

FRED MITCHELL AWARD RECOGNIZES PLACE-KICKERS FOR EXCELLENCE ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD AND IN THE COMMUNITY IN SEPTEMBER



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September 29, 2015 – The Fred Mitchell Award recognizes 21 place-kickers for their excellence on the football field and in the community during the month of September. “The first month of the 2015 college football season was action-packed, including six 50+ yard field goals among this group and games decided by late scores by place-kickers, long snappers, holders and blockers on special teams. We are pleased to recognize place-kickers that were nominated by their schools for extraordinary performance during the month,” said Fred Mitchell. The Award’s Selection Committee Chairman Chris Kearney added, “These 21 place-kickers are succeeding on the gridiron and their civic and volunteer activities are having a positive impact in their communities. We are delighted to honor this group.”

The recipient of the Fred Mitchell Award will be announced in mid-December based on performance on the football field and in the community. Details are provided at www.fredmitchellaward.com.

The breakdown of the 21 place-kickers is as follows:

- Collegiate Division – 4 FCS, 6 Division II, 7 Division III, 3 NAIA and 1 NJCAA
- State – the place-kickers play at schools located in 17 different states
- Year – 3 Seniors, 15 Juniors, 3 Sophomores, 0 Freshmen

In alphabetical order, the Fred Mitchell Award honorees for September 2015 are listed below.

NIC BEHRENS

Dakota State University (South Dakota) – NAIA

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
2	4	50%	0-0	1-2	0-0	1-2	0-0	42	17	19	23

Junior from Flandreau, SD...2nd on the team in scoring with 23 points from 2 of 4 FG’s and 17 of 19 PAT’s...made career-long 42-yard FG and scored 8 points in 38-13 win at Jamestown on September 19....Dacotah Bank/North Star Athletic Association Special Teams Player of the Week twice this season....Relay for Life volunteer...shovels snow in the community....volunteer basketball official, helped a local resident move

MILES BERGNER

University of South Dakota - FCS

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
3	7	43%	0-0	0-0	2-2	1-3	0-2	45	10	10	19

Junior from Longmont, CO...2nd on the team in scoring with 19 points from 3 of 7 FG’s and 10 of 10 PAT’s...set school records by making 16 consecutive FG’s to start the 2014 season and 18 in a row dating back to the season before....31 career FG’s is 8th among FCS kickers...has made 69% of his FG’s and 3 of 4 below 50 yards in 2015....averaging 63 yards on 16 kickoffs... volunteered his last three summers to help coach his former high school football team including early morning workouts ...performed community service throughout training camp with his teammates....annual community outreach volunteer including helping residents impacted by the June 3 tornado near his hometown

ANDREW BREES

University of Minnesota Duluth – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
5	5	100%	0-0	2-2	1-1	2-2	0-0	41	12	12	31

Senior from Greendale, WI...leads the Bulldogs in scoring with 31 points from 5 of 5 FG's, 12 of 12 PAT's and two 2-point conversions.... scored 10 points in 28-24 win over Upper Iowa on September 26....scored 9 points in 48-7 win over Wayne State on September 12....averaging 60 yards on 25 kickoffs....volunteered at Courage Center Duluth the past two winters, working with people with disabilities ... volunteers at annual Duluth Lions Club Pancake Day, the ALS Blizzard Tour and various UMD sports clinics....volunteers in UMD's Bulldogs Not Bullies program in Duluth area elementary schools...United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County volunteer

BLAINE BURSEY

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Massachusetts) – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
5	6	83%	0-0	5-5	0-1	0-0	0-0	29	11	13	26

Junior from Middleburg, FL...leads the Engineers in scoring with 26 points from 5 of 6 FG's and 11 of 13 PAT's....Liberty League Special Teams Performer of the Week following two September games...made what turned out to be the game-winning 26-yard FG to beat MIT 31-28 on September 4...scored 7 points in 27-10 win over Norwich on September 19....replaced injured punter against Norwich by kicking two 4th quarter pooch punts inside the Norwich 20 yard line...volunteers at Burncoat Prep afternoon school including tutoring, mentoring and various activities....involved with football team's mentoring of Team Impact child

