# FRED MITCHELL AWARD CELEBRATES PLACE-KICKERS FOR EXCELLENCE ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD AND IN THE COMMUNITY IN THE 2016 OCTOBER PERFORMANCE WATCH LIST

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November 3, 2016 – The Fred Mitchell Award recognizes 16 place-kickers for their excellence on the football field during October and for continued community service off the field. It is a pleasure to recognize kickers that were nominated by their schools for terrific performances during the first month of the season. "I am pleased to see another impressive list of college kickers who excelled on and off the field in the month of October," said Fred Mitchell. "Our esteemed selection committee looks forward to reviewing the performances of the eligible candidates this season and naming the 2016 winner next month."

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 <a href="https://www.fredmitchellaward.com">www.fredmitchellaward.com</a>.

The breakdown of the 14 place-kickers is as follows:

- Collegiate Division 2 FCS, 4 Division II, 7 Division III, and 1 NAIA
- State the place-kickers play at schools located in 10 different states
- Year 6 Seniors, 5 Juniors, and 3 Sophomores

In alphabetical order, the Fred Mitchell Award Watch List honorees for 2016 are listed below.

# **MATT DAVIS**

UNC Pembroke – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
21	24	88%	1-1	5-6	7-8	3-4	5-5	58	32	33	95

Senior from Richlands, NC ... leads the team in scoring with 95 points from 21 of 24 FG's and 32 of 33 PAT's ... 3-time ECAC Special Teams Player of the Week...2-time D2Football.com Special Teams Player of the Week ... scored 20 points in 50-28 win over Fayetteville State on September 9 ... scored 10 or more points against four other opponents as well ... averaging 62.9 yards on 54 kickoffs (25 touchbacks) ... 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.

#### **WYATT FORD**

Ferris State University (Mich.) – Division II

	FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
I	12	16	75%	0-0	7-9	4-6	1-1	0-0	46	37	37	73

Junior from Montague, Mich ... Helped lead Bulldogs to a second-straight GLIAC Championship & NCAA Playoff appearance in 2015 ... Tallied 40 points in month of October with six field goals and 22 extra points ... Ranks among league & national leaders in field goals per game ... Made three field goals and had 11 points at nationally second-ranked Grand Valley State (10/8/2016) ... Closed the month with 21 points in the last three outings ... Drilled two field goals and accounted for eight points in a 20-17 road win at Findlay (10/1/2016) ... Converted a game-winning field goal with seven seconds remaining on the road in this year's victory at Michigan Tech (9/10/2016) ... Converted three-of-three field goals in win over Michigan Tech, including two in the final eight minutes of the game ... Has been perfect on PAT kicks this season with a 37-of-37 performance ... Made 12-of-16 field goals overall .... First-year as the team's primary placekicker ... Three-year letter-winner .... Ranks as one of team's top scorers with 73 points on the year to date ... Active in various team community service projects ... Part of program's reading to children effort ... Joined football team in helping freshmen students move into residence halls.

# JOE FRENCH

Ohio Northern University - Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
6	8	75%	1-2	5-6	4-5	2-2	0-0	42	19	21	55

Sophomore from Elgin, III. ... is second on the team in scoring in Oct. with 40 points from 6 of 8 FGs and 19 of 21 PATs ... Tied the ONU single game FG record with 3 FGs on Muskingum on 10/22/2016 ... was named the OAC Special Teams Player of the Week Muskingum on 10/22/2016 ... scored a career-high 14 points in a 44-3 win over Muskingum on 10/22/2016 ... Set an ONU single-season record with 12 FGs this season ... is active with the ONU football team in working with the local Special Olympics group ... is also a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta/Phi Eta Sigma service organizations and is a member of the American Marketing Association ... serves as Head of the Judicial Board and Risk management Chair of Phi Gamma Delta, where he helped in Night to Shine Prom, Phi Gamma Delta to raise money for the USO and with FIJI Fajitas for the USO.

