

NEWS RELEASE

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& COLLEGE HALL OF FAME, INC.

Monday's Chalktalk

News and Notes From Around College Football for Nov. 13, 2006

Welcome to Bowl Eligibility: Three Weeks Left in Regular Season

There are 32 bowls and 64 slots for the qualifying teams in NCAA Division I-A membership. Through Nov. 12 games, 54 schools have the required six victories after seven more schools joined these ranks last weekend. **Purdue** (7-4) qualified with its seventh victory in a 13-game regular-season slate (game at **Hawai'i**), and **Oregon State** (6-4) needs a win under the same 13-contest circumstances for postseason activity. After last weekend, another 17 teams are on the cusp of bowl eligibility with five wins, and nine teams may still be in contention for a bowl with four wins.

Conference Clinchers

Brigham Young clinched a share of the **Mountain West Conference** crown on Nov. 9 by downing **Wyoming**... **Ohio** needs one victory in its last two games against **Akron** or **Miami** (Ohio) to clinch its first **Mid-American Conference** divisional or league-wide title in any sport since 1968... **Bemidji State** has won its first **Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference** crown since 1959 with a 7-0 league mark and has been ranked in the Division II Top 25 (at No. 24) for the first time in school annals... **North Alabama** (10-0) captured its eighth all-time **Gulf South Conference** crown and the second under head coach **Mark Hudspeth**... **Nebraska** secured its fourth **Big 12 North Division** crown with a 28-27 win at **Texas A&M**... **Georgia Tech** clinched its first-ever berth in the **ACC Championship** after downing **North Carolina** 7-0 last Saturday... **Curry** (Mass.) and **Coast Guard** met for the first time ever in the **New England Football Conference** championship game. The Colonels won a spot to the NCAA playoffs, defeating **Coast Guard** 34-28 and tying their 2003 school record for wins in a season... **Houston's** victory over **SMU** gave the Cougars the **Conference USA West** crown... **Mary Hardin-Baylor** secured its fourth **American Southwest Conference** title in five years on Saturday... **Millsaps** (Miss.) clinched its first **Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference** championship since 1996 and first playoff berth since 1975... **Central Michigan** defeated **Western Michigan** for the Chippewas' third 6-0 start in the conference history while securing their first **Mid-American Conference West** title... **West Texas A&M** won its second consecutive **Lone Star Conference** title... **East Carolina** is bowl eligible for the first time since 2001 and could secure a spot in the **Conference USA** championship with a win over **Rice** on Saturday... **Mount Union** (Ohio) clinched its 15th straight **Ohio Conference** championship for Division III last weekend, pummeling **Marietta** 45-17... NCAA Divisions II and III Championships will begin Saturday, Nov. 18.

Two-Minute Drill

Kansas State's upset of **Texas** marked the Wildcats' first win over a top-5 team since 2003... **Kentucky** became bowl eligible for the first time since 1999... **Arizona** knocked off its second Top 25 team in as many weeks, defeating then-No. 8 Cal... **East Stroudsburg's Jimmy Terwilliger** tied the NCAA record for career TD passes en route to defeating **Kutztown**... **Arkansas'** nine straight wins is their longest streak since 1988... The **Fighting Irish** secured back-to-back nine-win seasons for the first time in 13 years... **Wake Forest** is the first team to shut out **FSU** at Doak Campbell Stadium under **Bobby Bowden's** 31-year tenure as head coach for the Seminoles... **Stanford** snapped their 11-game losing streak, the nation's second longest, by defeating **Washington**... **Minnesota's Bryan Cupito** became the Golden Gophers' all-time leading passer en route to downing **Michigan State** last Saturday... **Virginia Tech** kicker **Brandon Pace** set a school record with 19 consecutive successful attempts... **Houston's** four-game winning streak can be contributed in part to having two 100-yard rushers for the first time since 1999. The Cougars are headed for their third bowl game in four years... **Penn State** coordinators **Tom Bradley** and **Galen Hall** coached the Nittany Lions last Saturday during their 47-0 blanking of **Temple**. **Coach Joe Paterno** missed his first game in 29 years after a sideline collision with players forced him to have surgery for a broken shinbone and torn ligaments... **Rutgers'** set an attendance record with 44,111 fans en route to their 28-25 victory over **Louisville**. The Empire State Building lit its top in Scarlet red in honor of the highly anticipated match-up... **Colorado's Mason Crosby** hit four field goals last Saturday, becoming the first Buff to eclipse the 300-point mark in his career... **Rice's Jarett Dillard** has a school record 21 career TD catches and has grabbed at least one TD pass in a nation-leading 14 straight games... **Oklahoma's** 85,313 fans set an attendance record at Oklahoma Memorial Stadium last weekend as the Sooners downed **Texas Tech**... **Nebraska QB Zac Taylor** broke the school records for both touchdown passes and career passing yards during the Huskers' win over **Texas A&M**.

