

THE NATIONAL HARLON HILL AWARD COMMITTEE

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNER

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CHADRON STATE RUNNING BACK DANNY WOODHEAD TAKES 2006 HARLON HILL TROPHY AS DIVISION II FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

FLORENCE, Ala. -- Chadron State (Neb.) College junior tailback Danny Woodhead claimed the Harlon Hill Trophy Friday as the 2006 Division II College Football Player of the Year.

Woodhead received 187 total points in the voting and held a commanding 87-point margin over the second-place finisher.

The award winner is determined in voting by the Division II sports information directors and was presented in front of a crowd of 400 at the 21st annual Harlon Hill Trophy award banquet at the Marriott Shoals Conference Center.

The Harlon Hill Trophy is sponsored by the City of Florence, Coca-Cola, Trustmark Construction, Opti-Net, Marriott Shoals Hotel and Spa and Herff Jones.

Woodhead, a junior from North Platte, Neb., received 48 first-place votes and received points on 73 of the ballots cast.

Woodhead's selection snapped a streak of eight straight years where a quarterback had been chosen as the Division II Player of the Year. Woodhead is the first running back to win the Hill Trophy since Emporia State's Brian Shay was chosen in 1998.

Woodhead, a Hill candidate for the third straight season, broke the NCAA all-divisions single-season rushing record with 2,756 yards and scored 38 touchdowns this season. His incredible season has him leading Division II in rushing, scoring and all-purpose yards. He also led Chadron to an unbeaten regular-season record and to the quarterfinals of the playoffs. Woodhead averaged 212 rushing yards per game, 250 all-purpose yards and 17.5 points.

Grand Valley State senior quarterback **Cullen Finnerty** was second with 100 points and 15 first-place votes, and Pittsburg State junior running back **Germaine Race** was third with 85 points and ten first-place votes.

Following that trio in the voting was 2005 Hill Trophy winner **Jimmy Terwilliger** of East Stroudsburg University. The senior quarterback received four first-place votes and had 74 total points. Delta senior quarterback **Scott Eyster** was fifth at 64, South Dakota running back **Stefan Logan** sixth at 32, Albany State defensive lineman **Alton Pettway** at 25 and Bryant senior running back **Lorenzo Perry** at 15.

A total of 28 players were initially nominated for the 2006 Harlon Hill Trophy in their respective NCAA regions, with the top two players from each of the Northeast, Southeast, Northwest and Southwest regions advancing to national

voting.

Finnerty, a senior from Brighton, Michigan, has led his team to a perfect 14-0 record and No. 1 ranking entering tomorrow's Division II Championship Game. Finnerty has completed 180 of 310 passes for 2,995 yards and 40 touchdowns to lead Division II in passing efficiency. He has been intercepted only 10 times. During his career he has led Grand Valley State to two national championships and his 50 career wins as a starter makes him the winningest quarterback in the history of NCAA collegiate football. His 45 career games with a touchdown pass is an NCAA record and he ranks third in Division II in career total offense. he is one of just four college football players to pass for more than 10,000 yards and rush for more than 2,000 yards.

Race, a senior from Warrensburg, Mo., finished fourth in the Hill Trophy voting in 2005 and is among the Division II leaders in three categories this season. He is the leading career rusher in Division II history with 6,985 yards on the ground. He is also the all-time leading scorer on any level of NCAA football with 658 points. He is in the NCA record book 22 times and holds the Division II records for career rushing touchdowns (106), career touchdowns scored (107) and career 100-yard rushing games (36). He carried the ball 310 times for 1,944 yards and scored 31 rushing touchdowns this season. His 162.0 rushing average places him fifth in Division II and he is eighth in all-purpose yards with 165.3 per game. Race is second nationally in scoring this season as well.

The Hill Trophy is named for a former UNA player - Harlon Hill - who was a standout with the Lions from 1950-53 before going on to fame in the National Football League with the Chicago Bears.

North Dakota State quarterback Jeff Bentrin won the initial Hill Trophy in 1986, before Texas A&M-Kingsville running back Johnny Bailey won three straight Hill trophies from 1987-89.

Another North Dakota State quarterback, Chris Simdorn, claimed the 1990 award, followed by Pittsburg State's Ronnie West in 1991 and Ronald Moore in 1992, New Haven running back Roger Graham in 1993, Valdosta State quarterback Chris Hatcher in 1994, North Alabama linebacker Ronald McKinnon in 1995, Truman State running back Jarrett Anderson in 1996, Bloomsburg running back Irvin Sigler in 1997, Emporia State running back Brian Shay in 1998, Northern Colorado quarterback Corte McGuffey in 1999, Valdosta State quarterback Dusty Bonner in 2000 and 2001, and Grand Valley State quarterback Curt Anes in 2002. University of North Alabama senior quarterback Will Hall claimed the trophy in 2003. Colorado-Mines quarterback Chad Frieauf took the trophy in 2004, and Terwilliger in 2005.

