

# SEC, Big Ten and Big 12 dominate All-America team

DALLAS — The Southeastern, Big Ten and Big 12 conferences accounted for 18 of the 25 players when the 67th Football Writers Association of America All-America Team was announced on Dec. 11. Among the star-studded lineup is Bronko Nagurski Trophy winner Da'Quan Bowers of Clemson and Outland Trophy winner Gabe Carimi of Wisconsin.

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The FWAA All-America Team, the second-longest continuously-published team in major college football, was announced on ABC-TV for the seventh straight season during a one-hour show that was sponsored by AT&T. The FWAA has named an All-America team in some form since 1944.

Auburn, LSU, Ohio State, Oklahoma State and Oregon each had two players on the team that included two repeat selections from last season: offensive guard Rodney Hudson of Florida State and linebacker Greg Jones of Michigan State. After those big three conferences, the Atlantic Coast with three players and the Pacific-10 with two were the only other leagues with multiple players on the team.

The team also features three natives of Mobile, Ala. (Hudson, Alabama defensive back Mark Barron, Auburn defensive tackle Nick Fairley) as well

as a pair of linebackers from Cincinnati (Jones and Boston College's Luke Kuechly). In addition, the team included one of the tallest – if not the tallest – offensive lines in the team's history. Three of the players are at least 6-7, topped by 6-9 Nate Solder, an offensive



tackle from Colorado. Another interesting feature of the team was the committee's decision to go with three wide receivers and omitting the tight end – a move that is not unique for an FWAA team. And finally, the committee chose to go with two designated offensive backs after the selecting Boise State's Kellen Moore as its quarterback. One of the offensive backs, Denard Robinson of Michigan, was as much a ball carrier as he was a thrower at his position. In the modern era (since 1967), this marks the just the second time two quarterbacks have been named to the team. In 1990, BYU's Ty Detmer and Virginia's Shawn Moore both earned All-America honors.



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# President's column



TIM  
GRIFFIN

It's always an exciting time of year around the holidays. We at the FWAA will be busy around the Tostitos BCS National Championship Game in Glendale, Ariz., after the New Year.

But before we talk about all we've got planned in the desert, there's an explanation about one of those players

who will be playing in the national championship game.

Auburn quarterback Cameron Newton will be playing in his first game since winning the Heisman Trophy earlier this month when the Tigers face Oregon.

There's been a lot of controversy over the last few weeks about our decision to keep him off our All-America team.

There was a teleconference late in the regular season where chosen representatives from each conference in the country sat down to talk about our picks. It was done over a two-week period during teleconferences that totaled more than three hours.

I was a participant on the teleconference, although I did not vote on Newton's place on the team. I don't want to speak for how our representatives voted, but I think it's clear that Newton's then-unresolved "Pay to Play" scandal that was raging at the time of our vote played a part in him being left off.

Instead, the board chose to select Kellen Moore of Boise State as our first-team quarterback and Michigan quarterback Denard Robinson as a "designated offensive back" along with Oregon's LaMichael James.

We've been skewered on the Auburn message boards for that decision over the past several weeks, but I'm comfortable with it. The group of voters who picked our team has by my count more than 200 seasons covering the game. The committee's

decision wasn't made lightly, no matter what some pundits might think.

Earlier in the month, I was able to take off from the pro basketball beat for a few days to present the Bronko Nagurski Award to Clemson defensive end Da'Quan Bowers and attend the college football awards show in Orlando later that week. It was great to be able to renew some old friendships and make a few new ones during my visit there. A record crowd of more than 1,300 attended the banquet where Bowers' selection was announced.

FWAA second vice president Lenn Robbins earlier presided over the presentation of our Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year trophy to Oregon coach Chip Kelly in New York City.

The FWAA again will be represented at the BCS National Championship Game. We'd like to invite all who will be covering the game to attend our annual breakfast at 8 a.m. Monday Jan. 10 at the JW Marriott Camelback Inn, which will also double as the media hotel.

At the breakfast, the FWAA will recognize the winners and placers in the Best Writing Contest with certificates and cash prizes. The FWAA will also honor the Bert McGrane (FWAA Hall of Fame) winner, the FWAA Freshman All-America Team, the Discover Orange Bowl Courage Award winner and reveal the recipient of the Volney Meece Scholarship.

My successor, Tommy Hicks of the *Mobile Press-Register*, will be installed at that meeting. I'm sure he'll have as much fun and learn as much as I have over the past year.

His first task the following morning will be the awarding of the 2011 Grantland Rice Trophy to the No. 1 NCAA Bowl Sub-division team as selected by a panel of veteran FWAA writers. The vote will take place after the Oregon-Auburn game. Tentatively, the presentation of the Grantland Rice Trophy will be on the morning of Jan. 11 at the media hotel.

