

There's more than the book

Welcome to another year of college football!

Each year the FWAA produces a print directory and delivers it to its members in late August in time for the college football season.

We spend a lot of time organizing the book and making it the best we can.

Several times during the year I hear members remark that the book alone is worth the \$40 annual fee for FWAA membership.

Many of you use the book so constantly that we went to the spiral binder approach a couple of years ago. We had heard complaints that the old binding came apart from such constant use. Ted Gangi of HiTex! and Charlie Fiss of the SBC Cotton Bowl have continually made reforms and improvement to the book.

We truly believe it is the best directory in all of college and professional sports.

That being said, we also hope you use the FWAA web site, www.fwaa.com. Your \$40 membership dues give you access to the members only side and other features on the site. You get much more than just a book and membership card for your money.

To that end we will begin to make the web site more interactive with membership. In the past, you have been e-mailed a link with the Fifth Down.

But now you will receive e-mails with survey and poll questions directing you to the site to vote on various issues. We also have a bulletin board where you can list ideas and talk with other members about issues that concern you. Don't be

bashful about getting involved! The bulletin board should also be lauding people for a job well done. You can also e-mail Steve Richardson or Wally Hall suggestions about polls and surveys you want to see.

Several times during the year, I get calls or e-mails from members about issues. Putting them on-line can generate interest and many times result in solving problems and making things better.

If you are interested in serving on the various committees and boards such as Press Box, Bowl Evaluation, All-America, don't hesitate to contact Steve Richardson (tigerfwaa@aol.com) or President Wally Hall (w

The All-America Committee has been set for this year, but the others are just being put together.

We will bring back Press Box and Bowl Evaluation committees this year and will be asking members to participate. Both the bowls and sports information directors have used these in the past to upgrade their operations. In the case of the school evaluations we will try and pick the best one or two press box operations in each league (announcing only those).

On Page 8, there is a complete directory of members who have positions this year on various committees.

Here's to a great 2003 football season.

Steve Richardson
FWAA Executive Director



July 2003

Vol. 41, No. 2

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Orlando Sentinel
- George Schroeder**
Daily Oklahoman
- Jeff Shain**
Miami Herald
- David Teel**
Daily Press, Newport News (Va.)
- Wright Thompson**
Kansas City Star
- Keith Whitmire**
Dallas Morning News
- Ex-Officio**
- John Paquette**
Big East
- Maxey Parrish**
CoSIDA

President's column



WALLY HALL

Writers, and every time, the person I met seemed impressed.

Obviously it was the title and the organization.

Let me assure you that this is a highly respected organization.

Until becoming an officer I was like many of you, a dues paying member who liked the newsletter and loved the directory.

Well, let me assure you there is much more to this organization than that. The work going on in this group is behind the scenes but it is for reporters in their daily pursuit to do their job.

It is a tireless effort by our Executive Director Steve Richardson.

At the NCAA Final Four Steve took more than two hours out of his busy schedule to meet with Sugar Bowl people to discuss the BCS championship game that they will host next year.

Before attending the meeting, Steve queried several writers and he went into the meeting ready to do battle with a list of questions and concerns.

When he came out, he said, "I'm cautiously confident," and then turned some of his attention to the Orange Bowl and it's 2005 hosting of the big event. Under his leadership the FWAA has become a recognized force in the world of college football.

When we attended the Eddie Robin-

son Coach of the Year banquet, we were treated like royalty, up to the point that at one time someone asked Steve if the way Fox was doing a certain thing was okay.

At the All-America banquet in Orlando, you would have thought we had been developed by Walt Disney. In their inaugural event, the Capital One Bowl folks did an outstanding job, but after conferring with Steve decided to move it from January to December (which means I get to go back).

The most impressive thing that night was the way they treated our All-Americans, who were decked out in tuxedos and stationed around the reception so that everyone could meet and greet them.

Even a long time friend of Steve's like myself has been impressed with his vision and dedication to our organization.

