



PAC-12 CONFERENCE

360 THIRD STREET, 3RD FLOOR, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107
415.580.4200 // PAC-12.COM

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Contact // Dave Hirsch (dhirsch@pac-12.org), Ryan Andersen (randersen@pac-12.org)

PAC-12 FOOTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM ANNOUNCED

Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Year: Zack Moss, Utah

Pac-12 Pat Tillman Defensive Player of the Year: Evan Weaver, California

Pac-12 Freshman Offensive Player of the Year: Kedon Slovis, USC

Pac-12 Freshman Defensive Player of the Year: Kayvon Thibodeaux, Oregon

Pac-12 Coach of the Year: Kyle Whittingham, Utah

SAN FRANCISCO — The Pac-12 Conference has announced the 2019 Football All-Conference honors as the South Division picked up a majority of first team honors, with South Division Champion UTAH leading the way with eight honorees. ARIZONA STATE and WASHINGTON each had five first team selections. There were five first team repeat performers – Arizona State RB **Eno Benjamin**, Washington OL **Nick Harris**, and a trio from Utah – DL **Bradlee Anae**, DL **Leki Fotu**, DB **Jaylon Johnson**. Three players elevated themselves from last year's second team to first team – Utah RB **Zack Moss**, USC DL **Jay Tufele**, CALIFORNIA LB **Evan Weaver**, and Utah DB **Julian Blackmon**.

Offensive Player of the Year – Zack Moss, RB, Utah: Moss, a senior from Hialeah Gardens, Fla., led the Pac-12 in rushing, averaging 113.3 yards per game (6.2 per carry) and 15 TDs. He rushed for 100 or more yards in eight of 12 games played as Utah posted a league-best 208.8 rushing yards per game. With 1,359 rushing yards, he became the first Utah player to rush for 1,000 or more yards in three seasons. Moss owns the Utah career rushing mark with 4,010 yards and 38 rushing TDs. In addition to his ground totals, Moss tallied 26 receptions for 374 yards and 2 TDs. This marks the first time Utah has claimed the conference offensive player of the year honor.

Pat Tillman Defensive Player of the Year – Evan Weaver, LB, California: Weaver, a senior from Spokane, Wash., led the nation in tackles with a school-record 173 (14.4 per game), breaking Cal's 34-year-old single-season record of 167 set by Hardy Nickerson in 1985. He twice posted 22 tackles in a game this season (at Ole Miss, at Utah). Thanks in large part to Weaver, Cal was fourth in total defense (385.5 ypg) and fourth in rushing defense (122.9 ypg). He's the first Cal player to garner the Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Year honor since Mychal Kendricks in 2011, and the fifth all-time, joining LB Ron Rivera (1983), CB Deltha O'Neal (1999) CB Daymeion Hughes (2006).

Freshman Offensive Player of the Year – Kedon Slovis, QB, USC: Slovis, a freshman from Scottsdale, Ariz., ranks eighth nationally, and first among all FBS freshman, averaging 294.7 passing yards per game. He threw for 400 or more yards four times during the 2019 season, including a school-record 515 yards in the 52-35 win over UCLA. Slovis finished the regular season having completed 260 of 362 pass attempts for 3,242 yards and 28 TDs. His 71.8 completion percentage ranks fifth nationally and tops among freshmen. Since 2009 when the conference began awarding Freshmen Offensive Player of the Year, Slovis becomes the fourth Trojan to earn the accolade, joining WR Robert Woods (2010), WR Marqise Lee (2011) and QB Sam Darnold (2016). **Honorable Mention Freshman Offensive Player of the Year: Jayden Daniels**, QB, Arizona State.

Freshman Defensive Player of the Year – Kayvon Thibodeaux, DL, Oregon: Thibodeaux, a freshman from South Central Los Angeles, Calif., had 34 tackles, including 14.0 tackles for loss and 9.0 sacks. In the Pac-12 Championship Game, Thibodeaux posted five tackles, 2.5 sacks and blocked a punt. He ranks second in the Pac-12 in tackles for loss and third in sacks. He's the first Duck to earn the honor since the conference started awarding Freshman Defensive Player of the Year in 2009. **Honorable Mention Freshman Defensive Player of the Year: Omar Speights**, LB, Oregon State; **Drake Jackson**, DL, USC; **Trent McDuffie**, DB, Washington.

Coach of the Year – Kyle Whittingham, Utah: Guided the Utes to a successful defense of their South Division crown with an 11-2 regular season record, 8-1 in the Pac-12 South Division. It was Utah's fifth 10-win season in 15 full seasons under Whittingham, and most wins in a season since the perfect 13-0 season in 2008. Under Whittingham, the Utes climbed to No. 6 in the College Football Playoff rankings. The Utes were second in the Pac-12 in scoring (35.9 ppg), first in scoring defense (13.2 ppg), and first in both rushing offense (208.8 avg) and rushing defense (70.3 avg). Whittingham's record stands at 131-63 in 15-plus seasons. It's the first time Whittingham has earned Pac-12 Coach of the Year honors.

The individual awards and the All-Pac-12 Football Team are selected by the Pac-12 head coaches. Below is the 2019 All-Pac-12 Football Team that was announced earlier today.