STEVE CRENSHAW

Hendrix College (Arkansas) – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
1	2	50%	0-1	0-1	0-0	1-1	0-0	44	17	18	20

Junior from Texarkana, AR...2nd on the team scoring with 20 points on 1 of 2 FG's and 17 of 18 PAT's....scored 9 points in 45-34 win over Millsaps on September 26....averaging 49 yards on 21 kickoffs....organized serving and cleanup for Amazing Grace Café....Harvest Fest volunteer

MATT DAVIS

UNC Pembroke (North Carolina) – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
5	5	100%	1-1	3-3	1-1	0-0	0-0	36	7	7	22

Junior from Richlands, NC...2nd on the team in scoring with 22 points from 5 of 5 FG's and 7 of 7 PAT's....scored 10 points in 16-6 win over Shaw on September 19...averaging 58 yards on 16 kickoffs....member of school's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee....student-leader group in Athletes in Action bible study program....volunteers to help homeless....volunteers at physical therapist office two times per week

JOSH DEPP

Georgetown College (Kentucky) – NAIA

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
2	3	67%	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-1	0-0	36	6	7	12

Junior from Springboro, OH...tied for 2nd on the team in scoring with 12 points from 2 of 3 FG's and 6 of 7 PAT's....scored 5 points against Lindsey Wilson on September 12...averaged 53 yards on 15 kickoffs

JONATHAN GONZALES

Portland State University (Oregon) – FCS

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
4	4	100%	0-0	1-1	1-1	1-1	1-1	51	11	11	23

Junior from Apple Valley, CA....leads the team in scoring with 23 points from 4 of 4 FG's and 11 of 11 PAT's....scored 10 points in 34-14 win over Idaho State on September 12.... only full-time kicker in school history to make all PAT's in a season which he did in 2014 and is doing in 2015....53-yard FG against UC Davis last season tied for the 2nd longest in school history

ALEX HALLWACHS

Washington University in St. Louis (Missouri) – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
2	3	67%	0-0	2-2	0-0	0-0	0-1	24	14	14	20

Senior from Chagrin Falls, OH....leads the team in scoring with 20 points from 2 of 3 FG's and 14 of 14 PAT's.... scored 9 points in 45-24 win over Carnegie Mellon on September 5....averaging 57 yards on 13 kickoffs....Koaches 4 Kids volunteer...President of the Mortar Board Honor Society....volunteered for 8 weeks to help young children in the inner city develop leadership, self-motivation and teamwork skills through soccer

SETH HIDDINK

University of Central Oklahoma – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
5	6	83%	1-1	0-0	2-2	2-3	0-0	43	8	10	23

Junior from Wylie, TX....2nd on the team in scoring with 23 points from 5 of 6 FG's and 8 of 10 PAT's....scored 10 points against Northwest Missouri on September 26....entered the season having made 49 straight PAT's which is tied for the longest streak in school history....173 career points is 13 points shy of breaking into the school's all-time top 10.... volunteers at Reason to Believe Therapeutic Riding Center in Guthrie, OK which is an inner-city youth program that helps children learn trust, responsibility, patience and confidence by learning how to care for a ride a horse....Oakridge Equine Hospital volunteer helping with radiology, exams, surgery preparation and barn duties

CONNER HOLLABAUGH

West Texas A&M University – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
4	6	67%	0-0	0-0	3-3	0-2	1-1	52	16	16	28

Junior from Amarillo, TX....2nd on the team in scoring with 28 points from 4 of 6 FG's and 16 of 16 PAT's... scored 7 points in 31-30 win over then-#2 Colorado State-Pueblo on September 12....averaging 64 yards on 24 kickoffs....participated in Adopt a Highway with the football team for highway cleanup...worked numerous track meets helping with the discus in charting results...reads to elementary school children....talked to schools for FCA's Field of Faith in Amarillo

NATE IVESON

Ferris State University (Michigan) – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
4	6	67%	0-0	2-2	1-2	1-2	0-0	45	14	17	26