Of course, he didn't want to publish this column and even made some suggestions as to what I might write about, but even the mighty "Tiger" has to live with freedom of the press and a columnist's random ways.

The exciting thing is that there are more good things coming our way, things that will continue to establish our organization as one of credibility and dependability.

I'm not sure whose idea it was to hire Steve, but I'll be glad to take that credit because it was one of the best ideas in the history of this organization. You see, Steve not only blazes a path for us into other organizations and events. He also takes on the big problems and sweats the little ones. There has not been a single complaint by a member that he hasn't addressed with a school or sports information director.

And he copies me on everything. EVERYTHING. The man is fearless.

I can assure you my presidency will be better than anyone thought because the Executive Director does not settle for less. Ever.

Contact president Wally Hall at wally_hall@adg.ardemgaz.com.

FWAA announces watch list for Bronko Nagurski Trophy

The Football Writers Association of America and the Charlotte Touchdown Club have announced the Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List for the 2003 season.

The Bronko Nagurski Trophy is awarded each year to the best defensive player in college football regardless of position. The Trophy will be awarded this year on Monday, Dec. 8 in Charlotte, N.C., at gala banquet at the Adams Mark Hotel.

The Watch List serves as guide to the best players in the game and is updated each week during the college football season. In addition, the FWAA and the Charlotte Touchdown Club select a National Defensive Player of the Week during the college football season.

If a player is selected for the weekly award and is not on the Watch List, he is added to it. A panel of FWAA members selects the weekly award winner after nominations are gathered from the 11 Division I-A Conferences and other schools.

Of last season's five Bronko Nagurski finalists who were honored at the dinner in Charlotte, only Georgia defensive end David Pollack returns for the 2003 season.

Last season's Bronko Nagurski Trophy winner was Arizona State defensive end Terrell Suggs, who set a Division I-A record for career sacks and won the award over four other outstanding finalists, including Pollack, Kansas State defensive back Terrance Newman, Maryland linebacker E.J. Henderson and Notre Dame defensive back Shane Walton.



Teddy Lehman, OU



David Pollack, Georgia

Members of the current Nagurski Watch List were nominated by members, conferences and individual schools. It will be the 11th straight year the FWAA has honored the Defensive Player of the Year. The FWAA All-America Committee selects the finalists each November and votes for the winner.

The Bronko Nagurski Trophy will be featured on the cover of the 2003-04 FWAA Print Directory. The FWAA and the Charlotte Touchdown Club have combined to present the Defensive Player of the Year Award since 1995, two years after the FWAA initially established the award.

NAGURSKI WATCH LIST

Tim Anderson, DL, Ohio State
Jason Babin, DL, Western Michigan
Atari Bigby, DB, Central Florida
Michael Boulware, LB, Florida St.
Jamaal Brimmer, DB, UNLV
Jorge Cordova, DE, Nevada
Karlos Dansby, LB, Auburn
Rod Davis, LB, Southern Miss
Vontez Duff, DB, Notre Dame
Brandon Everage, DB, Oklahoma
Chris Gamble, DB, Ohio State
Matt Grootegoed, LB, USC
Claude Harriott, DE, Pittsburgh
Tommie Harris, DT, Oklahoma

Marlin Jackson, DB, Michigan
Derrick Johnson, LB, Texas
Jason Kaufusi, DL, Utah
Brandon Kennedy, DT, North Texas
Teddy Lehman, LB, Oklahoma
Jim Leonhard, DB, Wisconsin
Justin Miller, CB, Clemson
Kirk Morrison, LB, San Diego St.
Antwan Odom, DE, Alabama
Philip Perry, DE, San Jose State
David Pollack, DE, Georgia
Etric Pruitt, DB, Southern Miss
Bob Sanders, DB, Iowa
Stuart Schweigert, FS, Purdue