2006 HILL VOTE TOTALS

TOTAL					1st	2nd	3rd
Points	Player				Place	Place	Place
187	Danny Woodhead	TB	JR	Chadron State	48	15	13
100	Cullen Finnerty	QB	SR	Grand Valley State	15	20	15
85	Germaine Race	RB	SR	Pittsburg State	10	19	17
74	Jimmy Terwilliger	QB	SR	East Stroudsburg	5	18	23
64	Scott Eyster	QB	SR	Delta State	9	13	11
32	Stefan Logan	RB	SR	South Dakota	5	5	7
25	Alton Pettway	DL	SR	Albany State	2	6	7
15	Lorenzo Perry	RB	SR	Bryant	3	1	4

ALL-TIME HARLON HILL WINNERS

Year	Player	Pos.	School	Point Total
1986	Jeff Bentrin	QB	North Dakota State University	133
1987	Johnny Bailey	RB	Texas A&M University-Kingsville	106
1988	Johnny Bailey	RB	Texas A&M University-Kingsville	158
1989	Johnny Bailey	RB	Texas A&M University-Kingsville	182
1990	Chris Simdorn	QB	North Dakota State University	123
1991	Ronnie West	WR	Pittsburg State University	109
1992	Ronald Moore	RB	Pittsburg State University	148
1993	Roger Graham	RB	University of New Haven	160
1994	Chris Hatcher	QB	Valdosta State University	209
1995	Ronald McKinnon	LB	University of North Alabama	188
1996	Jarrett Anderson	TB	Truman State University	207
1997	Irvin Sigler	TB	Bloomsburg University	208
1998	Brian Shay	RB	Emporia State University	303
1999	Corte McGuffey	QB	Northern Colorado	205
2000	Dusty Bonner	QB	Valdosta State University	156
2001	Dusty Bonner	QB	Valdosta State University	209
2002	Curt Anes	QB	Grand Valley State University	271
2003	Will Hall	QB	University of North Alabama	150
2004	Chad Frieauf	QB	Colorado School of Mines	194
2005	Jimmy Terwilliger	QB	East Stroudsburg University	121
2006	Danny Woodhead	RB	Chadron State	187

QUARTERBACKS, RUNNING BACKS AND RECEIVERS

Top three finishers by positions from 1986-2006

		1st	2nd	3rd
Quarterbacks	31	10	12	9
Running Backs	26	9	7	10
Receivers	5	1	2	2
Linebackers	1	1	0	0

FIVE SCHOOLS HAVE MULTIPLE HILL WINNERS

With Will Hall winning the 2003 Hill Trophy, North Alabama became the fifth school to have won multiple Harlon Hill Trophies. In 1995, Ronald McKinnon of North Alabama claimed the trophy followed by Hall in 2003. From Valdosta State the 1994 winner was Chris Hatcher and Dusty Bonner won the trophy in 2000 and 2001. The 1986 and 1990 winners were Jeff Bentrin and Chris Simdorn of North Dakota State, the 1987-89 winner was Johnny Bailey of Texas A&I (now Texas A&M-Kingsville), the 1991 and 1992 winners were Ronnie West and Ronald Moore of Pittsburg State.

ALL-TIME CONFERENCE BREAKDOWN OF HILL FINALISTS

Conference	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	Total
North Central	3	3	6	3	2	2	2	2	0	23
Pennsylvania	2	2	3	3	5	3	2	2	1	23
Gulf South	5	3	1	1	3	4	3	2	0	22
Lone Star	3	1	2	0	3	2	4	2	1	18
Great Lakes Intercollegiate	1	3	1	0	3	1	3	2	0	14
Mid-America Int.	4	1	1	1	0	2	1	2	1	13
Western Football	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	2	0	9
South Atlantic	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	0	6
Southern Intercollegiate	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	6
Central Intercollegiate	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	5
Rocky Mountain	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	5
Northeast 10	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3
W. Virginia Intercollegiate	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Northern Sun	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Eastern Football	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Columbia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Independent	1	2	2	5	1	1	2	1	0	15