Junior from Middleville, MI ... 2nd on the Bulldogs in scoring with 26 points from 4 of 6 FG's and 14 of 17 PAT's ...scored 13 points and made career-long 45-yard FG in 64-20 win over then-#14 Grand Valley State before more than 16,000 fans on September 19....scored 10 points in 40-3 win over Northwood on September 12....city-wide community cleanup volunteer....reads to local elementary school students...participated with football team to help freshmen move into residence halls...active with team welcoming a special needs child during Coaches To Cure MD program on September 26

REED JAMES

Southwest Mississippi Community College - NJCAA

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
5	5	100%	0-0	3-3	1-1	1-1	0-0	42	12	14	27

Sophomore from Madison, MS ... 2nd on the team scoring with 27 points from 5 of 5 FG's and 12 of 14 PAT's ...scored 7 points in 31-27 win over Pearl River on September 24....volunteer mentor to two elementary school students in Bridges of Madison County Big Brother Big Sister program....Madison Chamber of Commerce Junior Ambassador assisting area businesses and volunteering during city events...church youth group volunteer including participation in local missions...volunteered to give kicking lessons to youth in the Madison area to share his passion for kicking....volunteered to work with youth on the Mississippi Gulf Coast to share his passion for baseball

ALEXI JOHNSON

Saint John's University (Minnesota) – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
2	2	100%	0-0	0-0	0-0	2-2	0-0	43	18	18	24

Junior from Shakopee, MN....2nd on the team in scoring with 24 points from 2 of 2 FG's and 18 of 18 PAT's....scored 6 points in 24-16 win over Concordia-Moorhead on September 16....averaging 52 yards on 18 kickoffs....4th in school history with 23 career FG's and in top 10 with 84 PAT's, all in just over two seasons...is in the process of raising money for various service-learning projects that he will participate in while he studies abroad in South Africa during Spring 2016...Feed My Starving Children volunteer both years in college...volunteer trainer and coach for Shakopee Soccer Association (U13, U10 and other levels)...volunteer kicking coach with Special Teams Football Academy throughout various camps...“Vote YES” campaign volunteer to help secure a referendum to build a new high school for the Shakopee school district where he went to school

AUSTIN JOHNSON

Southern Illinois University - FCS

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
5	6	83%	0-0	1-1	2-2	2-3	0-0	46	10	11	25

Junior from Bucyrus, KS...leads the Salukis in scoring with 25 points from 5 of 6 FG's and 10 of 11 PAT's...named MVC Special Teams Player of the Week after scoring 10 points in 34-13 win over Liberty on September 26...made career-long 46-yard FG's in back-to-back weeks to start the season...has made last 5 FG's...made game-tying 46-yard FG in last 5 minutes of game at Indiana on September 5...volunteered at local hospital in the Valiant Player program....autism awareness volunteer...solicited donations for the annual Souper Bowl of Caring campaign for local soup kitchens

CARTER McCAULEY

Winona State University (Minnesota) – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
8	12	67%	1-1	1-1	2-4	2-3	2-3	54	9	9	33

Sophomore from Owatonna, MN...leads the team in scoring with 33 points from 8 of 12 FG's and 9 of 9 PAT's.... NSIC Special Teams Player of the Week after scoring 12 points in 38-7 win over Minot State on September 12....set school record with 53-yard FG in the 2nd quarter against Minot State then broke that record in the 4th quarter with a 54-yard FG....averaging 63 yards on 22 kickoffs

MICHAEL METTER

Linfield College (Oregon) – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
2	3	67%	0-0	1-1	0-1	1-1	0-0	41	12	12	18

Junior from Portland, OR....tied for 1st on the team in scoring with 18 points from 2 of 3 FG's and 12 of 12 PAT's.... Linfield Mentoring Program volunteer....elementary school volunteer supervisor...volunteer assistant in the annual Linfield Luau stage production

HENRIQUE RIBEIRO

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga - FCS

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
3	5	60%	0-0	0-0	2-2	1-3	0-0	45	15	15	24