Darrion Scott, DL, Ohio State
Richard Seigler, LB, Oregon State
Isaac Sopoaga, DT, Hawaii
Derrick Strait, DB, Oklahoma
Sean Taylor, DB, Miami, Fla.
Marcus Tubbs, DT, Texas
Kenechi Udeze, DE, USC
Nathan Vasher, DB, Texas
Jonathan Vilma, LB, Miami, Fla.
Courtney Watson, LB, Notre Dame
Corey Webster, CB, LSU
Grant Wiley, LB, West Virginia
D.J. Williams, LB, Miami, Fla.
Madiou Williams, CB, Maryland

ALL-AMERICA OFFENSE

QUARTERBACKS

Derek Anderson, Oregon State
 Brock Berlin, Miami, Fla.
 Casey Bramlet, Wyoming
 Timmy Chang, Hawaii
 Casey Clausen, Tennessee
 Ryan Dinwiddie, Boise State
 Darian Durant, North Carolina
 Josh Fields, Oklahoma State
 David Greene, Georgia
 Gino Guidugli, Cincinnati
 Adam Hall, San Diego State
 Chance Harridge, Air Force
 Josh Harris, Bowling Green
 Kyle Herm, Rice
 Craig Krenzler, Ohio State
 Brian Lindgren, Idaho
 J.P. Losman, Tulane
 Eli Manning, Mississippi
 Rasheed Marshall, W. Virginia
 Zack Mills, Penn State
 John Navarre, Michigan
 Kyle Orton, Purdue
 Cody Pickett, Washington
 Paul Pinegar, Fresno State
 Philip Rivers, No. Carolina St.
 Eli Roberson, Kansas State
 Ben Roethlisberger, Miami (O)
 Rod Rutherford, Pittsburgh
 Matt Schaub, Virginia
 Brad Smith, Missouri
 Bradlee Van Pelt, Colorado St.
 Andrew Walter, Arizona State

RUNNING BACKS

Chris Barclay, Wake Forest
 Cedric Benson, Texas
 Art Brown, East Carolina
 Ronnie Brown, Auburn
 Nick Burney, Wake Forest
 Maurice Clarett, Ohio State
 Larry Croom, UNLV
 Anthony Davis, Wisconsin
 Rodney Davis, Fresno State
 Tyler Ebell, UCLA
 Frank Gore, Miami, Fla.
 Jermaine Green, Wash. St.
 Lonta Hobbs, TCU
 Cedric Houston, Tennessee
 Steven Jackson, Oregon State
 Terry Jackson, Minnesota
 Marty Johnson, Utah
 Greg Jones, Florida State
 Kevin Jones, Virginia Tech
 Keylon Kincaide, SMU
 Derrick Knight, Boston College
 Wali Lundy, Virginia
 T.A. McLendon, NC St.
 David Mikell, Boise State
 DonTrell Moore, New Mexico
 Mewelde Moore, Tulane
 Bruce Perry, Maryland
 Chris Perry, Michigan
 Bobby Purify, Colorado
 Fred Russell, Iowa

Darren Sproles, Kansas State
 Michael Turner, No. Illinois
 Alex Wade, Duke
 Brandon Warfield, Utah
 Carnell Williams, Auburn

WIDE RECEIVERS

Jason Anderson, Wake Forest
 Bernard Berrian, Fresno State
 Jeremy Bloom, Colorado
 Craig Bragg, UCLA
 Michael Clayton, LSU
 Jerricho Cotchery, NC State
 Devard Darling, Wash. St.
 Josh Davis, Marshall
 Braylon Edwards, Michigan
 Lee Evans, Wisconsin
 Larry Fitzgerald, Pittsburgh
 Miquel Irvin, Akron
 Michael Jenkins, Ohio State
 B.J. Johnson, Texas
 Earvin Johnson, UNLV
 Chad Owens, Hawaii
 Samie Parker, Oregon
 Carlos Perez, Florida
 Chris Pittman, Colorado State
 Courtney Roby, Indiana
 John Standeford, Purdue
 Mark Vincent, UL-Monroe
 Darius Watts, Marshall
 Wes Welker, Texas Tech
 Ernest Wilford, Virginia Tech
 Mike Williams, USC
 Reggie Williams, Washington
 Roy Williams, Texas
 Orlando Winston, Idaho
 Rashaun Woods, Okla. St.

