

FRED MITCHELL AWARD PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE 2018 FINALISTS FOR PLACE-KICKERS FOR EXCELLENCE ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD AND IN THE COMMUNITY

Contact:
Rob Perry – rperry@fredmitchellaward.com
Fred Mitchell – fmitchell@fredmitchellaward.com



December 3, 2018 – The ten finalists have been named for the 2018 Fred Mitchell Outstanding Place-kicker Award (also known as the Fred Mitchell Award, which is provided to the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), Division II, Division III, NAIA or NJCAA place-kicker that excels on the football field and in the community. "Strong cases can be made for all of our finalists in terms of kicking performance and community service. Our 35-person selection committee is proud and honored to recognize these worthy individuals," Fred Mitchell said

The place-kicker chosen for this Award will be announced on December 10, 2018, and he will be honored on February 18, 2019, at the National Football Foundation Chicago Chapter Awards Ceremony at Halas Hall in suburban Chicago. Details about the Award and the Blue-Ribbon Selection Committee are provided at www.fredmitchellaward.com.

The annual Fred Mitchell Outstanding Place-Kicker Award (also known as the Fred Mitchell Award) is provided to the nation’s top collegiate place-kicker among more than 750 FCS, Division II, III, NAIA and NJCAA football teams.

The Award is named for [Fred Mitchell](#), the record-setting place-kicker, Wittenberg University Athletic Hall of Famer, author, philanthropist and former Chicago Tribune sports columnist. The recipient of the Fred Mitchell Award will be chosen based on excellence on the football field and in the community.

There were 40 place-kickers nominated for this Award. The breakdown of the 10 finalists is as follows:

- Collegiate Division – 3 FCS, 4 Division II, 3 Division III, 0 NAIA, 0 NJCAA
- State – the place-kickers play at schools located in 9 different states
- Year – 6 Seniors, 3 Juniors, 1 Sophomore, 0 Freshman

In alphabetical order, the 10 finalists for the 2018 Fred Mitchell Award are listed below.

JON ALBERTS
 Central College (Iowa) – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
8	9	90.00%	1-1	2-2	2-2	2-3	1-1	55	45	46	69

Junior from Huntley, Illinois...Five-time American Rivers Conference Special Teams Player of the Week in 2017 (Sept. 10, 2017; Sept. 17, 2017; Oct. 15, 2017, Oct. 25, 2018, Nov. 12, 2018)...He was named the A-R-C Special Teams Player of the Week on October 15, 2018 after going 3-for-3 on kick attempts in a 17-16 win against Simpson...He was named A-R-C Special Teams Player of the Week on November 12, 2018 after going 3-3 on field goals including the game-winning 18-yarder with 2 seconds left to help beat Loras on November 10. He also went 4-for-4 on PATs...After the Loras game, he was also named the D3football.com Kicker of the Week...Made school record 55-yard field goal at Wartburg on October 20, 2018...The 55-yard field goal is the longest in Division III this season and tied for the sixth longest in all of NCAA football...Named D3football.com Kicker of the Week on October 14, 2017 after going 3-for-3 on field goals and 3-for-3 in 30-19 win over Coe... Selected as all-American Rivers Conference first team kicker in 2017...Earned Academic all-American Rivers Conference honors in 2018 and 2017...Selected to 2018 and 2017 Co-SIDA Academic All-District VII first team as kicker...School record 4-for-4 on field goals against Augustana College (Ill.) on September 9, 2017...His 14 field goals made and 87.5% on field goal attempts in 2017 also set school single-season records...Made 8 PAT conversions against Buena Vista University on September 29, 2018...Made 7 PAT conversions in a single game twice in 2017 in wins over Loras College and Nebraska Wesleyan University... In June of 2018, Alberts was named a preseason All-American by Street & Smith magazine...On 64 kickoffs, Alberts has totaled 3,433 yards for a 53.6 average. He has recorded 12 touchbacks...

