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## 2023 Comeback Player of the Year Award Watch List Issued

NEW YORK, NY – The College Sports Communicators (formerly CoSIDA) in association with The Associated Press (AP) and the Fiesta Bowl Organization, today released an updated "Watch List" of 49 college football student-athletes from 42 different schools currently under consideration for the **2023 Comeback Player of the Year Award**.

Since 2018, the award has recognized college football student-athletes from all divisions of college football for overcoming injury, illness, or other circumstances. At the conclusion of each season, in a vote by a panel of college football writers, editors, and sports information directors, three college football student-athletes are honored as **Comeback Player of the Year Award** winners at the Vrbo Fiesta Bowl.

College athletic communications professionals working with football programs are encouraged to nominate deserving candidates at <u>www.Comeback-Player.com</u>. Here's a look at the October 2023 Comeback Player of the Year Watch List.

| CONFERENCE | PLAYER             | SCHOOL         | POSITION |
|------------|--------------------|----------------|----------|
| AAC        | Nikhai Hill-Green  | Charlotte      | LB       |
| AAC        | Rahjai Harris      | East Carolina  | RB       |
| AAC        | Tai Lavatai        | Navy           | QB       |
| AAC        | Anthony Watkins    | Tulsa          | RB       |
| ACC        | Christian Mahogany | Boston College | OL       |

| 4.00          |                   |                  | 0.0  |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------|------|
| ACC           | Tyler Van Dyke    | Miami            | QB   |
| ACC           | Savion Jackson    | NC State         | DE   |
| ACC           | Stefon Thompson   | Syracuse         | LB   |
| ACC           | Malachi Fields    | Virginia         | WR   |
| ACC           | Mike Hollins      | Virginia         | RB   |
| BIG TEN       | Cam Camper        | Indiana          | WR   |
| BIG TEN       | Erick All         | Iowa             | TE   |
| BIG TEN       | Blake Corum       | Michigan         | RB   |
| BIG TEN       | Thomas Fidone II  | Nebraska         | TE   |
| BIG TEN       | Garrett Miller    | Purdue           | TE   |
| BIG TEN       | Mohamed Toure     | Rutgers          | DL   |
| Big 12        | Malik Robinson    | Houston          | LB   |
| Big 12        | Daniel Hishaw Jr. | Kansas           | RB   |
| Big 12        | Alan Bowman       | Oklahoma State   | QB   |
| Big 12        | Jaden Bray        | Oklahoma State   | WR   |
| Big 12        | Jalen Catalon     | Texas            | DB   |
| Big 12        | Cole Spencer      | Texas Tech       | OL   |
| Big 12        | CJ Donaldson Jr.  | West Virginia    | RB   |
| Independent   | Tyrell Robinson   | Army             | RB   |
| MAC           | Davon Ferguson    | Bowling Green    | СВ   |
| MAC           | Terion Stewart    | Bowling Green    | RB   |
| MAC           | Marion Lukes      | Central Michigan | RB   |
| MAC           | Myles Bailey      | Central Michigan | RB   |
| MAC           | O'Shaan Allison   | Ohio University  | RB   |
| Mountain West | Markel Reed       | Boise State      | СВ   |
| Mountain West | Tavian Combs      | New Mexico       | S/LB |
| Mountain West | Sabastian Harsh   | Wyoming          | DE   |
| Pac 12        | Brett Johnson     | Cal-Berkeley     | DL   |
| Pac 12        | Romello Height    | USC              | RE   |
| Pac 12        | Edefuan Ulofoshio | Washington       | LB   |

| SEC            | Justin Eboigbe    | Alabama          | DL |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------|----|
| SEC            | Devin Leary       | Kentucky         | QB |
| SEC            | Ainias Smith      | Texas A&M        | WR |
| SEC            | Max Johnson       | Texas A&M        | QB |
| Sun Belt       | Corey Rucker      | Arkansas State   | WR |
| Sun Belt       | Braydon Bennett   | Coastal Carolina | RB |
| Sun Belt       | Rasheen Ali       | Marshall         | RB |
| Sun Belt       | Stephen Dix Jr.   | Marshall         | LB |
| CAA            | Matthew Downing   | Elon             | QB |
| MVC            | DJ Williams       | Murray State     | QB |
| MVC            | Myles Harden      | South Dakota     | CB |
| Patriot League | Jacob Dobbs       | Holy Cross       | LB |
| UAC            | Keith Davis       | Utah Tech        | WR |
| UAC            | Ronnie Walker Jr. | Utah Tech        | RB |

Previous winners of the **Comeback Player of the Year Award** include: 2022 - Mohamed Ibrahim (Minnesota); Laiatu Latu (UCLA); Michael Penix Jr. (Washington); 2021 – Aidan Hutchinson (Michigan); McKenzie Milton (Florida State); J.J. Weaver (Kentucky); 2020 – Jarek Broussard (Colorado); Kenneth Horsey (Kentucky); Silas Kelly (Coastal Carolina); 2019 – Jake Luton (Oregon State); Drew Wilson (Georgia Southern); Octavion Wilson (Salisbury); 2018 - Antwan Dixon (Kent State), Seth Simmer (Dartmouth); Antonio Wimbush (Carson-Newman). For a complete list of past honorees, visit <u>www.Comeback-Player.com</u>.

The second oldest management association in intercollegiate athletics, <u>College Sports</u> <u>Communicators</u> (formerly CoSIDA) was founded in 1957 and rebranded in August 2022. Today, College Sports Communicators is a vibrant 4,200-plus member international association, composed of the athletic communications, media relations, digital and creative professionals throughout all levels of intercollegiate athletics in the United States and Canada. CSC's signature program is the Academic All-America® program, honoring thousands of outstanding scholarathletes annually. To learn more, visit <u>collegesportscommunicators.com</u>

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