TIGHT ENDS

Billy Bajema, Oklahoma State
 Sean Berton, NC State
 Joel Dreessen, Colorado State
 Sam Dudley, UAB
 Ronnie Ghent, Louisville
 Matt Herian, Nebraska
 Alex Holmes, USC
 Tory Humphrey, Cent. Michigan
 Heath Miller, Virginia
 Adrian Moore, Troy State
 Sean Ryan, Boston College
 David Thomas, Texas
 Ben Troupe, Florida
 Ben Utecht, Minnesota
 Ben Watson, Georgia
 Kris Wilson, Pittsburgh
 Kellen Winslow, Miami, Fla.

CENTERS

Vince Carter, Oklahoma
 Toby Cecil, Texas
 Mike Degory, Florida
 Mark Dreyer, Colorado State
 Todd Ghilani, Northern Illinois
 Jake Grove, Virginia Tech



RETURNING ALL-AMERICANS (Clockwise from top left):
 Reggie Williams, Shawn Andrews, Nate Kaeding and
 Derek Abney.

Rex Hadnot, Houston
 Richie Incognito, Nebraska
 Scott Jackson, BYU
 Nick Leckey, Kansas State
 Matt Martinez, Idaho
 A.J. Ricker, Missouri
 Nick Romeo, Syracuse
 Alex Stepanovich, Ohio State
 Ben Stephens, Rice
 Dan Weaver, Oregon
 Scott Wells, Tennessee
 Ben Wilkerson, LSU

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Shawn Andrews, Arkansas
 Calvin Armstrong, Wash. State
 David Baas, Michigan
 Wesley Britt, Alabama
 Jammal Brown, Oklahoma
 Lamar Bryant, Maryland
 Sean Bubin, Illinois
 Kelly Butler, Purdue
 Vernon Carey, Miami, Fla.
 Chris Colmer, NC State
 Nat Dorsey, Georgia Tech
 Rob Droege, Missouri
 Greg Eslinger, Minnesota
 Robert Gallery, Iowa
 John Glud, TCU

Marwan Hage, Colorado
 Antonio Hall, Kentucky
 Joseph Hayes, San Jose State
 Trevor Hutton, Utah State
 Brett Huyser, Air Force
 Drew Hodgdon, Arizona State
 Al James, Houston
 Carlos Joseph, Miami, Fla.
 Nick Kaczur, Toledo
 Jason Lenzmeier, New Mexico
 Nate McPeck, Marshall
 Logan Mankins, Fresno State
 Bob Montgomery, Iowa State
 Michael Munoz, Tennessee
 Shane Olivea, Ohio State
 Tony Pape, Michigan
 Erik Pears, Colorado State
 Rob Petitti, Pittsburgh
 Stephen Peterman, LSU
 Brian Rimpf, East Carolina
 Jacob Rogers, USC
 Justin Smiley, Alabama
 Shannon Snell, Florida
 Max Starks, Florida
 Claude Terrell, New Mexico
 Brandon Westbrook, Mid. Tenn.
 Travelle Wharton, So. Carolina
 Nick Zuniga, North Texas