ROLDAN ALCOBENDAS

Eastern Washington University – Football Championship Subdivision (FCS)

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
13	13	100.0%	1-1	6-6	4-4	2-2	0-0	46	54	55	93

Senior from Camas, Wash.; Making history at every turn, Roldan continues to add to his Eastern kick scoring record, and is making some history as a punter as well. He earned first team All-Big Sky Conference honors as both a kicker and punter for EWU in 2018. Earlier this season he moved past Troy Griggs (231 from 1998-01) and Mike Jarrett (236 from 2008-11) for the all-time EWU lead for kick scoring. Alcobendas has also established EWU career records for extra points made (195) and attempted (201), breaking the previous records held by Jarrett (2009-11) with 143 makes and 150 attempts. Alcobendas has made 33-of-44 field goals in his career to rank third in school history for field goals made and fifth in attempts. In his career, he has 107 kickoffs for a 57.4 average (6,143 total yards) with 17 touchbacks . . . Alcobendas has been rewarded three times this season (four in his career) with ROOT Sports Big Sky Conference Special Teams Player of the Week honors. His most recent honor came when he scored 11 points for the Eagles – just two from his career high – in EWU’s 59-20 win over UC Davis on Nov. 10. He kicked a 24-yard field goal to remain perfect on the season at 13-for-13. He also converted all eight of his extra points and punted five times for a 39.8 average with four of his punts downed inside the UCD 20-yard line – three inside the 10. The average field position for UC Davis after his punts was

their own 15-yard line, including the 5, 7, 9 and 19. Aside from two long touchdown runs of 46 and 69 yards, UCD got to EWU's red zone just once all day, and the Aggies had to settle for a field goal....He also earned the honor after he kicked a pair of field goals in EWU's 14-6 loss at 13th-ranked Weber State on Oct. 13, and also added a punting record to his resume. He averaged 60.3 yards on seven punts in Eastern's defensive battle, including a school-record 78 yarder with the wind in the second quarter and another of 72 yards with the wind in the third. He also had a wind-aided punt of 63 yards, and a punt into the wind of 60. Two of his punts were downed inside the 10-yard line of Weber State. He now owns two of the top three punts in school history, with the previous record set by Jake Miller against Washington State on Sept. 8, 2012, with a punt of 74 yards. The 60.3 average for Alcobendas versus the Wildcats nearly broke the Big Sky record of 61.5 set by Eddie Johnson of Idaho State in 2002 versus Cal Poly. He kicked a 31-yard field goal in the second quarter and a 27-yarder in the third quarter to remain perfect on the season...He originally broke the school record for career kick scoring against Montana State on Sept. 29 and received his second career ROOT Sports Big Sky Conference Special Teams Player award on Oct. 1 as a result. He suffered a knee injury in 2014 at Bobcat Stadium, then returned two years later and won his first Big Sky POW honor in 2016 after a performance in Bozeman. He scored 11 points in 2016 and had 10 more in this year's 34-17 victory. In 2018, he converted field goals of 24 and 25 yards versus the Bobcats, converted four extra points and punted four times for a 46.8 average with a long of 60. Three of his punts were downed inside the MSU 20-yard line, including a key 59-yarder in the fourth quarter. In all, the average field position for MSU after his punts was the 14-yard line...."It was a proud, proud moment to watch him put the ball through the pipes and get the record," Best said of his 24-yarder that gave EWU a 17-10 second-quarter lead versus the Bobcats. "We didn't mention it before or during the game, but after the game we talked about that. What an accomplishment for him after everything he's overcome in six years here, but it feels like about 10 years." ...As a bonus for his past suffering, the 2013 graduate of Camas (Wash.) High School received a sixth year to complete four years of eligibility because of injuries that cost him a pair of seasons. Alcobendas had to sit out both the 2013 and 2015 seasons because of knee injuries – one suffered while playing in his senior year of soccer...“What he’s accomplished here isn’t just the points, it’s the adversity he’s faced and overcome,” said Best. “He came here to Eastern with an injury in soccer and that set him back a little bit, then he had the injury at Montana State in 2014 that set him back a little more. He’s battled through everything and has earned everything.”...Alcobendas and the Eastern football program participate in numerous community service projects during the year, including youth clinics, Cheney “Clean-Sweep” campus pick-up days, the “Bleed Eagle Red” blood drive, the HUB 360 Program for middle school students, Special Olympics and the “Light the Way Dinner Auction” to help raise funds for the American Childhood Cancer Organization of the Inland Northwest.

