackles for 48 yards in losses. He had 64 tackles, 34 unassisted, three pass breakups and three quarterback hurries for the Tigers, who lost two triple overtime games during the season to Kentucky and Arkansas.

No. 2-ranked LSU, which will play top-ranked Ohio State in the Bowl Championship Series 1-2 Game on Jan. 7 in New Orleans, won the SEC title this season and goes into the final game with an 11-2 record. Dorsey will play on defense as will Laurinaitis for Ohio State in this game.

"I saw his (Dorsey's) butt going up the field more than

he was going backwards," said Alabama coach Lou Saban. "I said it several times over the headset (during the game). I said, 'Why don't we run the other way, because we're not blocking him?'"

LSU coach Les Miles said Dorsey was a leader yet humble.

"He comes to work every day," Miles said. "... He is representative of the award and what is right about college football. ... Game plans don't exist unless they know where No. 72 is at."

Dorsey's battle through injuries this season was nothing new. He couldn't play football until he was six years old. He had to wear braces on both legs and corrective shoes because he was born with crooked legs and feet. But he slept with a football.

The announcement was made at the annual awards banquet attended by more than 900



LSU's Glenn Dorsey

people at the Westin Hotel, where Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer gave the main address.

"You can't block him," said Beamer, whose Hokies lost to LSU this season. "I was going to give him a back's number, he was in our backfield so much. When he is healthy, he is the best."

The award is given in memory of the legendary Nagurski, a former All-American lineman at Minnesota (1927-29) and star for professional football's Chicago Bears in the 1930s.

The other three 2007 Bronko finalists were Kansas cornerback Aqib Talib, South Florida end George Selvie and Virginia end Chris Long, son of former NFL great Howie Long.

PAST NAGURSKI WINNERS

Year	Player	School
1993	Rob Waldrop	Arizona
1994	Warren Sapp	Miami (Fla.)
1995	Pat Fitzgerald	Northwestern
1996	Pat Fitzgerald	Northwestern
1997	Charles Woodson	Michigan
1998	Champ Bailey	Georgia
1999	Corey Moore	Virginia Tech
2000	Dan Morgan	Miami
2001	Roy Williams	Oklahoma
2002	Terrell Suggs	Arizona State
2003	Derrick Strait	Oklahoma
2004	Derrick Johnson	Texas
2005	Elvis Dumervil	Louisville
2006	James Laurinaitis	Ohio State

President's column (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

Florida coach Jim Leavitt believe they can do as they please?

Leavitt, who by all accounts has done an incredible job building a program, did a terrible job accepting defeat earlier this year.

Leavitt loaded his players on the team bus after a defeat to Connecticut without letting any speak with the media. Fortunately, Leavitt realized the error in his ways and pulled a few players off the bus for interviews.

Then there's Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy.

His screaming attack on a columnist is old news, yes, but big enough old news that it has overshadowed the respectable job Gundy has done coaching the Cowboys.

Just as coaches teach their players to advance the ball at every opportunity, members of the FWAA must be willing to tackle the growing issues as they develop

within our respective markets.

At the very least, inform the FWAA when problems arise so the problems can be dealt with in an appropriate manner.

Ron Higgins of the *Memphis Commercial Appeal* will soon take over as FWAA President, and having worked alongside him for nearly two decades, I can assure you he is quite capable and very approachable.

And, as always, the FWAA is fortunate to have Steve "Tiger" Richardson as its executive director pulling most all strings behind the scenes. Steve is always just a phone call or e-mail away.

I've enjoyed this past year as president immensely and appreciate the cooperation of all involved, particularly those at my Scripps newspaper, the *Knoxville News Sentinel*, who have given me complete support. This has been a very rewarding and educational experience that I will benefit from for the rest of my career.



18652 Vista Del Sol
Dallas, TX 75287

FIRST CLASS MAIL