



PRESS RELEASE

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2017 HENDRICKS AWARD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Chicago, IL –The Ted Hendricks Foundation has revealed the list of finalists for the 2017 Ted Hendricks Defensive End of the Year Award. We are proud to say that twenty three players received votes on the first ballot – most ever in the 16-year history of the Award. Five of these men have advanced to the final ballot.

2017 Hendricks Award Finalists:



NICK BOSA – OHIO STATE

6'4" 270 lbs SO

Despite the fact that he does not lead the Big Ten in any officially recognized statistic, Bosa was considered to be the most dominant defensive player in conference play this season. He was recently named the 2017 Big Ten Defensive Lineman of the Year. Our selection committee clearly agrees with this assessment. Bosa follows his brother Joey as a Hendricks Award finalist. He currently has 6 sacks and 12½ tackles for loss this season, to go along with 6 QB hurries. He is the top-rated FBS defensive end, according to PFF College.



BRADLEY CHUBB – NORTH CAROLINA STATE

6'4" 275 lbs SR

The 2017 ACC Defensive Player of the Year is second in FBS play with 25 tackles for loss, fourth among FBS defensive linemen with 73 tackles and eighth in sacks (10). Chubb is a finalist for the Nagurski and Bednarik awards and a 2017 Walter Camp and FWAA All-American. He has been the ironman of the Wolfpack defense this season, playing 502 of 574 possible snaps. He became NC State's career leader in sacks and tackles for loss, surpassing Wolfpack legend Mario Williams. Known for his work ethic, Chubb began his career as a lightly recruited, 225-lb freshman.



CLELIN FERRELL - CLEMSON

6'5" 260 lbs SO

In his second season with the Tigers, Ferrell has recorded a second dominating stat line: 57 tackles, 16 for loss, 8½ sacks and 12 QB pressures. PFF College credits him with 617 snaps played with just two missed tackles. He had two games with five or more tackles for loss this season. Only 13 such games have been recorded in all FBS contests in 2017. Ferrell was named a first-team ALL-ACC honoree this week. A redshirt sophomore, he is scheduled to graduate in December 2018.



MARCUS MARTIN – SLIPPERY ROCK

6'2" 255 lbs SR

Martin has become the first player from an NCAA Division II program to be included on the Hendricks Award's final ballot. He is the all-time, all-division career NCAA sacks leader with 56 (15½ this season). His 92½ career tackles for loss also represents a Division II record (he finished the 2017 season with 26½). He is the 2017 recipient of the Gene Upshaw Award (Division II Lineman of the Year); and is also one of 13 finalists for the William V. Campbell Trophy, which honors the American college football player with the best combination of academics, community service and on-field performance. Martin currently holds a 3.56 GPA and is scheduled to graduate in December.



SUTTON SMITH – NORTHERN ILLINOIS

6'0" 230 lbs SO

Smith leads the FBS with 14 sacks and 28½ tackles for loss this season. He has forced three fumbles and has returned two for touchdowns. As an undersized edge player, Smith is lightning quick off the snap and plays with great leverage. He shattered the NIU single-season records for sacks and tackles for loss, surpassing Huskies legends Larry English (2006) and Scott Kellar (1984), respectively. His 5½ tackles for loss against Western Michigan (also an NIU single-game record) gave him two games with 5 or more tackles for loss and placed him in elite company. Just 13 such games were recorded in the FBS this season. Smith was named the 2017 Mid-American Conference Defensive Player of the Year – just the second Huskies player to earn that title (English in 2008).

The final vote for 2017 Hendricks Award will be concluded on December 5th and the winner will be announced December 6th.

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