# **WILL GINGERY**

Wittenberg University (Ohio) – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
15	19	79%	2-2	5-5	5-7	1-3	2-2	50	26	27	71

Senior from Bexley, Ohio ... has gone 15 for 19 as place kicker for the Tigers with his longest field goal registering at 50 yards, two yards away from the Wittenberg all-time record ... also has gone 26 for 27 on extra points in 2016 ... Second Team All-NCAC (Specialists/Kicking) All-North Region (D3football.com) ... Division III Team of the Week (9/21/2016) ... received the Community Service Scholarship for the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity for logging over 175 hours of community service in 2015 ... hours came from tutoring

middle school students at Hayward Middle School once a week with plans to continue in 2016, post football season ... volunteered as the head 8th Grade Basketball Coach for Catholic Central Middle School in 2015 ... volunteered with "ManPower" twice a week after school/practice ... served as an after school program that can be an outlet for elementary school kids with troubling home lives ... volunteer student assistant for Wittenberg Men's Basketball team.

#### TYLER KNIGHTON

Rowan University (N.J.) – Division III

I	FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
	5	7	71%	0-0	1-2	3-3	1-2	0-0	40	11	11	26

Junior from Gibbstown, N.J. ... leads the team in scoring with 42 points from 8 of 11 FG's and 18 of 19 PAT's ... scored 10 points versus Salisbury on two FGs and four extra points (Oct. 8)... his two FGs against Salisbury set a new career school record ... he now has 27 field goals in 28 career games (previous record was 24 in 44 games)... Volunteers with the football team's annual Get In The Game. Save A Life. Be The Match Registry, every April's on-campus bone marrow drive that enrolls people in the campus and surrounding communities in the National Marrow Donor Program.

#### NATHAN KNUFFMAN

Western Illinois University (III.) – Division I (FCS)

FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
7	12	60%	0-0	4-4	1-3	2-5	0-0	43	29	30	50

Senior from Coatsburg, IL ... leads the team in scoring with 50 points from 7 of 12 FG's and 29 of 30 PAT's... ranks 29th in the FCS in net punting, with a mark of 37.55 ... stands 43rd in the FCS with a 40.5 punt average ... ranks 13th among NCAA active leaders with 32 career field goals ... has extended his starting streak to 45 games in a row, every single contest of his career ... in Western Illinois history, sits fourth all-time in extra points (126) and fifth in both points (227) and field goals (32) ... recorded his 200th career point during the South Dakota State game, converting both extra point attempts. Averaged 37 yards on six punt attempts ... kicked a 41-yard field goal in the fourth quarter against Indiana State, which proved to be the game-winner. Added three extra points and averaged 40.4 yards on five punts ... Kicked a 33-yard field goal and converted all five extra point attempts ... kicked two field goals and an extra point against North Dakota State. averaged 35.3 yards on three punts ... averaged 36.5 yards on eight punts at South Dakota, hitting all five of his extra point attempts... on top of his performance on the field, Knuffman is also active off the field, working with: Be The Match Registry bone marrow registration sign-up, Rocky's Reach, Muscular Dystrophy Association volunteer and United Way volunteer.

# **ALEX LOUTHAN**

University of Mount Union (Ohio) – Division III

	FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
ſ	9	14	64%	0-0	4-4	4-6	1-2	0-1	44	52	53	79

Junior from Loganville, Ga ... leads the team and Ohio Athletic Conference in scoring with 79 points from 9 of 14 FG's and 52 of 53 PAT's....scored 12 points in 56-0 win over Marietta on September 17...scored 12 points in 66-7 win at Otterbein on October 29 ... averaging 55.9 yards on 30 kickoffs...visits local elementary school children as part of Raider Buddies program...participated in the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event for domestic violence awareness...volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters and Special Olympics

#### **ABDUL MAHDI**

Saint Xavier University (III.) – NAIA

FGN	l FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
6	11	55%	0-0	2-3	2-3	2-5	0-0	45	42	42	60