DANTE BROWN

Fort Hays State University (Kan.) – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
28	33	84.8%	0-?	11-?	6-?	11-?	0-?	49	39	40	123

Junior from Mississauga, Ont.: Fourth in NCAA Division II in Field Goal Percentage and leads in FGs made (28) by 10 over his closest competitor, also leads in field goals attempted (33), and field goals made per game (2.33) ... Three-time MIAA Special Teams Player of the Week this season, and named MIAA Special Teams Player of the Year ... Dante was 11 of 14 between the 40 and 50, and twice kicked five field goals in one game ... Leads all Division II kickers in scoring, averaging 10.3 points per game with a total of 93 points for the season ... Ranks 9th nationally in points scored overall ... Set the single-game record at FHSU for field goals in a game twice this season, making five against Central Oklahoma in a 15-0 win to account for all the team's points and matching that with five again in a 29-26 double overtime win over Nebraska-Kearney, hitting a pair of field goals in overtime to lift FHSU to victory ... Made at least one field goal in all twelve games for FHSU this season.

MITCHELL CARTER

Colorado State University-Pueblo – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
18	27	66.7	0-0	7-7	9-13	1-6	1-1	50	56	57	110

Sophomore from Colorado Springs, Colo. ... Two-time All-RMAC Second Team ... Named RMAC Special Teams Player of the Week twice ... Leads team with 110 points ... Owns 18 field goals to lead the RMAC, while his 1.55 FG per game during the regular season ranked No. 2 nationally ... Went 52-for-52 on extra points through the regular season and is 56-for-57 heading to the second round of the NCAA Division II playoffs ... He is 7-for-7 from 29 yards and in and 16-for-19 from 39 yards and closer ... Connected on a career-long 50-yard field goal at Colorado Mesa, which ranked as the 2nd longest in the RMAC this season and T-15th in NCAA Division II in 2018 ... With 103 points at the end of the regular season, Carter was 1st among RMAC kickers and 5th overall in the conference (21st nationally) in scoring ... On 87 kickoffs totaled 4,837 yards to average 55.6 yards per kick ... Finished with 22 touchbacks and had just two of 87 kickoffs go out of bounds ... Volunteers at The Griffith Center for Children Chins Up ... Volunteers at the YMCA ... Volunteer with the team for the ThunderPup Clinic and CSU-Pueblo track events ... A member of the Advertising Club and with the campus radio station, REV 89.5 ... Involved in Intramural Sports ... Also gives free haircuts to players and coaches on the CSU-Pueblo football team.

AUSTIN ERRTHUM

University of Northern Iowa – FCS

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
18	21	85.7%	0-0	4-5	10-10	4-6	0-0	46	33	33	87

Senior from Kalona, Iowa ... Errthum leads the Valley with 18 field goals made... He is 18-21 for a .857 percentage... He is 33-33 for PATs... He has 42 total touchbacks, 19 more than the next closest kicker in the conference... Averages 41.7 net yards in kickoffs... Tallies 63.7 yards per kickoff... Volunteered to build a playground... worked as a student teacher... is a secondary education major... focus is on Life

Sciences... 3.64 GPA... Missouri Valley Football Conference Academic Excellence Award... Seven-Time Dean's List honoree... Silver Cord Award in high school for community service... Played soccer at Drake before transferring to UNI for football.

