



PRESS RELEASE

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Houston's Williams Named Paycom Jim Thorpe Award Player of the Week Week 6

Oklahoma City, OK – Houston's Williams has been named the **Paycom Jim Thorpe Award** Player of the Week for week 6.

Terrell Williams, Houston, Senior, Defensive Back, Lawton, Oklahoma

Williams had 5 tackles, a pbu and a pair of 4th quarter interceptions to lead the Cougars to a 13 point victory over SMU. Both of Williams' interceptions came inside the red zone. Houston would go on to hold the Mustangs to 27 points under their season average.

Honorable Mention Players for Week Six:

Clifton Duck, Appalachian St., Sophomore, Defensive Back, Matthews, North Carolina

Duck tied a school record with 3 interceptions in Appalachian St's comeback victory over New Mexico St. In addition to the 3 picks, Duck also added 7 tackles and a sack.

Quin Blanding, Virginia, Senior, Defensive Back, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Blanding played an important role in Virginia's 7 point victory over Duke by recording 8 tackles and returning an interception 58 yards for a touchdown.

Juju Hughes, Fresno St, Sophomore, Defensive Back, Hanford, California

Hughes had a big performance in their victory over San Jose State by recording 6 tackles, a pair of tfl's, a sack, forced fumble, interception and QB hurry.

Justin Reid, Stanford, Junior, Defensive Back, Geismar, Louisiana

Reid recorded a team-high 7 tackles while pulling in the game-clinching interception against Utah. Reid has now posted an interception in 3 consecutive games.

Minkah Fitzpatrick, Alabama, Junior, Defensive Back, New Brunswick, New Jersey

Fitzpatrick was all over the field in their 27-19 victory over Texas A&M recording 5 tackles, a pair of tfl's and an interception in the 4th quarter.

About the Paycom Jim Thorpe Award:

The **Paycom Jim Thorpe Award** is one of the most coveted awards in college football. It is awarded to the best defensive back in college football based on performance on the field, athletic ability and character. The award was established in 1986 and is named after history's greatest all-around athlete, Jim Thorpe. Thorpe excelled as a running back, passer and kicker on the offensive side of the ball, but also stood out as a defensive back. In addition to his legendary performance on the football field, Thorpe played professional baseball and won Olympic gold medals in the decathlon and pentathlon.

The **Paycom Jim Thorpe Award** watch list is chosen by a screening committee who compile a list of 30-50 players. The list is not final, and players who have outstanding seasons are added as the season progresses. The Thorpe Award Winner is selected from three finalists and will be announced at The Home Depot College Football Awards on Thursday, December 7, 2017 on ESPN.

The **Paycom Jim Thorpe Award** Banquet will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 in Oklahoma City, OK.

Paycom Software, Inc. ("Paycom") (NYSE:PAYC), a leading provider of comprehensive, cloud-based human capital management software, and the Jim Thorpe Museum and Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame (OSHO) jointly announced in May of 2017 an exclusive sponsorship of the Jim Thorpe Award. As a result, the accolade is now named the "Paycom Jim Thorpe Award."

The **Paycom Jim Thorpe Award** is a member of the National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA) which encompasses the most prestigious awards in college football. Founded in 1997, the NCFAA and its 23 awards now boast over 800 recipients, dating to 1935. Visit www.NCFAA.org to learn more about our story.

Each week, Phil Steele will be overlooking the candidates issued by the school, the conference and distinguished committee members. After including his own personal input, the player of the week will be announced every Wednesday at www.oksportshof.org and PhilSteele.com.