Junior from Chicago, III ... third on the team in scoring with 27 points from 6 of 11 FG's and a perfect 42 of 42 PAT's....scored 7 points with a 40-yard FG and four PATs in a 46-3 win over Ave Maria University (Fla.) on 9/10/2016 ... has been named the Mid-States Football Association Midwest League Special Teams Player of the Week four times this season (9/12, 10/10, 10/24, and 10/31/2016) ... averaging 57.8 yards on 58 kickoffs....volunteered to help paint his high school alma mater in Chicago, Bogan High School.... spent a day volunteering to clean up Marquette Park, the largest park on the Southwest side of Chicago at 323 acres....along with some of his teammates helped raise monetary donations for Misericordia by offering candy on their annual Candy Days drive at 95th and Cicero in Chicago this past April

#### **WESLEY MEDEIROS**

Norwich University (Vt.) – NCAA Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
7	12	58%	0-0	0-1	5-7	2-4	0-0	43	15	15	36

Senior from Gilford, N.H...Captain in the NU Corps of Cadets ... Leads the team with 36 points scored, booting seven field goals out of 12 opportunities ... Tied for first among active NCAA Division III career field goals made with 37 ... Set Norwich University career field goal record vs. Gallaudet on 10/22/2016, making a 43 and 40 yarder, respectively...Made game-winning field goal in overtime against SUNY Maritime on 10/29/2016 ... Currently the all-time scoring leader among kickers (205) ... Posted three field goals against Becker on 10/8/2016, tied the all-time NU record – also added a PAT to score a season-high 10 points versus the Hawks...Was an active participant at "Gilford Got Lunch", delivering meals to impoverished families...Assisted with the annual "Penguin Plunge" at Lake Champlain.

#### **Drew Pearson**

University of Wisconsin - Stout - Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
13	15	.867	0-0	3-3	1-3	7-7	2-2	52	22	22	61

Sophomore from Wausau, Wisconsin...currently has made 10 consecutive field goals - including two 50-plus yard attempts (52, 51) - and has made all 22 PAT attempts on the season, has twice gone 3-for-3 and twice gone 2-for-2 in field goals made in a single game...is the only Stout kicker to ever make two 50-plus

yard field goals in a single season... has tallied 61 points, fourth among all players in the WIAC and second among kickers... currently fourth nationally in field goals per game (1.63) and 13th nationally in field goal percentage (.867)..,after kicking two 48-yard field goals and making all three extra point attempts, named WIAC special teams player for the second time this season....after kicking field goals of 44-, 52- and 42-yards against Mayville State, named UW-Stout/DigiCopy Athlete of the Week, WIAC special team player of the week, and D3football.com Team of the Week, also added two PATs to tally 11 points in 23-13 win, his 52-yarder was first 50-plus yard field goal by a Stout player since 2007 ... was 6-6 in PATs in season-opening 45-30 win over Simpson College, added 26 yard field goal for nine points ... currently leads team in scoring with 25 points in month of September...volunteer at for campus Residence Hall move-in day ... Within the community, Pearson has volunteered with Arbor Place with the Football Friends 4 Life program, has participated in volunteer work at the Mountain Terrace Senior Living Facility, the Wausau Manor Nursing Home, the Sunshine Home of Wausau, the Feed My Starving Children program, worked the C3 Center Choices Program, has been a bell ringer for the Salvation Army and has worked with the Stevens Point Hope Center... has also worked with his high school football team training kickers and punters on the field and in the weight room during the summer.

#### **ISSAC ROBINSON**

Frostburg State University (Md.) – Division III

Ī	FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
Ī	10	15	67%	0-0	4-5	3-5	3-4	0-0	47	15	20	45

Senior from Elkton, Md., ... 25th Anniversary AFCA Good Works Teams nominee ... Ranked 16th in the nation and leads the NJAC in field goals per game (1.25) ... Leads the NJAC with 10 FGs ... Third in the NJAC in points per game (5.6) ... 2015 First Team All-NJAC and ECAC South All-Star as a kicker ... 2015 Academic All-NJAC ... As a junior, led the NJAC and finished ninth in the nation in FG's per game (1.20) and led the NJAC and finished 10th in the country in FG percentage (.750) ... Paced the NJAC and led the Bobcats with 12 field goals ... Finished the season with 63 points, 23-of -26 PAT's ... Scored 13 points in 37-19 win over William Paterson and kicked a 50-yard FG against rival Salisbury ... Averaged 55 yards on 51 kickoffs ... Beautify Frostburg volunteer including painting, mulching and gravel the park ... Frostburg clean-up volunteer three times per year ... Relay for MS volunteer ... Special Olympics ... Storybook Forest 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.

