



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 7 DEC 2016

CHICAGO, IL –The Ted Hendricks Foundation is pleased to present Alabama's Jonathan Allen as its recipient of the 15th edition of the Ted Hendricks Award, which honors the top defensive end in college football. The six finalists listed on this year's ballot represent the best in today's student-athlete and Ted is proud to have all of these men associated with his namesake award. Each Finalist received votes, as is the norm in the ultimate round of voting. When it came time to count the ballots, however, there was a clear-cut winner.



Jonathan Allen, a senior for the Crimson Tide, received over 50% of the final votes tallied from the Hendricks Selection Committee. Utah's Hunter Dimick, an Academic All-America honoree and the Pac-12's sacks leader, finished a strong second with more than 25%. The remaining votes were shared by Tennessee's Derek Barnett, BC's Harold Landry, Pittsburgh's Ejuan Price and Florida State's DeMarcus Walker.

Allen's achievements this season include:

- First Team All-SEC (Coaches)
- Bronko Nagurski Trophy Winner (Nation's Top Defensive Player)
- Finalist for the Walter Camp Award (Player of the Year)
- Finalist for the Bednarik Award (Defensive Player of the Year)
- Finalist for the Lott IMPACT Trophy (Defensive Best in Character & Performance)



He is the first Alabama player and third SEC player to win the Ted Hendricks Award. Georgia's David Pollack was a two-time winner (2003 & 2004) and South Carolina's Jadeveon Clowney took the trophy home in 2012.

Upon the announcement of his most recent award winner, Ted Hendricks issued the following statement:

"Jonathan Allen has been rewarded by forgoing the NFL draft in 2016 and returning for his senior season at Alabama. What a splendid year he is having! He has also demonstrated his skill in the classroom and plans to graduate this month. It is my sincere pleasure to welcome him as the 2016 Hendricks Award recipient!"



To those who weren't already familiar with Allen's level of play, many became aware when he made two spectacular plays against the Texas A&M Aggies on October 22nd. A first quarter "superman" sack (left) on Aggie quarterback Trevor Knight was reminiscent of Jadeveon Clowney's signature play of 2012. Allen's 30-yard scoop & score in the 3rd quarter helped to seal the Tide's victory. Both plays were impressive – especially for a man of his stature. He is a perfect specimen for the 3-4 defensive end position, standing 6'-3" and weighing in at more than 290 lbs. As the prototypical "5-technique" end, he showed incredible versatility this fall.

Growing up, Jonathan Allen was a self-proclaimed "Army Brat", lived in 7 different states and ended up playing high school football in Virginia. His prep career began as a 180-lb wide receiver/linebacker and ended as a 265-lb dominant defensive lineman (AL.com). Allen credits his father, Richard – a 30-year veteran of the US Armed Forces, as his mentor for developing his defensive technique. They spent countless hours together in the family living room working on his moves.

Today, Jonathan Allen is the best player on the best team in the NCAA. Our Selection Committee has recognized this fact. He is also a terrific example of what the Hendricks Award seeks to celebrate. He will graduate this coming Saturday with a degree in Financial Planning. Our warm congratulations go out to Jonathan, his family and the Crimson Tide family.

The 2016 Hendricks Award presentation dinner will take place this coming spring in Miami, FL (time and place to be announced).

The Ted Hendricks Foundation would like to thank our Selection Committee for their continued interest and support. We look forward to your continued participation!

Ted Hendricks
Pro Football Hall of Fame '90

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For more information, please visit TedHendricks.com

All photos are courtesy of the University of Alabama – Many Thanks!!