Hill Voting and Records, 1986-06

Winning Vote Totals

<i>Pts</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Player</i>	<i>School</i>
133	1986	Jeff Bentrin	North Dakota State
106	1987	Johnny Bailey	Texas A&M-Kingsville
158	1988	Johnny Bailey	Texas A&M-Kingsville
182	1989	Johnny Bailey	Texas A&M-Kingsville
123	1990	Chris Simdorn	North Dakota State
109	1991	Ronnie West	Pittsburg State
148	1992	Ronald Moore	Pittsburg State
160	1993	Roger Graham	New Haven
209	1994	Chris Hatcher	Valdosta State
188	1995	Ronald McKinnon	North Alabama
207	1996	Jarrett Anderson	Truman State
208	1997	Irvin Sigler	Bloomsburg
303	1998	Brian Shay	Emporia State
205	1999	Corte McGuffey	Northern Colorado
156	2000	Dusty Bonner	Valdosta State
209	2001	Dusty Bonner	Valdosta State
271	2002	Curt Anes	Grand Valley State
150	2003	Will Hall	North Alabama
194	2004	Chad Frieauf	Colorado-Mines
121	2005	Jimmy Terwilliger	East Stroudsburg
187	2006	Danny Woodhead	Chadron State

Most Points

<i>Pts</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Player</i>	<i>School</i>
303	1998	Brian Shay	Emporia State
271	2002	Curt Anes	Grand Valley State
209	1994	Chris Hatcher	Valdosta State
209	2001	Dusty Bonner	Valdosta State
208	1997	Irvin Sigler	Bloomsburg
207	1996	Jarrett Anderson	Truman State
205	1999	Corte McGuffey	Northern Colorado
*201	2001	Curt Anes	Grand Valley State
194	2004	Chad Frieauf	Colorado-Mines
188	1995	Ronald McKinnon	North Alabama
187	2006	Danny Woodhead	Chadron State
182	1989	Johnny Bailey	Texas A&M-Kingsville
160	1993	Roger Graham	New Haven
158	1988	Johnny Bailey	Texas A&M-Kingsville
156	2000	Dusty Bonner	Valdosta State
150	2003	Will Hall	North Alabama
148	1992	Ronald Moore	Pittsburg State
133	1986	Jeff Bentrin	North Dakota State
*125	1988	Chris Crawford	Portland State
123	1990	Chris Simdorn	North Dakota State
*123	1994	Roger Graham	New Haven
*121	1992	Shawn Graves	Wofford Collge
121	2005	Jimmy Terwilliger	East Stroudsburg
*118	1998	Corte McGuffey	Northern Colorado
*112	1993	Tyrone Rush	North Alabama
109	1991	Ronnie West	Pittsburg State
*107	2000	Justin Coleman	Nebraska-Kearney
*106	1986	Johnny Bailey	Texas A&M-Kingsville
106	1987	Johnny Bailey	Texas A&M-Kingsville
#106	1992	John Charles	Portland State

* Finished Second

Finished Third

Hill Voting Superlatives

Most Total Points: 303

1998 Brian Shay Emporia State

Most First Place Votes: 88

1998 Brian Shay Emporia State

Most Ballots Appeared On: 110

1998 Brian Shay Emporia State

Least Points by Winner: 106

1987 Johnny Bailey Texas A&M-Kingsville

Least First Place Votes by Winner: 17

1991 Ronnie West Pittsburg State

Most Points by a Runner-up: 201

2001 Curt Anes Grand Valley State

Highest Finish by a Defensive Player: 1st

1995 Ronald McKinnon North Alabama

Highest Finish by an Offensive Lineman: 7th

1992 Earl Dotson Texas A&M-Kingsville

Best Finish by a Freshman: 2nd

1986 Johnny Bailey Texas A&M-Kingsville

Best Finish by a Sophomore: 1st

1987 Johnny Bailey Texas A&M-Kingsville

Best Finish by a Junior: 1st

1988 Johnny Bailey Texas A&M-Kingsville

1993 Roger Graham New Haven

2000 Dusty Bonner Valdosta State

2006 Danny Woodhead Chadron State

Largest Margin of Victory: 185 (303-118)

1998 Brian Shay Emporia State

Corte McGuffey Northern Colorado

Smallest Margin of Victory: 8 (209-201)

2001 Dusty Bonner Valdosta State

Curt Anes Grand Valley State

Schools with a Hill Finalist: 63

School with the Most Hill Winners: Texas A&M-

Kingsville (formerly Texas A&I) with 3. Johnny Bailey in 1987, 1988 and 1989; Valdosta State with 3. Chris Hatcher in 1994 and Dusty Bonner in 2000 and 2001

School with the Most Different Hill Winners: North Alabama, North Dakota State, Pittsburg State, and Valdosta State with two each. UNA- Ronald McKinnon 1995 and Will Hall 2003; NDSU - Jeff Bentrin 1986, Chris Simdorn 1990; PSU - Ronnie West 1991, Ronald Moore 1992; VSU - Chris Hatcher, 1994, Dusty Bonner, 2000, 2001.