Tennessee and **Vanderbilt** play for the 100th time on Nov. 18 at Vanderbilt Stadium... **Rensselaer (RPI)** captured the **Dutchman Shoes Trophy** after defeating **Union (N.Y.)** in the teams' 104th meeting, New York's oldest college football rivalry... **Wisconsin** is one triumph away from its first 11-win regular-season in school history, and head coach **Bret Bielema** became the first rookie mentor in Big Ten record books to guide his team to 10 victories after last week's win at **Iowa**... **Susquehanna** played its final football game as a member of the **Middle Atlantic Conference** against **Lycoming** last week and will compete in the **Liberty League** next season... **Hampden-Sydney** and **Randolph-Macon** played for the 112th time – one of the oldest series in small college football in the South – last Saturday... Prior to last Saturday's contests, the last time **Harvard**, **Yale** and **Princeton** all had records of at least 7-1 at the same time was 1907, and 2006 is the first time in **Ivy League** history that the three universities have been the three remaining contenders for the league title with two weeks left in the season. **Princeton** took a one-game edge into the final week of play after downing **Yale** 34-31... **Steve Odom** (48 consecutive games with a pass reception) of **Toledo**, **Vincent Marshall** (47) of **Houston** and **Johnny Quinn** (45) of **North Texas** hold the longest active streaks of games with catches in Division I-A... **Thomas More** beat **Mount Saint Joseph**, their highest-ranked opponent in history, to reclaim the **Bridge Bowl Trophy** for the first time in three years... **Harvard RB Clifton Dawson** set the **Ivy League** career rushing record with 4,781 yards, topping the record set by **Cornell's Ed Marinaro** from 1969-1971... **Texas' Michael Griffin** recorded his eighth career punt block on Saturday, moving into second place on the NCAA career list... Last Saturday marked the 50th career win for **TCU's Gary Patterson**. He is first Horned Frogs' coach in history to reach the distinction so soon.

East Carolina observed a moment of remembrance and eternally honored the 1970 **Marshall** football team with a plaque unveiling ceremony last Saturday morning at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium prior to the Conference USA contest between the two schools. The ceremony memorialized the 75 men and women who lost their lives on November 14, 1970, in the crash of

charter jet plane carrying the team, coaching staff, administrators, fans, and crew as it was returning to Huntington, W.Va., after the Thundering Herd and Pirates played in Greenville, N.C.

At last Saturday's **Florida-South Carolina** game, members of the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) from the fight against terror and soldiers from the Combat Aviation Support Battalion in Florida escorted UF captains to midfield for the coin toss. There was a flyover prior to the game by the Navy Strike Fighter Squadron 34 (VFA-34), the Blue Blasters... **Kentucky's 1976 SEC co-championship** and **Peach Bowl** unit had its 30-year reunion at last week's **UK-Vanderbilt** tussle... **Ohio's** football squad and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee held their annual food drive for the disadvantaged last week... Outgoing **Texas A&M** President **Robert Gates** joined members of the Corps of Cadets in a cheer before Saturday's game with Nebraska... **UCLA** may lead the nation with four sets of brothers on the current team – **Kyle and Korey Bosworth, Joe and Pat Cowan, Chase, Chad and Chane Moline, and Shannon and Sonny Tevagas**... Navy alumnus running back **Kyle Eckel** of the Miami Dolphins wears a faded Navy T-shirt (with NFL permission) under his jersey to salute current U.S. veterans and got hundreds of supportive emails on Veterans Day weekend... **Jeremy Franklin, Eric James and Josh Johnson**, all FSU walk-ons and military veterans, served as honorary captains for the Seminoles bout with **Wake Forest** last Saturday... **Auburn's** 26-year-old war eagle retired Saturday before the Tigers' game with **Georgia**. A six-year-old golden eagle, **Nova**, will serve as its successor... **Tulsa** held Military Appreciation Day last Saturday, collecting items in conjunction with the Blue Star Mothers of America to send to American troops overseas... **Miami** players will wear No. 95 decals on their helmets for the remainder of the season in honor of former player **Bryan Pata** who was killed last week.