It's been a wild ride for me over the last 11 months. I wouldn't recommend anybody taking the exact route that my family and I have experienced during that period,

*(Continued on page 8)*

# Oregon's Chip Kelly named FWAA's Coach of the Year

NEW YORK — Oregon coach Chip Kelly has been named the winner of the 2010 FWAA/Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award, becoming the first Pacific 10 Conference coach to win the award since 1997.

The Eddie Robinson Award, which is sponsored by the Fiesta Bowl, was highlighted during a reception on Dec. 6 at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel where Kelly accepted the trophy. The entire FWAA membership votes on the association's Coach of the Year Award, which was narrowed to eight finalists in late November. The last Pac-10 coach to win the award was Mike Price, then coach at Washington State.

Kelly, in his second season at Oregon, becomes the second Ducks coach to win the FWAA award after Rich Brooks in 1994. This season's unbeaten Oregon team (12-0) is headed to play unbeaten Auburn (13-0) in the Tostitos BCS National Championship Game on Jan. 10 in Glendale, Ariz.

Kelly's high-octane offense at Oregon has dominated the Pacific-10 Conference in its final season before ex-

panding to become the Pac-12 next year. The Ducks lead the country in scoring with 49.3 points per game and are second in total offense with 537.50 yards per game. Their only close game was a 15-13 thriller at California on Nov. 13.

"It is really an honor for me to stand here and represent our university in winning awards like this," Kelly said. "It is pretty humbling to have your name and Eddie Robinson's said in the same sentence. It is kind of funny, to keep it in perspective, if I won 10 games for the next 38 years, I would still be six wins short of Eddie Robinson. So, he was quite a man and really one of the true gentlemen of college football.

"Obviously, what this means to us and our university, I really can't put into words. But I also have always felt every coach of the year award is more a representation of your team. This award is shared with our great assistant coaches and with a bunch of young men back in Eugene, Oregon, who are truly special."

*(Continued on page 8)*



FWAA/Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award winner Chip Kelly of Oregon (center) poses with, left to right, Duane Woods of the Fiesta Bowl, Lenn Robbins of the FWAA, ESPN's Mark May and Eddie Robinson Jr., son the late coach.



# FWAA ALL-AMERICA OFFENSE



Pos.	Player, School	Ht., Wt.	Cl.
QB	Kellen Moore, Boise St.	6-0, 187	Sr.
OB	Denard Robinson, Michigan	6-0, 188	So.
OB	LaMichael James, Oregon	5-9, 185	So.
WR	Justin Blackmon, Oklahoma St.	6-1, 207	So.
WR	Ryan Broyles, Oklahoma	5-11, 183	Jr.
WR	Alshon Jeffery, South Carolina	6-4, 233	So.
OL	Nate Solder, Colorado	6-9, 315	Sr.
OL	Gabe Carimi, Wisconsin	6-7, 327	Sr.
C	Mike Brewster, Ohio St.	6-5, 293	Jr.
OL	Rodney Hudson, Florida St.	6-2, 282	Sr.
OL	Lee Ziemba, Auburn	6-8, 319	Sr.



Moore  
*Boise State*



Robinson  
*Michigan*



James  
*Oregon*



Blackmon  
*Oklahoma St*



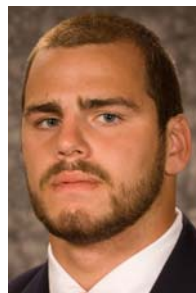
Broyles  
*Oklahoma*



Jeffery  
*So. Carolina*



Solder  
*Colorado*



Carimi  
*Wisconsin*



Brewster  
*Ohio State*



Ziemba  
*Auburn*



Hudson  
*Florida St.*

# ALL-AMERICA DEFENSE, SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Player, School	Ht., Wt.	Cl.
DE	Da'Quan Bowers, Clemson	6-4, 275	Jr.
DT	Nick Fairley, Auburn	6-5, 298	Jr.
DE	Wayne Daniels, TCU	6-2, 250	Sr.
DE	Ryan Kerrigan, Purdue	6-4, 263	Sr.
LB	Luke Kuechly, Boston College	6-3, 235	So.
LB	Greg Jones, Michigan St.	6-1, 240	Sr.
LB	Justin Houston, Georgia	6-3, 258	Jr.
DB	Chimdi Chekwa, Ohio St.	6-0, 190	Sr.
DB	Mark Barron, Alabama	6-2, 210	Jr.
DB	Patrick Peterson, LSU	6-1, 222	Jr.
DB	Prince Amukamara, Nebraska	6-1, 205	Sr.
K	Josh Jasper, LSU	5-11, 171	Sr.
P	Quinn Sharp, Oklahoma St.	6-1, 194	So.
R	Cliff Harris, Oregon	5-11, 180	So.