CHECKLIST

DEFENSE

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Tim Anderson, Ohio State
Allan Adami, SMU
Nathan Adibi, Virginia Tech
Lorenzon Alexander, California
Jason Babin, Western Michigan
Dave Ball, UCLA
Grant Bowman, Michigan
Chris Canty, Virginia
Jordan Carstens, Iowa State
Shaun Cody, USC
Jorge Cordova, Nevada
Darnell Dockett, Florida State
Louis Gachelin, Syracuse
Claude Harriott, Pittsburgh
Marques Harris, Colorado
Tommie Harris, Oklahoma
Howard Hodges, Iowa
Shawn Johnson, Duke
Jason Kaufusi, Utah
Daniel Kegler, New Mexico
Chad Lavalais, LSU
Rodney Leslie, UCLA
Jamus Martin, Marshall
Chris Moore, East Carolina
Antwan Odom, Alabama
Phillip Perry, San Jose State
Shaun Phillips, Purdue
David Pollack, Georgia
Brady Poppinga, BYU
Chad Pugh, TCU
D.J. Renteria, New Mexico
Bo Schobel, TCU
Darrion Scott, Ohio State
Andrew Shull, Kansas State
Will Smith, Ohio State

Marcus Spears, LSU
Randy Starks, Maryland
Bill Swancutt, Oregon State
Kalen Thornton, Texas
Marcus Tubbs, Texas
Kenechi Udeze, USC
Demarcus Ware, Troy State
Vince Wilfork, Miami, Fla.
Matt Zielinski, Duke

LINEBACKERS

Andy Avalos, Boise State
Darryl Blackstock, Virginia
Michael Boley, Southern Miss
Michael Boulware, Florida St.
Josh Buhl, Kansas State
Kevin Burnett, Tennessee
Brandon Chillar, UCLA
Ryan Claridge, UNLV
Karlos Dansby, Auburn
Rod Davis, Southern Miss
Ryan Fowler, Duke
Rich Glover, New Mexico State
Tyler Gottschalk, Wyoming
Matt Grootegoed, USC
Derrick Johnson, Texas
John Leake, Clemson
Teddy Lehman, Oklahoma
Bryce McGill, Fresno State
Kevin Mitchell, Oregon
Lance Mitchell, Oklahoma
Kirk Morrison, San Diego State
Eric Pauly, Colorado State
Kendyll Pope, Florida State
Richard Seigler, Oregon State
Adam Seward, UNLV

Cody Spencer, North Texas
Billy Strother, New Mexico
Dontarrious Thomas, Auburn
Jonathan Vilma, Miami, Fla.
Rian Wallace, Temple
Courtney Watson, Notre Dame
Grant Wiley, West Virginia
D.J. Williams, Miami, Fla.
Drew Wood, Colorado State
Zac Woodfine, UAB

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Oshiomogho Atoogwe, Stanford
Rashad Baker, Tennessee
Atari Bigby, Central Florida
JaMaine Billups, Iowa State
Jamaal Brimmer, UNLV
Ahmad Carroll, Arkansas
Vontez Duff, Notre Dame
Brandon Everage, Oklahoma
Domonique Foxworth, Maryland
Aaron Francisco, BYU
Gabe Franklin, Boise State
Chris Gamble, Ohio State

DeAngelo Hall, Virginia Tech
Dio Hill, UAB
Marlin Jackson, Michigan
Derrick Johnson, Washington
Craig Jones, North Texas
Jim Leonhard, Wisconsin
Chris Meyer, Connecticut
Medford Moorer, Colorado
Janssen Patton, Bowling Green
Etric Pruitt, Southern Miss
Keiwan Ratliff, Florida
J.R. Reed, South Florida
Dexter Reid, North Carolina
Antrel Rolle, Miami, Fla.
Bob Sanders, Iowa
Stuart Schweigert, Purdue
Guss Scott, Florida
Jason Shivers, Arizona State
Maurice Sikes, Miami, Fla.
Derrick Strait, Oklahoma
Sean Taylor, Miami, Fla.
Nathan Vasher, Texas
Corey Webster, LSU
Madiou Williams, Maryland
Dexter Wynn, Colorado State