Ten finalists for the inaugural **Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award**, which honors the college football coach who best exemplifies responsibility and excellence on and off the field of play, have been selected. The candidates are **Mack Brown (Texas), Lloyd Carr (Michigan), Danny Hale (Bloomsburg), Bobby Petrino (Louisville), Greg Schiano (Rutgers), Bob Stoops (Oklahoma), Jeff Tedford (California), Mel Tjeerdsma (Northwest Missouri State), Jim Tressel (Ohio State), and Tommy Tuberville (Auburn)**.

The **Jim Thorpe Award** Screening Committee has announced 11 semifinalists for the award given annually to the nation's best college defensive back. The list will be narrowed on November 20, and the winner will be announced on Dec. 7 in Orlando on the **ESPN Home Depot College Football Awards Show**... The 18 semifinalists have been tabbed for the **Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award**. The winner will also be announced on ESPN's College Football Awards Show... **Patrick Willis** of **Mississippi** joins **James Laurinaitis** of **Ohio State** and 2005 winner **Paul Posluszny** of **Penn State** as the three finalists for the 2006 **Butkus Award** for linebacker of the year announced Dec. 9... Six players from around the country were announced as semifinalists for the 2006 **Lott Trophy** – the top defensive student-athlete in NCAA Division I-A... The 13th annual **Fred Biletnikoff Award** for the nation's top receiver has announced its 14 semifinalists... The 2006 **Wuerffel Trophy**, a national award that honors a college football player who best combines exemplary community service with outstanding academic and athletic achievement, has narrowed its watch list to 11 semifinalists... The 24 candidates for the **Harlon Hill Award** (Division II Player of the Year) were also announced.

2006 NFF National Scholar-Athlete **Oklahoma DT Carl Pendleton** is the latest nominee for the **FedEx Orange Bowl-FWAA Courage Award** to be announced in Jan. 2007. The three-year starter decided to forgo his senior year of eligibility to continue his education and focus on caring for his 10-year-old brother, Kierstan, Pendleton's legal ward. Pendleton was also featured in a one-page article in the Nov. 13 issue of *Sports Illustrated*, which focused on his unorthodox college life as a father, mother and brother to Kierstan... **Tennessee State's Ed "Too Tall" Jones** was inducted into the **Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame**... **West Virginia QB Pat White** received the United States Sports Academy's October Alabama Athlete of the Month award.

Akron head football coach **J.D. Brookhart** has signed a new five-year contract after leading the Zips to the 2005 **Mid-American Conference** title and their first Division I-A bowl appearance... **Ball State** head coach **Brady Hoke** signed a three-year contract extension with the Cardinals... **Iowa State** head coach **Dan McCarney**, the longest tenured **Big 12** coach, stepped down last Wednesday after 12 years at the helm for the Cyclones... **North Texas** head coach **Darrell Dickey** will not return as leader of the Mean Green next season... **North Carolina** announced the hiring of **Butch Davis** as the Tar Heels next head football coach... **Stony Brook** hopes to join the **Colonial Athletic Association** in 2008... The **Yale Tomorrow Campaign** hopes to raise \$3 billion over the next five years, intending to have all operations of **Yale's** 35 varsity programs endowed by the campaign's end. The initiative will also help renovate the Yale Bowl... **Georgia** and **Oklahoma State** have agreed to a home-and-home series starting in 2007... **Towson** and **Maryland** will meet as I-A opponents during the 2011 season as TU transitions into I-A membership... The graduation rate for football rose one point to 66 percent this year, according to a new **NCAA** study. Research also shows the average SAT score for a Division I athlete is 50 points higher than for all other incoming students.

