FEATURE STORY

Heisman

A look at another unpredictable Heisman Trophy race

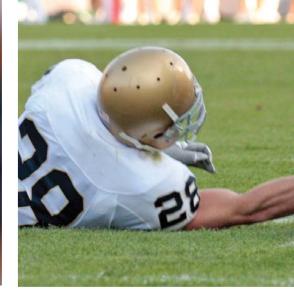
ith Florida's Tim Tebow winning the Heisman Trophy Award last year as a sophomore, you might think he would be the logical choice to once again

win college football's most prestigious award. But not so fast!

After Florida's stunning upset by unranked Mississippi on September 27 and with Tebow being well behind the pace that enabled him to throw for 3,286 yards last year, many sports writers have placed Texas's Colt McCoy, Missouri's Chase Daniel and Texas Tech's Graham Harrell as the

Javon Ringer, RB Michigan State

While all the early buzz in the Heisman race has been about the quarterbacks, there is one running back whose performances have been consistently great. After nine games Ringer leads the country with 1,373 rushing yards, along with 16 TDs and 17 receptions for 120 yards. Last year Ringer racked up 1,447 yards rushing, and experts predict Ringer could finish this year with over 1,800 yards and 21 TDs.



Colt McCoy, QB University of Texas

As the quarterback of a team that appears to be on its way to another national championships, Colt McCoy is certainly going to be tough to beat in this year's Heisman race. Not only does he have great stats that include an amazing 81.8 percent completion rate in his first eight games, but he has shown that he can come through when it counts by completing 29 of 32 passes for 337 yards against Missouri.

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top quarterbacks on their Heisman watch lists. Then there is Javon Ringer, the Michigan State running back who has rushed for 1,373 yards and scored 16 TDs after eight games, and of course Texas Tech's receiver Mike Crabtree, who is leading his Texas Tech team to a great year. Whew!

Because the hunt for the Heisman

shows all the signs of going down to the wire, we'll just play it safe and offer the following pictorial essay of our selections for this year's leading candidates. Who is *your* choice??



Chase Daniel, QB University of Missouri

After seven games Daniel has continued to impress the Heisman voters with great numbers, including 2,675 yards passing, 23 TDs, and a 76.9 percent completion rate after eight games. Tough losses to Texas and Oklahoma State may be factors when the Heisman votes come in, but there is no question that Chase Daniel will soon be playing on Sundays.

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Graham Harrell, QB **Texas Tech**

Graham Harrell had a great year in 2007, passing for 5,705 yards and 48 touchdowns. And while last year was a great season that included a bowl victory and nine wins, this season Harrell is leading his team to a possibly better year, as after eight games they were undefeated. As for his 2008 numbers, Harrell has a 71.1 percent completion rate and has passed for 3,147 yards and 28 touchdowns.

Michael Crabtree, WR

Texas Tech

Graham Harrell is certainly in the national spotlight, and one reason is the outstanding performance of wide receiver Michael Crabtree. Last year Crabtree gained 1,962 yards, averaging 14.6 yards a catch, and made 22 TDs. And he is having another great year, as after eight games he has racked up 794 yards and 14 TDS and is averaging 13.2 yards a catch.





Max Hall, QB **Brigham Young** University

BYU has enjoyed a great season that included shutouts against UCLA (59-0) and Wyoming (44-0) and a 7-1 record. Leading the charge for the Cougars is Max Hall, a junior quarterback who after eight games has thrown for 2,364 yards and 24 touchdowns.

HEISMAN HISTORY

One of the most coveted awards in college sports is the Heisman Memorial Trophy Award. The Heisman, which was first awarded in 1935, is given at the end of the regular season to the young man considered the best player in college football. The award is presented at the end of the year by the Downtown Athletic Club of New York City.

The Heisman is named for John W. Heisman, the first athletic director of the Downtown Athletic Club of New York City. As for the voting process, the nation is split into six sections (Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, South, Midwest, Southwest, Far West), each consisting of 175 media voters culled from the print, radio and television ranks. Also, every past Heisman winner casts a vote as well. Each elector casts a ballot listing his top three choices, with the top choice receiving three points, the second receiving two and the third receiving one. This method was adopted with the idea of eliminating regional favoritism, and the player receiving the highest number of points across all six sections is the winner.