Bowers  
Clemson



Fairley  
Auburn



Daniels  
TCU



Kerrigan  
Purdue



Kuechly  
Boston College



Jones  
Michigan St.



Houston  
Georgia



Chekwa  
Ohio State



Barron  
Alabama



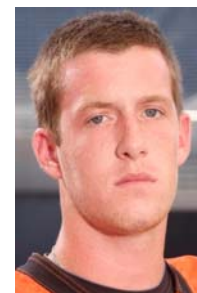
Peterson  
LSU



Amukamara  
Nebraska



Jasper  
LSU



Sharp  
Oklahoma St.



Harris  
Oregon

# Outland goes to Wisconsin's Carimi

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Wisconsin offensive tackle Gabe Carimi was named the 65th winner of the Outland Trophy on Dec. 9, becoming the second player from Wisconsin to win the award in five seasons.

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

Carimi, a 6-7, 327-pound senior from Cottage Grove, Wis., has been a stalwart at left tackle for the Badgers (11-1) since taking over for 2006 Outland Trophy winner Joe Thomas at the beginning of the 2007 season. He has started 48 games in four seasons for the Badgers, who finished in a three-way tie for the Big Ten championship with Michigan State and Ohio State this season. The Badgers are headed to the Rose Bowl to face TCU.

He is one of the main reasons Wisconsin ranks 12th in the country in rushing (247.3 yards per game) and is second nationally in rushing touchdowns with a school-record 46. Wisconsin is fourth in the country in scoring offense (43.3), which is a school record and the Badgers' offensive line has allowed just 12 sacks in 12 games.

Carimi was a part of a dominating offensive line in the Badgers' 83-20 defeat of Indiana when star running back John Clay was out with an injury. Carimi and the rest of the Wisconsin line were co-Badger Offensive Players of Week in a 41-23 victory over Minnesota this season. Carimi is one of just three offensive players to start every game for the Badgers this season and is considered a cinch early-round NFL Draft pick.

"It's such a great honor to be named the Outland Trophy winner," Carimi said. "I was nervous going up there. I was trying to hide behind my facemask. I'm extremely happy, (but) I don't think it has set in yet."

"Ever since I've been around Gabe Carimi, he's a guy that is very focused on success," Wisconsin Coach Bret Bielema said earlier this season. "He is kind of a perfec-



Wisconsin tackle Gabe Carimi

tionist. You are always worried – I think early on in Gabe's career – that he was going to be too hard on himself."

Carimi becomes the fourth Big Ten Conference player to win the Outland Trophy in the last eight seasons after Iowa's Robert Gallery (2003), Minnesota's Greg Eslinger (2005) and Thomas (2006).

The FWAA selects the Outland Trophy winner from

*(Continued on page 8)*

## 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 Williams, Wisconsin
1959 Mike McGee, Duke	1975 Lee Roy Selmon, Oklahoma	1991 Steve Emtman, Washington	2007 Glenn Dorsey, LSU
1960 Tom Brown, Minnesota	1976 Ross Browner, Notre Dame	1992 Will Shields, Nebraska	2008 Andre Smith, Alabama
1961 Merlin Olsen, Utah State	1977 Brad Shearer, Texas	1993 Rob Waldrop, Arizona	2009 Ndamukong Suh, Nebraska



# Clemson's Da'Quan Bowers named Winner of Bronko Nagurski Trophy

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Clemson end Da'Quan Bowers claimed the 2010 Bronko Nagurski Trophy, which annually is awarded to the best defensive player in college football.

Bowers became the 18th winner of the award as voted upon by the Football Writers Association of America. He received the award on Dec. 6 at a banquet at the Westin Hotel that is sponsored by the Charlotte Touchdown Club. The four other finalists were Auburn tackle Nick Fairley, Georgia linebacker Justin Houston, Boston College linebacker Luke Kuechly and LSU cornerback Patrick Peterson.

Bowers is the first Clemson player to be named a finalist for the Nagurski Award since the late Gaines Adams in 2006. Bowers wears the same No. 93 that Adams wore at Clemson. The two players were close friends until Adams, who played for the Chicago Bears, sudden death last January in South Carolina.

"It's definitely an honor to be a finalist," Bowers said. "And to actually win the award is my greatest accomplishment. I'm just so happy these guys thought so highly of me... It was the honor of my lifetime to be selected."