Junior from Chattanooga, TN....tied for 1st on the team in scoring with 24 points from 2 of 3 FG's and 15 of 15 PAT's....native of Sao Paulo, Brazil....current streak of 58 consecutive PAT's is a school record....scored 7 points in 31-21 win over Samford on September 19....Get in the Game Bone Marrow Registry drive volunteer

ISAAC ROBINSON

Frostburg State University (Maryland) – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
3	4	75%	0-0	0-1	3-3	0-0	0-0	37	12	12	21

Junior from Elkton, MD....leads the team in scoring with 21 points from 3 of 4 FG's and 12 of 12 PAT's....ECAC South Region Special Teams Player of the Week and NJAC Special Teams Player of the Week after season-opening 52-21 win over Geneva with FG's of 33 and 37 yards and making all 6 PAT's....averaging 55 yards on 17 kickoffs....Beautify Frostburg volunteer including painting, mulching and gravel the park...Frostburg clean-up volunteer three times per year...Relay for MS volunteer...elementary reading program where he reads to students every Friday before home games....helps to feed four families for Thanksgiving....raises and donates money for breast cancer research and amputee foundation

DANIEL SOBOLEWSKI

Albright College (Pennsylvania) – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
4	4	100%	0-0	2-2	0-0	0-0	2-2	51	9	9	21

Senior from Linden, NJ....2nd on the team in scoring with 21 points from 4 of 4 FG's and 9 of 9 PAT's.... scored 6 points in 24-23 win over Salisbury on September 4....made the school's longest-ever FG's with two from 52 yards last season and has made both 50+ FG attempts this season....averaging 63 yards on 17 kickoffs...Reading Boys and Girls Club volunteer...Albright youth football camp volunteer...participant in Reading Clean City Initiative in which volunteers cleaned-up sections of the city

CALEB WINTER

Southeastern University (Florida) - NAIA

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
1	2	50%	0-0	0-0	1-1	0-1	0-0	34	14	16	17

Sophomore from Dover, FL....3rd on the team in scoring with 17 points from 1 of 2 FG's and 14 of 16 PAT's...set conference record for longest FG with 48-yard FG last season....scored first points in program history in 2014 with a 45-yard FG against then-#9 Faulkner....never played football before the 2014 season...nearly 75 hours of community service annually....youth sports volunteer...Lighthouse Ministries volunteer...Mission Church construction volunteer and church community project volunteer....traveled to Jordan for humanitarian/mission trip....spent 10 days running a kids sports camp

A blue-ribbon Selection Committee (listed at www.fredmitchellaward.com) evaluates place-kickers that are nominated by their schools. Members of the Pro and/or College Football Hall of Fame on the Selection Committee include Tom Beck, Kevin Butler, Paul Hornung, Marv Levy, Steve McMichael, Don Pierson and Gale Sayers. Former football players and others that are active in their communities are also on the Selection Committee including Carl Allegretti, Sergio Castillo, Sean Gothier, Teddy Greenstein, Randy Helt, Michael Husted, Dan Jiggetts, Rick Kolaczewski, Connie Kowal, Greg Loberg, Tom Lynch, Carol Monroe, Jeff Michalczyk, Mark Murphy, Patrick Murray, Tom Obarski, Rob Perry, Michael Ritchey, Jeff Schebler, Caroline Schrenker, Bob Thomas, Wolfe Tone, Todd Wilkins, Gary Zauner and Rob Zvonar. There are 14 former college or NFL place-kickers on the Selection Committee, including Schebler (the inaugural Fred Mitchell Award recipient in 2009 and the highest-scoring place-kicker in NCAA history at any level), Lynch (two-time recipient of the Award and the kicker on the 2011 NAIA National Champion Saint Xavier University Cougars), Murray (whose 25 FG's in 2012 were just one shy of the all-time FCS record set by Nevada's Tony Zendejas), Castillo (the first Division II kicker to win the Award and who made 62 of 79 career field goals and 251 of 255 extra points) and Obarski (with a record-setting career at Concordia – St. Paul including 44 career field goals).