SPECIALISTS

KICKERS

Joey Ashcroft, Air Force
Jeff Babcock, Colorado State
Adam Benike, Iowa State
Billy Bennett, Georgia
Nick Browne, TCU
Nate Kaeding, Iowa
Nick Novak, Maryland
Mike Nugent, Ohio State
Matt Payne, BYU
Luke Phillips, Oklahoma State
Sandro Sciortino, Boston College
Nicholas Setta, Notre Dame
Jared Siegel, Oregon

PUNTERS

Dustin Colquitt, Tennessee
Luke Donovan, Wyoming
Adam Finley, Michigan
Derek Jones, Nevada
Donnie Jones, LSU

Kyle Larson, Nebraska
Andy Lee, Pittsburgh
Tim Parker, Arizona State
Matt Payne, BYU
Cody Scates, Texas A&M

RETURN SPECIALISTS

Derek Abney, Kentucky
Jeremy Bloom, Colorado
Broderick Clark, Louisville
Vontez Duff, Notre Dame
Makonnen Fenton, Temple
Nate Jones, Rutgers
David Mikell, Boise State
Roscoe Parrish, Miami, Fla.
Antonio Perkins, Oklahoma
Luke Powell, Stanford
Dan Sheldon, Northern Illinois
Steve Suter, Maryland
Nathan Vasher, Texas
Wes Welker, Texas Tech

FWAA ALL-AMERICA COMMITTEE

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Outland Trophy watch list announced

The Football Writers Association of America has announced the prestigious 2003 Outland Trophy Watch List for college football's top linemen.

The 2003 Outland Trophy winner will be named on Dec. 11 during the ESPN College Football Awards Show. The annual presentation banquet, which is sponsored by the Omaha Sports Committee, will be Jan. 8 in Omaha, Neb.

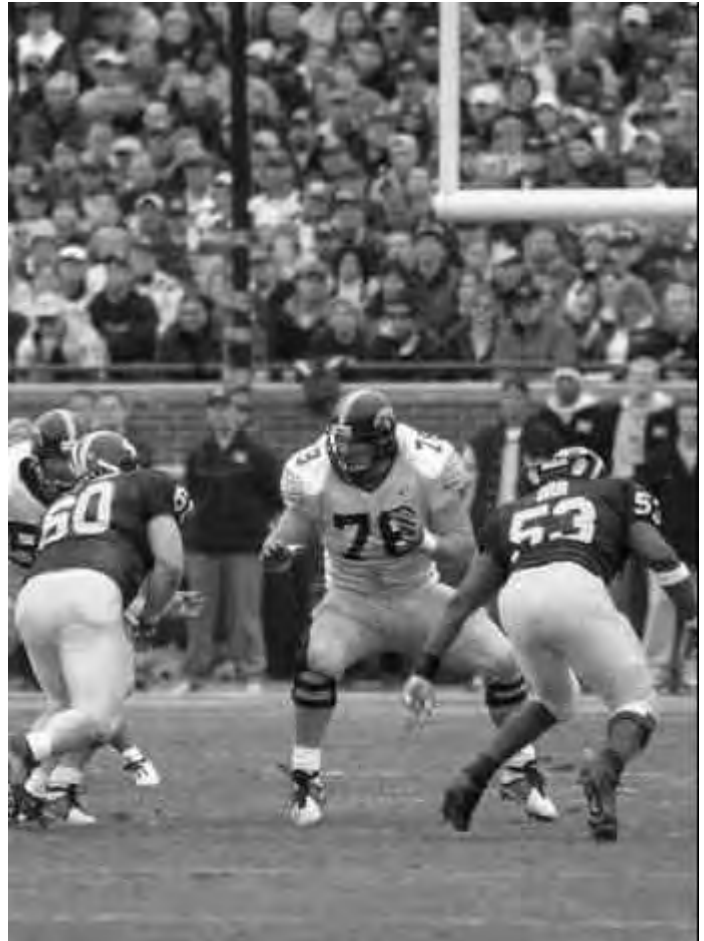
The Outland Trophy annually goes to college football's best interior lineman – tackles, centers, guards on offense or defense are eligible. The FWAA All-America Team Committee selects the winner with input from the membership.