Here are the past recipients of all Heisman Trophies. Many names you will recognize as athletes who have gone on to successful careers in the NFL.

YEAR NAME AND COLLEGE	POSITION
2007 - Tim Tebow, Florida	
2006 - Troy Smith, Ohio State	
2005 - Reggie Bush, Southern Cal	
2004 - Matt Leinnart, Southern Cal	
2003 - Jason White, Oklahoma	
2002 - Carson Palmer, Southern Cal	
2001 - Eric Crouch, Nebraska	
2000 - Chris Weinke, Florida State	
1999 - Ron Dayne, Wisconsin	
1998 - Ricky Williams, Texas	
1997 - Charles Woodson, Michigan	
1996 - Danny Wuerffel, Florida	
1995 - Eddie George, Ohio State	RB
1994 - Rashaan Salaam, Colorado	RB
1993 - Charlie Ward, Florida State	QB
1992 - Gino Torretta, Miami	QB
1991 - Desmond Howard, Michigan	WR
1990 - Ty Detmer, Brigham Young	QB
1989 - André Ware, Houston	QB
1988 - Barry Sanders, Oklahoma State	RB
1987 - Tim Brown, Notre Dame	WR
1986 - VinnyTestaverde, Miami	QВ
1985 - Bo Jackson, Auburn	RB
1984 - Doug Flutie, Boston College	QВ
1983 - Mike Rozier, Nebraska	RB
1982 - Herschel Walker, Georgia	RB
1981 - Marcus Allen, USC	
1980 - George Rogers, South Carolina	
1979 - Charles White, USC	
1978 - Billy Sims, Oklahoma	RB
1977 - Earl Campbell, Texas	
1976 - Tony Dorsett, Pittsburgh	
1975 - Archie Griffin, Ohio State	
1974 - Archie Griffin, Ohio State	
1973 - John Cappelletti, Penn State	
1972 - Johnny Rodgers, Nebraska	
1971 - Pat Sullivan, Auburn	QВ

YEAR NAME AND COLLEGEPOSITION
1970 - Jim Plunkett, StanfordQB
1969 - Steve Owens, OklahomaHB
1968 - O.J. Simpson, USC
1967 - Gary Beban, UCLAQB
1966 - Steve Spurrier, FloridaQB
1965 - Mike Garrett, USCHB
1964 - John Huarte, Notre DameQB
1963 - Roger Staubach, NavyQB
1962 - Terry Baker, Oregon StateQB
1961 - Ernie Davis, SyracuseHB
1960 - Joe Bellino, NavyHB
1959 - Billy Cannon, Louisiana StateRB
1958 - Pete Dawkins, ArmyRB
1957 - John David Crow, Texas A&MRB
1956 - Paul Hornung, Notre Dame QB
1955 - Howard Cassady, Ohio StateRB
1954 - Alan Ameche, Wisconsin FB
1953 - John Lattner, Notre DameRB
1952 - Billy Vessels, OklahomaRB
1951 - Dick Kazmaier, PrincetonRB
1950 - Vic Janowicz, Ohio StateRB
1949 - Leon Hart, Notre Dame E
1948 - Doak Walker, Southern MethodistRB
1947 - John Lujac, Notre Dame QB
1946 - Glenn Davis, ArmyRB
1945 - Doc Blanchard, Army FB
1944 - Les Horvath, Ohio State QB
1943 - Angelo Bertelli, Notre Dame QB
1942 - Frank Sinkwich, GeorgiaRB
1941 - Bruce Smith, MinnesotaRB
1940 - Tom Harmon, MichiganRB
1939 - Nile Kinnick, IowaRB
1938 - Davey O'Brien, TCU QB
1937 - Clint Frank, Yale
1936 - Larry Kelley, Yale END
1935 - Jay Berwanger, ChicagoRB

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