

## THE OUTLANDERS

About this time of year, when a sportswriter wants to point out the obvious, he usually writes a column showing that Heisman Trophy winners are sometimes unsuccessful as pros. Then he'll get a spate of disagreeable letters continuing the assault on the obvious noting that the Heisman is not awarded to the "best pro prospect." Or that some great college backs are just too small to make good pros (Doak Walker, take note). Or that a great college back may be great because of his versatility whereas the pros want specialists (Doak Walker, take note again). Or that injuries were a factor in a star's failure to shine. Or that the writer is an idiot anyway.

I've never seen the same pro and con arguments advanced re-the Outland Trophy, which is more or less the Lineman's Heisman. I'm sure it's just part of the sportsworld's neverending attempt to render linemen faceless, anonymous, and inconsequential. In reality, of course, linemen are the most important men on the field (not counting the back judge when your team is making a late drive to tie). Teams can win without great runners, receivers, or even great quarterbacks, but you can count the teams with sub-par lines AND winning records on Captain Hook's bad hand.

Here are the Outland winners through last year. Draw your own conclusions.

-- BC

OUTLAND TROPHY WINNERS						
YEAR	PLAYER	SCHOOL	POS	Draft Rnd	ProBowl	CAREER
1996	Orlando Pace	Ohio State	OT	1	-	-
1995	Orlando Pace	Ohio State	OT	-	-	-
1994	Zach Wiegert	Nebraska	OT	2	-	1995-96 STL
1993	Rob Waldrop	Arizona	NG	5	-	1994 KC
1992	Will Shields	Nebraska	G	3	2	1993-96 KC
1991	Steve Emtman	Washington	DT	1	-	1992-94 Ind; 1995-96 Mia
1990	Russell Maryland	Miami-FL	DT	1	1	1991-95 Dal; 1996 Oak
1989	Mohammed Elewonibi	BYU	G	3	-	1992-93 Was; 1995 Phi
1988	Tracy Rucker	Auburn	DT	3	-	1989-90 Was
1987	Chad Hennings	Air Force	DT	11	-	1992-96 Dal
1986	Jason Buck	BYU	DT	1	-	1987-90 Cin; 1991-93 Was
1985	Mike Ruth	Boston College	NG	2	-	1986-87 NE
1984	Bruce Smith	Virginia Tech	DT	1	9	1985-96 Buf
1983	Dave Steinkuhler	Nebraska	G	1	-	1984-91 Hou
1982	Dave Rimington	Nebraska	C	1	-	1983-87 Cin; 1988-89 Phi
1981	Dave Rimington	Nebraska	C	-	-	-
1980	Mark May	Pittsburgh	OT	1	1	1981-89 Was; 1991 SD; 1992-93 Pho
1979	Jim Ritcher	No.Carolina St.	C	1	2	1980-93 Buf; 1994-95 Atl
1978	Greg Roberts	Oklahoma	G	2	-	1979-82 TB
1977	Brad Shearer	Texas	DT	3	-	1978-81 ChiB
1976	Ross Browner	Notre Dame	DE	1	-	1978-86 Cin; 1987 GB
1975	Lee Roy Selmon	Oklahoma	DT	1	6 HOF	1976-84 TB
1974	Randy White	Maryland	DE	1	9 HOF	1975-88 Dal
1973	John Hicks	Ohio State	OT	1	-	1974-77 NYG
1972	Rich Glover	Nebraska	MG	3	-	1973 NYG; 1975 Phi
1971	Larry Jacobson	Nebraska	DT	1	-	1972-74 NYG
1970	Jim Stillwagon	Ohio State	MG	5	-	Did not play
1969	Mike Reid	Penn State	DT	1	2	1970-74 Cin
1968	Bill Stanfill	Georgia	T	1	5	1969-76 Mia
1967	Ron Yary	Southern Cal	T	1	7	1968-81 Min; 1982 LARm
1966	Loyd Phillips	Arkansas	T	1	-	1967-69 ChiB
1965	Tommy Nobis	Texas	G	1	5	1966-76 Atl
1964	Steve DeLong	Tennessee	T	1	1	1965-71 SD; 1972 ChiB
1963	Scott Appleton	Texas	T	1	-	1964-66 Hou; 1967-68 SD
1962	Bobby Bell	Minnesota	T	7	9 HOF	1963-74 KC
1961	Merlin Olsen	Utah State	T	1	14 HOF	1962-76 LARm
1960	Tom Brown	Minnesota	G	-	-	Did not play
1959	Mike McGee	Duke	T	2	-	1960-62 StL
1958	Zeke Smith	Auburn	G	1	-	1960 Bal; 1961 NYG
1957	Alex Karras	Iowa	T	1	4	1958-62; 1964-70 Det
1956	Jim Parker	Ohio State	G	1	8 HOF	1957-67 Bal
1955	Calvin Jones	Iowa	G	15	-	<del>1973-76 Den</del>
1954	Bill Brooks	Arkansas	G	5	-	1955 Det
1953	J.D. Roberts	Oklahoma	G	2	-	1979-82 TB

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1952	Dick Modzelewski	Maryland	T	2	1	1953-54 Was; 1955 Pit; 1956-63 NYG; 1964-66 Cle
1951	Jim Weatherall	Oklahoma	T	2	2	1955-57 Phi; 1958 Was; 1959-60 Det
1950	Bob Gain	Kentucky	T	1	5	1952, 1954-64 Cle
1949	Ed Bagdon	Michigan State	G	7	-	1950-51 ChiC; 1952 Was
1948	Bill Fischer	Notre Dame	G	1	3	1949-53 ChiC
1947	Joe Steffy	Army	G	-	-	Did not play
1946	George Connor	Notre Dame	T	1	4 HOF	1948-55 ChiB