Presented since 1946, the Outland is the third oldest award in major college football behind the Heisman and Maxwell awards. And it is named after the late John Outland who created the award a year before his death.

An All-American lineman at the University of Pennsylvania at the turn of the century, Dr. Outland created the award to recognize linemen. He believed linemen needed more recognition.

The first Outland Award was presented to the late George Connor of Notre Dame. Several notable linemen have won the Outland over the years. But the FWAA only started presenting a trophy to the winner the last 15 years.

Past winners who have do not have trophies are receiving them at the presentation banquet in January when the current-day winners receive their trophies. This coming January, former Air Force and Dallas Cowboy star Chad Hennings will collect his Outland Trophy. Hennings won the Outland Award in 1987.



Iowa offensive tackle Robert Gallery (78)

OUTLAND TROPHY WATCH LIST

Tim Anderson, DL, Ohio State
 Shawn Andrews, OT, Arkansas
 Calvin Armstrong, OT, Washington St.
 Jason Babin, DL, Western Michigan
 Wesley Britt, OT, Alabama
 Vernon Carey, Miami, Fla.
 Jordan Carstens, DT, Iowa St.
 Shaun Cody, DT, USC
 Darnell Dockett, DT, Florida State
 Nat Dorsey, OT, Georgia Tech
 Rob Droege, OL, Missouri
 Louis Gachelin, DT, Syracuse
 Robert Gallery, OT, Iowa
 Todd Ghilani, C, Northern Illinois
 Jake Grove, C, Virginia Tech

Rex Hadnot, C, Houston
 Antonio Hall, OL, Kentucky
 Tommie Harris, DT, Oklahoma
 Joseph Hayes, OG, San Jose State
 Howard Hodges, DL, Iowa
 Trevor Hutton, OG, Utah State
 Richie Incognito, C, Nebraska
 Jason Kaufusi, DL, Utah
 Brandon Kennedy, DT, North Texas
 Nick Leckey, OL, Kansas State
 Logan Mankins, OT, Fresno State
 Matt Martinez, C, Idaho
 Nate McPeek, OL, Marshall
 Shane Olivea, OT, Ohio State
 Tony Pape, OT, Michigan

Rob Petitti, OT, Pittsburgh
 Brady Poppinga, DL, BYU
 Brian Rimpf, OT, East Carolina
 Jacob Rogers, OT, USC
 Darrion Scott, DL, Ohio State
 Isaac Sopoaga, DT, Hawaii
 Max Starks, OT, Florida
 Alex Stepanovich, C, Ohio State
 Ben Stephens, C, Rice
 Claude Terrell, OL, New Mexico
 Marcus Tubbs, DT, Texas
 Dan Weaver, C, Oregon
 Travelle Wharton, OT, So. Carolina
 Ben Wilkerson, C, LSU

Chad Hennings: Putting service before self

The following column originally appeared in The Dallas Morning News earlier this year.

Chad Hennings, the 1987 winner of the Outland Trophy, will receive his trophy at the 2004 banquet on Jan. 8 in Omaha, Neb. Though the Outland award dates to 1946, the first trophy was awarded by the FWAA in 1989.

By FRANK LUKSA
The Dallas Morning News

The last time Chad Hennings saw Iraq was 12 years ago from heights ranging from 500 to 15,000 feet. His departing hope was that no American ever would come closer to the Middle East country under similar conditions.

Hope now appears the faded hue of desert sand Hennings over flew as an Air Force fighter pilot. He was there when a U.S.-led United Nations coalition ended Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and theoretically left Iraqi ruler Saddam Hussein impotent.

"We reduced the world's fourth largest army to nothing. However, we made some strategic mistakes and assumptions," says Hennings, who left the military in 1992 to begin a nine-year NFL career as a defensive tackle with the Cowboys. "We thought he Hussein would be overthrown or assassinated. We didn't calculate on his brutality and resilience."