The **National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF)** has named **Ron Dilatush** director of membership... **SMU** hires: **Jeff Konya**, associate athletic director for compliance; **Richard Sweet**, associate athletics director for marketing & public relations; and **Mike Vaught**, executive associate director of athletics.

ABC's Paul Maguire called last Saturday's **Ohio State-Northwestern** game from an **ESPN** production truck. This season, Maguire has also spent time in several other unconventional places, including the game stands and on top of a TV cart... *Sports Illustrated* recently mentioned NFF board member **Clay Bennett**, new controlling owner of the Seattle SuperSonics, in an article based on Oklahoma City's interest in housing an NBA franchise... The **Louisville-Rutgers** game drew **ESPN's** second largest audience ever for a Thursday night game, bested only by the **Louisville-WVU** game the week before... The **Football Writers Association of America (FWAA)** and the **Outland Trophy Committee** will host a book release party in celebration of *60 Years of the Outland Trophy*. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas, Texas.

The **Ellie and Michael Ziegler Fiesta Bowl Center and Museum** opened last month, showcasing trophies and memorabilia from past **Fiesta** and **Insight** bowls as well as from college teams around the country... The **Mya Gonzales Foundation**, established by **Oklahoma State** director of football operations **Jimmy Gonzales** and his wife, plan to build a preschool for special needs kids at OSU with the help of alumnus **Boone Pickens** who made a hefty contribution to the cause. Gonzales' daughter Mya was born last July with Down syndrome... **American Airlines** will be named the official airline of the **Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award**... The **National Association of Athletics Development Directors (NAADD)** announced that **South Carolina** head coach **Steve Spurrier** will be a featured speaker at the organization's annual convention June 7-10... Former **Colorado WR Cliff Branch** will be the guest speaker for the **Shasta College Celebrity Dinner Auction** on March 22... **Eastern Illinois' Vincent Webb**, the leading rusher in the **Ohio Valley Conference**, recently spoke about his faith at the First Baptist Church in Charleston.

Massachusetts Maritime Academy started the installation of its first multi-purpose, artificial surface field. The Cape Cod facilities will also benefit from a new \$30,000 state-of-the-art scoreboard and a \$275,000 lighting system... A \$50 million anonymous gift was given to the **University of Tennessee**, half of which was specified to benefit the Vols' athletics program. The donation will help the continued renovation of 85-year-old Neyland Stadium... **Florida Atlantic's** plan to build a 40,000-seat domed stadium was rejected by FAU Board of Trustees. The board prefers a 30,000-seat outdoor stadium that could house play by 2010.

NFF Hall of Fame WR **Lynn Swann** of **Southern California** lost his bid last week for Governor of Pennsylvania... **Tennessee** alum and QB standout **Heath Shuler** was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from North Carolina in the Nov. 7 elections.

During the halftime ceremony of their Sunday game, the Arizona Cardinals inducted 2006 NFF Distinguished American and **Arizona State** standout **Pat Tillman** into the **University of Phoenix Stadium's** Ring of Honor. The outdoor pedestrian walkway was dubbed Pat Tillman Freedom Plaza and a bronze statue in his likeness was also unveiled. Tillman quit playing for the Cardinals in 2002 to join the U.S. Army Rangers.

NFF Hall of Famer **Jackie Parker** of **Mississippi State** died in Canada on Nov. 8... **Miami** (Fla.) DL **Bryan Pata** passed away Nov. 7 in Miami... **Bernard C. Richardson**, major contributor to the "Bernard C. Richardson Zone" at **Texas A&M's** Kyle Field, died at the age of 88 in Brenham, Texas... **James A. Jacobsen**, retired TCU band director known to many as "Prof," passed away last Tuesday.

With 120 chapters and 12,000 members nationwide, The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame, a non-profit educational organization, runs programs designed to use the power of amateur football in developing scholarship, citizenship and athletic achievement in young people. The NFF presents the MacArthur Trophy, the Draddy Trophy presented by HealthSouth and releases the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) Standings. NFF programs include the College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Ind., Play It Smart, the NFF Center for Youth Development Through Sport at Springfield College (Mass.), the NFL-NFF Coaching Academy, and scholarships of over \$1 million for college and high school scholar-athletes. For more information, please visit www.footballfoundation.org.

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