WOJCIECH GASIENICA

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater – Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
12	17	70.6%	1-1	8-10	2-4	1-2	0-0	40	58	61	94

Senior from Norridge, Ill. ... Honorable mention All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference ... Currently ranked first in the WIAC and 14th in NCAA Division III in field goals per game ... Currently ranks second in the conference and among the nation's top 50 in total points and points per game ... Currently ranks third in the WIAC and 35th in the nation in field goal percentage ... Has kicked at least one field goal in 10 of 11 games this season ... Has made 23 consecutive extra points dating back to Oct. 27 ... Has kicked seven or more extra points in one game four times this season ... Has made more than 70 percent of his field goal attempts during his career (22-of-31, 71.0 percent) ... Currently 84-of-89 for his career on extra point attempts ... Made a 31-yard field goal and converted all eight of his extra point attempts in the lone postseason game of his career, a 67-14 victory over Eureka (Ill.) on Nov. 17, 2018 ... Volunteers with teammates through activities associated with Fairhaven Senior Services in Whitewater, Special Olympics and the annual food drive to benefit Whitewater Food Pantry ... Serves as a volunteer coach occasionally during the summer at Ridgewood High School, his alma mater

JJ JERMAN

East Tennessee State University – FCS

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
17	20	85.0%	1-1	4-5	8-9	4-5	0-0	47	30	30	81

Junior from Seymour, Tenn.: JJ earned second team all-SoCon honors by the coaches and media ... Named to the SoCon All-Academic Team and SoCon Honor Roll ... Led ETSU with 63 points, going a perfect 21-of-21 in PATs and finishing 14-of-18 in field goal attempts ... Led the SoCon in field goals made and field goals made per game (1.27) ... Connected on a pair of career-long 51-yard field goals against Wofford (Oct. 28) and at Chattanooga (Nov. 18), which is tied for the second-longest field goal in program history and was the longest field goal by a SoCon kicker this season ... Was 7-of-9 on field goals of 40 yards or longer this season ... His 14 field goals are tied for second all-time in program history, and he's third all-time in PATs (61), fourth in field goals (34), and fifth in scoring (162). JJ Jerman's efforts also include adding 12 kickoffs for 719 yards (59.9 average) and five touchbacks ... Ranks sixth among FCS players in field goals per game (1.55), 13th field goal percentage (85.0), and 42nd in scoring (7.4) ... Broke the ETSU single-season record for made field goals, while also setting the new all-time record with 51 ... Has made his last 12 field goals, including a season-long 47-yard attempt against Samford on Nov. 17 ... Was selected second team all-

Southern Conference by both the coaches and media... For his carrer, JJ is 51-of-67 (76.1%) over his four-year career at ETSU, along with making two, 51-yard field goals ... 91-of-92 in PATs ... Totaled 40 career kickoffs for 2,231 yard (55.8 average) and 17 punts for 637 yards ... Ranks first in program history with 51 career field goals, second all-time in scoring (244) and second in PATs (91).

KRISTOV MARTINEZ

Texas A&M-Commerce – Division II

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
16	21	76.2%	0-0	9-11	5-5	1-3	1-2	52	47	47	95

Senior from Edinburg, Texas, Is the Division II active career leader in field goals (70), which ranks second in Division II history ... Is the Division II active career leader in PATs (223), which is the third most in all divisions ... Has made 102 consecutive PATs, dating to the third week of the 2017 season ... Is the Division II active career leader in points (433). *Needs five points in second round of playoffs to become Division II's all-time career kick scorer* ... A&M-Commerce leads Division II in kickoff return coverage, allowing only 10.86 yards per return on 35 returns, while also booting 27 touchbacks. Lions have led nation in kickoff return coverage in each of the last two seasons, and placed second the year prior ... 2018 Lone Star Conference Academic Player of the Year ... 2018 CoSIDA Google Cloud Academic All-District ... Martinez was named second team all-Super Region Four by the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association and Don Hansen's Football Gazette in 2017 ... Martinez was also named LSC All-Academic and A&M-Commerce's male LSC Scholar-Athlete for 2017-18 ... He graduated on the same day he won the National Championship in 2017 and is currently a graduate student. He will earn his Master's degree this December ... Has volunteered with multiple athletic department events, the annual 5K Run/Walk in memory of past president Dan Jones, the Commerce Public Library, and with the Lions' cleanup efforts from the effects of Hurricane Harvey in Port Aransas, Texas, following the win over A&M-Kingsville in 2017.