Bowers broke Adams' Clemson school record for sacks by a defensive lineman this season week when he had a sack at Florida State late in the season. He also broke Adams' record for consecutive games with a sack, with nine straight in 2010.

Bowers' father, Dennis, passed away in the summer before the season. The two had bonded during the summer playing in a rock band on the road.

"It has definitely been a tough year losing my father,

my role model," Bowers said. "But that's what it's all about. You have to go through adversity and tough times to bring out the better in yourself. That's what I've certainly been trying to do. I'm happy God has blessed me to put me in a situation to make a better man of myself."

Bowers, a 6-4, 275-pound junior from Bamberg, S.C., is a big-play pass rusher who led the nation in quarterback sacks with 15.5 (1.29 a game). He was second in

## 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
2007	Glenn Dorsey	LSU
2008	Brian Orakpo	Texas
2009	Ndamukong Suh	Nebraska



Bronko Nagurski winner Da'Quan Bowers of Clemson. (Photo courtesy of Ron J. Deshaies)

the country in tackles for loss with 24.5 (151 yards). He had nine tackles, one quarterback sack, two tackles for loss and a pass interception in the Tigers' 16-13 loss to Florida State.

"I'm so proud for DeQuan," said Clemson coach Dabo Swinney. "This is a young man when we sat down and talked how to get from good to great, he just bought into everything. He sold out, changed his body, grew mentally and I'm so proud of him. It's an example of what great talent, great work ethic and perseverance can do."

## Coach of the year (continued)

*(Continued from page 3)*

The FWAA has honored a major-college coach with its Coach of the Year Award since 1957. In 1997, the FWAA coaching award was named after Eddie Robinson, a coaching legend at Grambling State University for 55 years. The late "Coach Rob" is the winningest coach in Division I history (408 games) and the move to present this award in New York City is a natural. The Grambling Tigers, whom Robinson coached from 1941-97, played numerous regular-season games at Yankee Stadium starting in the late 1960s and into the 1970s and later at the Meadowlands in New Jersey.

Robinson, who passed away on April 3, 2007, won 70.7 percent of his games during his illustrious career. Robinson's teams won or tied for 17 Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) championships after joining the league in 1959. His Tigers claimed nine Black College Football Championships during his career spent all at the same school.

Robinson, who was named by the FWAA in 1966 as "The Coach Who Made the Biggest Contribution to College Football in the Past 25 Years," often took his show on the road to places such as the Louisiana Superdome,

the Cotton Bowl, the Astrodome, Tiger Stadium and aforementioned Yankee Stadium. And, with his star-studded array of players, Robinson helped integrate professional football.

In 1975, with one of his greatest teams quarterbacked by eventual All-Pro Doug Williams, Robinson's Grambling team and Alcorn State became the first college teams to play a game in the Louisiana Superdome. The next season, Robinson's Tigers, along with Morgan State became the first American college football teams to play in Japan.

In 1949, Grambling standout Tank Younger was the first player from a Historically Black College to sign with an NFL Team (Los Angeles Rams). By 1963, Buck Buchanan became the first player from a Historically Black College to be selected first overall in the professional draft (American Football League by the Kansas City Chiefs). Over the years, Robinson produced a Who's Who of professional football players, with more than 200 of his former players on professional rosters.

Last February, the Eddie Robinson Museum was opened in his honor in Grambling, La., where numerous memorabilia now reside.

## Outland Trophy (continued)

*(Continued from page 6)*

its 25-man All-America team, which was announced on Dec. 11 on ABC-TV. Carimi claimed the Outland Trophy over Florida State guard Rodney Hudson and Colorado offensive tackle Nate Solder, also both seniors.

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 century. The Outland Trophy is the third oldest award in major college football behind the Heisman Trophy and Maxwell Award.

The official 2009 award presentation to Carimi will be Jan. 13, 2011 in Omaha, Neb., at a banquet sponsored by the Greater Omaha Sports Committee. At the banquet, Mike McGee of Duke will receive an Outland Trophy. He was the 1959 winner of the award.

## President's column (continued)

*(Continued from page 2)*

but everything works out in the long run. As this holiday period approaches, we are all grateful for the support I've received from so many FWAA members I've been blessed to work with over the years.

I've been honored to serve as your president over the last year. Many thanks to all who have made my stewardship an easy one, particularly to Steve Richardson and the many former presidents whom I've leaned on for counsel during times of duress.

I'll continue to work on various projects after my time as president ends. I would again like to ask for recommendations for the best and brightest among the sports information directors across the country. Let me or any of our officers or past presidents know if you've been impressed with the work of an SID staff, or if you think one might be lacking. We plan to name our second group of winners in February, shortly after National Signing Day.