Another conflict looms over territory where Hennings escorted planes dropping relief supplies to a Kurdish population gassed and displaced by Hussein. A size exemption allowed Chad to squeeze his 6-6, 255-pound body into the cockpit of an A-40 attack jet armed to fire 4,000 tank-buster rounds per minute.

Hennings never fired those guns during draining, 6½-7 hour roundtrip missions. Danger-wise, he only knew the exhilaration of being shot at and missed by small arms fire. Hennings today is grounded by an expired exemption, a fact he laments should war flare anew to strip Hussein of his weapons of mass destruction.

Were he eligible to fly at 36 and recalled, Hennings would report before sundown. Chad isn't pro-war. That assumption might exist because he schooled at the Air Force Academy for that purpose, then applied his training on active duty for four years. Hennings says war should be avoided unless the cause is right.

"War is a must in this case," he insists. "Hussein is making a mockery of the United Nations and sanctions."

There is more substance to his view than protecting UN image. He feels that war against the U.S. has been in progress since Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorists crashed planes into the World Trade Center towers and the Pentagon. Hennings reminded that the enemy has

threatened more violence.

"I believe if you don't do it now, something will happen again," he says. "We can't forget the lessons learned from two-three years ago. The world has changed. We have to stand for freedom, democracy and moral values."

Allegiance to his country is the product of Chad's past and a commitment to insure a peaceful future for son Chase, 9, and daughter Brenna, 5. Loyalty also extends to those who long ago defended a people shocked by sneak attack at Pearl Harbor.

"It's based on the way I was raised," says Hennings, rural product of a 900-acre Iowa farm near Elberton (Pop: 150). "I was taught that freedom comes with a cost. I'm also concerned about what kind of world to leave my kids."

Hennings reminisced of meeting Bob Feller, a fellow small-town Iowan. Hennings asked if Feller felt hesitation or remorse in volunteering for WWII duty at the peak of his Cleveland pitching career. Feller said he never considered an option other than to join the Navy.

"Look at his generation, which some say was the greatest generation. Not only professional athletes but businessmen joined the military. Fortunately, we don't need an all-volunteer military now," Hennings said.

"But do people today think of service before self? I think not. Where we are as a society cheapens the price paid by those who walked before us."

Disillusionment began when he joined the Cowboys, mature beyond most teammates at age 26. Hennings recalled locker room ambition focused on landing a better contract. No one spoke of how to improve his environment or society.

An exception surfaced a year ago. Pat Tillman of Arizona, All-Pro safety in his mid 20s, spurned a multi-million offer to volunteer for Ranger training in the Army.

"I categorize Pat as a great role model," Hennings said. "He's a man of conviction ... service before self. He committed to a cause greater than himself, giving up a career to serve one's country. He's in the mold of men of yore."

A Flower Mound resident, Hennings still can summon the adrenalin rush from three Super Bowl victories with the Cowboys. Yet football success remains a secondary peak.

"I had the same exhilaration as a Super Bowl every day, the same sense of pride and purpose only magnified," Hennings said. "I'm most proud of flying jets for the Air Force."

If a worst-case invasion of Iraq goes forth, there is one consoling thought. Guys like Hennings are on our side.

KEY CONTACTS AT THE FWAA

? **Bert McGrane nominees:** Tom Kensler, Denver Post (tkensler@denverpost.com)

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? **Bronko Nagurski Award:** John Rocco, Charlotte Touchdown Club (jrocco@touchdownclub.com)

? **Outland Trophy, All-America Team,** Steve Richardson (tigerfwaa@aol.com); Gene Duffey (sythinman@aol.com)

? **ESPN Magazine/ FWAA Courage Award nominations:** Andy Bagnato, San Diego Union-Tribune (gridscot@aol.com)

? **Scripps Howard/FWAA Freshman All-America Team:** Mike Griffith, Knoxville News-Sentinel (mgrif32@aol.com)



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