JONAS SCHENDERLEIN

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

FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
13	20	65.0%	0-0	2-2	5-5	2-5	4-8	56	26	27	65

Senior from Jena, Germany ... two-time All-NSIC First Team, earning the honor as a senior and a sophomore ... a 2017 Fred Mitchell Award national finalist ... has produced touchbacks on 56.6 percent of kickoffs (30-of-53), ranking among the top-5 in Division II football and as high as second ... 17th-ranked kicker with 1.18 field goals made per game, third-best in the NSIC ... ranks fourth in the 16-team NSIC in field goal percentage (.650) ... his 13 field goals made is third-most in CSP history, trailing the single season record of 18 he tied last year as a junior... earned NSIC Special Teams Player of the Week honors for his week 10 performance in a 16-10 win at SMSU, tying the school record of three field goals made and tying his own record of two 50-plus yard field goals in a game (53, 52) while scoring 10 points and producing touchbacks on all five kickoffs ... finished 2018 perfect on seven field goal attempts

from inside of 40 yards ... made the fourth (56) and sixth (55) longest field goals across all NCAA divisions ... made the second (56), third (55), sixth (53) and ninth (52) longest field goals in Division II football on the season ... made 10 career 50-plus yard field goals, breaking 2014 Fred Mitchell Award winner Tom Obarski's previous school record of five ... career includes the second (58) and third (56) longest field goals in team history and four made from 55-plus yards ... had his streak of 66 consecutive PATs snapped in week three, a streak that dated back to week six of his freshman year in 2015 and finished his career 97-of-99 in career PATs ... ranks sixth in team history with 223 career points scored ... made the second and third longest field goals in DII in 2017, a 58-yarder against Sioux Falls (10/21) and a 55-yarder at Augustana (11/4) ... his 58 yard field goal in 2017 is just one yard shy of the CSP record behind Obarski (59, 2012 vs Augustana) ... a career 42-of-63 field goal kicker, ranking second in school history in FGM, finishing two shy of Obarski's record ... has produced touchbacks on 67-of-144 career kickoffs ... tied Obarski's single season record with 18 FGM in 2017 ... 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.

JAKE TANNER

DePauw University (Ind.) - Division III

FGM	FGA	FG%	<20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LONG	PATM	PATA	PTS
15	19	78.9%	0-0	8-8	5-9	2-2	0-0	43	28	28	73

Senior from Zionsville, Indiana ... majoring in economics ... North Coast Athletic Conference First Team selection in 2018 ... Tied the school record for field goals in a season (15) which also leads Division III in field goals per game (1.5) ... tied school record with four field goals (all in the first half) made against Denison on October 13 ... kicked at least one field goal in nine of the 10 games ... long field goal of 43 yards came in win over Ohio Wesleyan on September 29 ... kicked a 42-yard field goal in win over Hiram on September 15 ... in consecutive weeks made seven straight field goals ... led team in scoring with 73 points and was second in 2017 with 58 ... was perfect on all 28 point-after attempts, marking just the fourth time in school history that a kicker was perfect on at least 20 attempts ... 21-27 in career field goals ... 21 career made field goals ranks fourth in school history and 77.8 % accuracy is a school record ... career 95.8% on PATs (68-71) ranks fifth in school history ... 68 career PATs made ranks sixth in school history ... over two-year span made 41 consecutive extra-point attempts ... member of DePauw's Management Fellow Program and served an internship with DoubleMap, Inc. and still maintains their social media platforms ... vice president of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity where he served as lead risk manager ... served on DePauw's Dance Marathon Corporate Committee where he helped obtain corporate sponsors for the event that raised over \$100,000 for Riley Children's Hospital ... helped organize a basketball philanthropy (Jam for Josh) that raised over \$700 ... studied abroad in Italy for three weeks ... his high school did not have a football team so he played soccer ... named to DePauw's Dean's List.