2019 ALL-PAC-12 CONFERENCE FOOTBALL TEAM

First Team Offense

QB Tyler Huntley, Sr., Utah
 RB Eno Benjamin, Jr., Arizona State (1)
 RB Zack Moss, Sr., Utah
 WR Brandon Aiyuk, Sr., Arizona State
 WR Michael Pittman Jr., Sr., USC
 TE Hunter Bryant, Jr., Washington

OL Trey Adams, Sr., Washington
 OL Nick Harris, Sr., Washington (1)
 OL Austin Jackson, Jr., USC
 OL Darrin Paulo, Sr., Utah
 OL Penei Sewell, So., Oregon

Second Team Offense

QB Anthony Gordon, Sr., Washington State
 RB Joshua Kelley, Sr., UCLA
 RB CJ Verdell, So., Oregon
 WR Isaiah Hodgins, Jr., Oregon State
 WR Laviska Shenault Jr., Jr., Colorado
 TE Brant Kuithe, So., Utah
 TE Colby Parkinson, Jr., Stanford
 OL Blake Brandel, RSr., Oregon State
 OL Cohl Cabral, Sr., Arizona State
 OL Drew Dalmon, Jr., Stanford
 OL Shane Lemieux, Sr., Oregon
 OL Abe Lucas, So., Washington State
 OL Alijah Vera-Tucker, RSo., USC

First Team Defense

DL Bradlee Anae, Sr., Utah (1)
 DL Leki Fotu, Sr., Utah (1)
 DL Levi Onwuzurike, Jr., Washington
 DL Jay Tufele, RSo., USC
 LB Francis Bernard, Sr., Utah
 LB Nate Landman, Jr., Colorado
 LB Evan Weaver, Sr., California
 DB Paulson Adebo, Jr., Stanford (1)
 DB Julian Blackmon, Sr., Utah
 DB Jaylon Johnson, Jr., Utah (1)
 DB Elijah Molden, Jr., Washington

Second Team Defense

DL Ryan Bowman, Jr., Washington
 DL Drake Jackson, Fr., USC
 DL John Penisini, Sr., Utah
 DL Joe Tryon, So., Washington
 LB Troy Dye, Sr., Oregon
 LB Hamilcar Rashed Jr., RJr., Oregon State
 LB Casey Toohill, Sr., Stanford
 DB Myles Bryant, Sr., Washington
 DB Camryn Bynum, Jr., California
 DB Ashtyn Davis, Sr., California
 DB Talanoa Hufanga, So., USC

First Team Specialists

PK Blake Mazza, So., Washington State
 P Michael Turk, RSo., Arizona State
 RS Brandon Aiyuk, Sr., Arizona State
 AP/ST Brady Breeze, Jr., Oregon
 AP/ST Case Hatch, Fr., Arizona State

Second Team Specialists

PK Peyton Henry, So., Washington
 P Alex Kinney, Sr., Colorado
 RS Velus Jones Jr., RJr., USC
 AP/ST Travion Brown, Fr., Washington State
 AP/ST Michael Pittman Jr., Sr., USC

RS=return specialist

AP/ST=all-purpose/special teams player (not a kicker or returner)

(1) Two-time first team selection

No Tiebreaker: There was a tie for the all-purpose/special teams player on both first and second teams, so both teams are represented by a second all-purpose/special teams player. There was a tie for the tight end for second team, so that team is represented with two tight ends. There also was a tie for the fifth offensive lineman for second team, so that team is represented with six offensive linemen.

ALL-PAC-12 HONORABLE MENTION

ARIZONA: DB Lorenzo Burns, RJr.; OL Cody Creason, RSr.; LB Colin Schooler, Jr.; RB J.J. Taylor, RJr.; Jace Whittaker, RSr.

ARIZONA STATE: WR Frank Darby, RJr.; DB Jack Jones, RJr.; LB Khaylan Kearse-Thomas, RSr.; DL Jermayne Lole, So.; OL Dohnovan West, Fr.; DB Kobe Williams, Sr.

CALIFORNIA: OL Jack Curhan, Jr.; LB Kuony Deng, Jr.; LB Cameron Goode, Jr.; DB Jaylinn Hawkins, Sr.; DL Zeandae Johnson, Sr.

COLORADO: WR Tony Brown, Sr.; OL Arlington Hambright, Grad.; LB Davion Taylor, Sr.

OREGON: DB Thomas Graham Jr., Jr.; OL Jake Hanson, Sr.; QB Justin Herbert, Sr.; DB Jevon Holland, So.; DB Deommodore Lenoir, Jr.; DL Jordon Scott, Jr.; DL Kayvon Thibodeaux, Fr.; OL Calvin Throckmorton, Sr.; RS Mykael Wright, Fr.

OREGON STATE: OL Brandon Kipper, RSo.; QB Jake Luton, RSr.; TE Noah Togiai, RSr.

STANFORD: DL Thomas Booker, So.; LB Curtis Robinson, Sr.; OL Foster Sarell, Jr.; RS Conner Wedington, Jr.

UCLA: TE Devin Asiasi, Jr.; LB Krys Barnes, Sr.; DB Darnay Holmes, Jr.; P Wade Lees, Grad.,

USC: DB Olajah Griffin, So.; LB John Houston Jr., RSr.; PK Chase McGrath, RSo.; WR Amon-Ra St. Brown, So.; QB Kedon Slovis, Fr.; WR Tyler Vaughns, RJr.

UTAH: DB Terrell Burgess, Sr.; DB Javelin Guidry, Jr.; LB Devin Lloyd, So.; OL Simi Moala, RFr.; DL Mika Tafua, So.; OL Orlando Umama, Jr.

WASHINGTON: RB Salvon Ahmed, Jr.; DB Kyler Gordon, RFr.; P Joel Whitford, Sr.

WASHINGTON STATE: RB Max Borghi, So.; OL Josh Watson, RJr.; WR Easop Winston, Sr.; LB Jahad Woods, RJr.