



PRESS RELEASE

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2006 HENDRICKS AWARD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Chicago, IL –The Ted Hendricks Foundation has unveiled the list of finalists for the 2006 Ted Hendricks Defensive End of the Year Award.

This year's finalists are as follows:

GAINES ADAMS – CLEMSON 6'5" 265 lbs SR

Adams led the ACC in sacks and ranks 10th in the nation in that category. The senior from Greenwood, SC has 10.5 sacks this season, tied for second best in Clemson history. His 26 career sacks rank third in school history behind the Perry brothers. Clemson ranks 12th in the nation in total defense and 14th in scoring defense this year.

MKRISTO BRUCE – WASHINGTON STATE 6'7" 249 lbs SR

Bruce racked up 10 sacks and 15 tackles-for-loss in 2005 and this year has 11 sacks and 16 TFL. He now ranks 4th all-time at Washington State with 29.5 career sacks, 3rd in total tackles with 203 and 2nd in tackles for loss with 44.5. His five sacks at Stanford earlier this season set a WSU record and equaled the Pacific-10 Conference record.

TIM CROWDER – TEXAS 6'4" 270 lbs SR

Crowder has recorded 51 tackles this season, and leads the team with 16 TFL, 9.5 sacks and 17 pressures...has made 46 consecutive starts, which is third on UT's all-time list... has also registered three forced fumbles and one recovery for a TD...the Longhorn defense ranks second in the nation in rushing defense (58.8 ypg), 23rd in total defense (291.9 ypg) and 26th in scoring defense (17.8) in 2006.

JUSTIN HICKMAN – UCLA 6'2" 263 lbs SR

Hickman is second nationally with 1.14 sacks per game (12.5 total) and fifth in tackles for loss (1.68 - 18.5 total). He ranks first in the Pac-10 in both sacks and tackles for losses. On the year, he has made 37 total tackles (27 solos), has forced two fumbles and blocked one kick. UCLA currently ranks 14th in the nation in rushing defense (93.09 yards per game). He will play his final collegiate regular season game this Saturday in the Rose Bowl vs USC.

ANTHONY SPENCER – PURDUE 6'3" 250 lbs SR

Spencer was named first team All-Big Ten by both the coaches and the media. He leads the nation with 26.5 tackles for loss and ranks second in the Big Ten with 10.5 sacks. He shares the conference lead with four forced fumbles, and his 86 tackles are the most by a lineman in the NCAA.

LaMARR WOODLEY – MICHIGAN 6'2" 265 lbs SR

Woodley earned unanimous All-Big Ten first team selection on both the coaches and media ballots. He earned the conference's Defensive Player of the Year award from both groups and was named the Big Ten Defensive Lineman of the Year by the coaches after leading the league with 11 sacks. Woodley also recovered one fumble this season, returning it for 54 yards and a touchdown.

The final vote for 2006 Hendricks Award will be concluded on December 4th, and the winner will be announced December 6.

For more information, please see TedHendricks.com, which includes links to each candidate's stats and biography.

Hendricks Award contact:

Sam Poulos

Director

Sam_Poulos@tedhendricks.com