# JONAS SCHENDERLEIN

Concordia University, St. Paul (Minn.) - Division II

Ī	FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
	6	8	75%	0-0	0-0	2-2	3-3	1-3	52	24	24	42

Sophomore business management major from Jena, Germany ... ranks sixth in the 16-team NSIC in field goals per game (0.67) ... has made fifth longest FG in DII in 2016, the longest in the NSIC and only FG longer than 47 yards (52, week 2 at UMC) ... had streak of seven consecutive FG made including his first five in 2016 and last two of 2015, streak ended in week six at Minnesota State on a 55-yard attempt off the

cross bar ... only other missed FG on the year was from 58 yards at Sioux Falls ... one of two NSIC PK perfect in PAT (24-of-24) on the year and has made 34 consecutive PAT dating back to week six of 2015 in his freshman year ... named NSIC Special Teams Player of the Week (9/10), producing an NSIC single-game high through the first four weeks with 11 points including the longest field goal in Division II through four weeks of 52 yards, also adding a 42 yard field goal while converting a career-high 5-of-5 PATs in a 41-18 win at Minnesota Crookston ... his 52 yard field goal is tied for the fourth longest in school history with 2014 Mitchell Award winner Tom Obarski with Obarski holding the top three distances ... in week one, Schenderlein converted from 43 yards in a 17-0 win over U-Mary ... made a new career high 7-of-7 PATs against Minnesota Duluth in week three, topping the previous week's mark ... a career 10-of-15 kicker on field goal attempts, converting 6-of-9 from 40+ yards and delivering on 46-of-47 PAT ... Feed My Starving Children volunteer ... Community Clean Up volunteer ... assisted with campus move-in for general student population ... volunteers to take down the dome following spring football season ... assists with lining up chairs for commencement ceremony ... helped build the Church Garden ... took shifts at concession stands on campus for high school tournament games.

#### **BRAD SCHICKEL**

University of Indianapolis (Ind.) – NCAA Division II

I	FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
ſ	12	15	80%	0-0	6-8	5-6	1-1	0-0	43	29	32	65

Redshirt-junior from Louisville, KY ... named 2016 Preseason All-America Third Team by Football Gameplan ... ranks first in the GLVC and 14th in Division II in field goal percentage ... connected on a season-long 43-yard FG vs Lincoln in week 8 ... also handles punting duties for the Greyhounds, ranking third in the conference in net punting (34.1) with 14 inside the 20 and only one touchback ... twice scored 10 points in a game this year ... Ulndy's single-season record holder for field goals and points scored by a kicker ... helped plant over 150 trees at a local park one Saturday morning prior to the season ... provided support for Special Olympics athletes during events hosted on campus ... volunteered outside the team at Gleaners Food bank in Indianapolis during the school year, and again volunteered at Gleaners this past summer with my fellow interns, sorting over 27,000 pounds of food for people in need.

# WILLIAM WILL University of Dayton (Ohio) – FCS

FGM	FGA	FG%	< 20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
12	15	80%	0-0	6-7	3-3	3-5	0-0	49	30	31	66

In the month of October, Will was seven-for-seven in field goals...He also set two Pioneer Football League records – field goals in a career (now 52) points scored by kicking (now 305) ...He also grabbed a blocked PAT out of the air and threw to a Flyer tight end for a two-point PAT at San Diego...Will leads Dayton in scoring...He is also second in FG's per game in the Pioneer Football League (1.33)...Dayton leads the PFL in kickoff coverage, and Will's 16 touchbacks are tied for the best in the PFL...He is one of 15 Dayton players nominated for Academic All-America.