

College Football RECAP

Who won what is the question answered in our annual review of college football awards

The 2005 college football season is history, and it was a doozy with Texas and USC battling the National Championship title down to the final seconds of the fourth quarter in the Rose Bowl. For most seniors this is the time to move on to other pursuits; for others it's time to get back in the weightroom and prepare for spring ball. And for a few especially gifted athletes, there is the dream of the NFL. But before moving on to the 2006 season, let's recap some of the outstanding individual performances of 2005.



Reggie Bush, a junior at USC, received 2,541 points in the Heisman balloting to finish 933 points ahead of Vince Young. Bush's 784 first-place votes were the second-highest in Heisman history, and he was the fifth USC tailback to win this award. Bush ran for 1,740 yards and 16 touchdowns, caught 37 passes for 478 yards and two touchdowns, had 18 punt returns for 179 yards and one touchdown, and took 28 kickoff returns for 493 yards.



A junior who is now headed for the NFL, Vince Young was instrumental in enabling Texas to go undefeated and defeat USC in the Rose Bowl, 41-38. In the Rose Bowl Young passed for 267 yards and ran for 200 yards. For the year, Young passed for 3,036 yards and 26 touchdowns, and ran for 1,050 yards and 12 touchdowns.

With all the emphasis on the Heisman Memorial Trophy, which traditionally goes to an offensive "skill" player, little attention is paid to the other awards. One reason for this is that approximately half of the major awards given to Division I players were not created until 1990 or later. The Heisman, in contrast, has existed since 1935. But all these awards are important – here's why.

Quarterbacks need their offensive linemen, corners need their linebackers, and – to the frustration of many players and fans – everybody needs their punters and kickers. Many of the newer awards reflect this philosophy, as there is the Doak Walker Award for running backs, the Butkus Award for linebackers, and the Ray Guy Award for punters. And although it's possible for one player to win several awards – Reggie Bush won three this year while Vince Young won two – usually the voters are able to spread the wealth when it comes to these awards.

USCID



The 2004 Heisman winner, Matt Leinart quarterbacked USC to a 34-game winning streak. Young passed for 3,815 yards and 28 touchdowns, with only eight interceptions. He also had six rushing touchdowns.



A junior who helped Notre Dame become golden once again, Brady Quinn passed for 3,919 yards and 32 touchdowns and only seven interceptions. He also rushed for 90 yards and one touchdown. Quinn's best game of the year was during the team's 49-23 victory over BYU in which he threw for 467 yards and six touchdowns.



After finishing the 2004 season with a disappointing 4-7 record, Penn State made a remarkable turnaround in 2005 with an 11-1 record and a third-place finish in the major polls. One of the reasons was junior quarterback Michael Robinson. Robinson threw for 2,350 yards with 17 touchdowns and ten interceptions. Robinson also made his presence felt on the ground as he rushed for 806 yards and 11 touchdowns.

With that background, here is a recap of the major football awards in college football.

Heisman Memorial Trophy
Outstanding Player
Reggie Bush, USC

Maxwell Award
Outstanding Player
Vince Young, Texas

Walter Camp Award
Player of the Year
Reggie Bush, USC

Dick Butkus Award
Outstanding Linebacker
Paul Posluszny, Penn State

Outland Trophy
Outstanding Interior Lineman
Greg Eslinger, Minnesota

Chuck Bednarik Award
Defensive Player of the Year
Paul Posluszny, Penn State

Davey O'Brien Award
National Quarterback
Vince Young, Texas

Doak Walker Award
National Running Back
Reggie Bush, USC

Fred Biletnikoff Award
Outstanding Wide Receiver
Mike Hass, Oregon State

Jim Thorpe Award
Outstanding Defensive Back
Michael Huff, Texas

John Mackey Award
Outstanding Tight End
Mercedes Lewis, UCLA

Lou Groza Award
Collegiate Placekicker Award
Alexis Serna, Oregon State

Bronko Nagurski Award
Defensive Player of the Year
Elvis Dumervil, Louisville

Ray Guy Award
Outstanding Punter
Ryan Plackemeier, Wake Forest

Vince Lombardi/Rotary Award
Outstanding Lineman
A.J. Hawk, Ohio State

AP Coach of the Year
Joe Paterno, Penn State

PLAYERS TO WATCH IN 2006

UCLA SID



Two players to watch in 2006 are UCLA's running back Maurice Drew (top) and Minnesota's running back Laurence Maroney (bottom). Drew ran for 914 yards and 13 touchdowns, had 453 yards receiving and four touchdowns, 15 punt returns for 427 yards and three touchdowns, and five kickoff returns for 69 yards. Maroney ran for 1,464 yards and 10 touchdowns, and had 17 catches for 170 yards and one touchdown.



UM SID

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EAMONN COGAN #30 DB / OLB

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Academic Transcript: [View Transcript](#)

School: Hinsdale Central H.C.
55th and Grant St.
Hinsdale, IL 60521
999-999-9999

Conference: West Suburban Silver
Enrollment: 2,500
Graduation Year: 2006
Grade Point Average: 4.0
Class Rank: 20 / 300
Best SAT (verbal): 500
Best SAT (math): 620
Best ACT: N/A
Intended Major: filmmaking, liberal arts
Academic Counselor: Eileen Orgo 999-999-9999

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

- Honor Roll - 1st Semester - '04

JAVIER PERE #18

SCHOOL: HINSDALE CENTRAL HS
GRAD: 2006
SPORT: FOOTBALL

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