

ALL-AMERICANS UNDER STOOPS



2006 * ALL-AMERICAN * RUFUS ALEXANDER * LB

Linebacker Rufus Alexander was named first team All-America by the American Football Coaches' Association at the conclusion of the 2006 season

The Baton Rouge, La., native led the Sooner defense in 2006 with 118 tackles (75 solo), including 12 for loss (-43 yards). Alexander was also credited with 3.5 quarterback sacks, four forced fumbles (two recoveries) and an interception.

Alexander had 36 starts in his career, including every game of the 2006 and 2005 seasons. He played in 39 total games for the Sooners from 2003-06 after redshirting in 2002. The 2006 Big 12 Conference Defensive Player of the Year, Alexander became the first OU player to lead the team in tackles in back-to-back seasons since Rocky Calmus did so in three consecutive seasons from 1999-2001.

Year	UT	ΑT	TOT	TFL	INT	FC-FR
2003	2	0	2	0-0	0	1-0
2004	49	25	74	7-26	1	3-3
2005	56	46	102	17-51	1	2-1
2006	75	43	118	12-43	1	4-2
Totals	182	114	296	36-120	3	10-6



The best season ever by a freshman? The argument could be made. Adrian Peterson set an NCAA freshman rushing record for most rushing yards with the third-highest figure in the nation for the season. He also eclipsed the OU standard for most rushing yards in a season.

On the awards circuit, Peterson had the highest finish ever by a freshman in the Heisman voting (second) and was the first freshman to be named a finalist for the Doak Walker Award. He was a consensus All-American.

Peterson's durability was surprising for a freshman. He led the nation with 339 rushing attempts and went over 100 yards in 11 of 13 games, including his debut. A thundering power back, he also had eight bursts of 35 yards or longer and 44 of 10 or more.

Peterson broke three NCAA freshman rushing records: most consecutive 100-yard rushing games (9), most total 100-yard rushing games (11) and most rushing attempts by a freshman with 314.

Year 2004	Rushes 339	Yards 1,925	Avg 5.7	TD 15	Long 80
Year 2004	Receptions 5	Yards 12	TD 0	Long 6	



A two-time finalist for the Rimington Award as the nation's top center, Vince Carter was a four-year fixture at Oklahoma. He was rewarded as a senior when he was named to the prestigious Walter Camp All-America team. The Waco, Texas, native stepped in as a freshman when Josh Smith went out with an injury in 2001 and went on to start at center for the Sooners for four seasons. He earned first team All-Big 12 Conference honors in 2003 and 2004. As a senior in 2004, Carter helped pave the way for running back Adrian Peterson and protected quarterback Jason White -- both Heisman Trophy finalists -- as the Sooners completed a second consecutive undefeated regular season and won the 2004 Big 12 Conference Championship.



Dan Cody was so destructive as a senior that OU coaches devised a special position for him. Cody, at times, stood up from his defensive end spot to play a spinner role. In that capacity, he roamed the defensive front and menaced opposing offenses. At season's end, he had the top sack total in the Big 12 with 10 and a spot on the FWAA's All-America team. Cody was a two-time finalist for the Hendricks Award who was noted for his all-out effort. At Texas A&M, he blacked out while exhorting teammates, then returned to the game.

Year	UT	ΑT	Total	TFL	Sacks	INT	FC-FR	PBU		
2000	3	8	11	2-13	2-13	0-0	0-1	0		
2001*	1	4	5	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1		
2002	8	8	16	5-20	3-18	0-0	0-1	2		
2003	24	39	63	17-93	10-65	0-0	2-0	0		
2004	25	17	42	17-83	10-66	0-0	0-2	0		
Totals	61	76	137	41-209	25-162	0-0	2-2	5		
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Medical redshirt after first game



A dominating senior season led to Jammal Brown earning Oklahoma's fourth Outland Trophy. He followed that up as a first-round pick (No. 13) by the New Orleans Saints. He did not allow a sack or hurry during the regular season while logging a team-best 130 knockdown blocks. At season's end Brown was a consensus All-American. As a junior, Brown had the highest line grade in a year when the offense had one of the most productive seasons in school history. The performance landed the Lawton native on the American Football Coaches Association's first team All-America squad. Brown had 127 knockdowns and ran his string of consecutive starts to 28 during the season.

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2004 & 2003 * ALL-AMERICAN * MARK CLAYTON *

Noted as one of the great stories of progress in OU history, Mark Clayton went from struggling to bench press 135 pounds in his first workout to twice being named an All-American. By the time his career was over, he held virtually every Sooner receiving record and was widely regarded as the best to ever play the position at the school.

After a wildly successful junior season, Clayton's numbers dipped somewhat as a senior, but that was attributable to an improved runnin'g game and a deeper receiving corps. He still led OU in receptions and yards and was named the the AFCA All-America team. Moreover, when punt returner Antonio Perkins was injured, Clayton added that role and took back one for a touchdown at OSU. As a junior, Clayton built a reputation as perhaps the most elusive receiver in the nation with 533 yards after catch (YAC). He set OU standards with 83 receptions for 1,425 yards and broke the school mark for receiving yards in a game with 190 against Texas.

Year	Rec	Yards	TD	Avg	Long
2001	46	524	3	11.4	48
2002	26	416	5	16.0	54
2003	83	1,425	15	17.2	59
2004	66	876	8	13.3	61
Total	221	3,241	31	14.7	61



2003 * ALL-AMERICAN * ANTONIO PERKINS * RS

Antonio Perkins became the nation's most feared punt returner by re-writing the NCAA record book during his junior season. He set an NCAA mark with four returns for touchdowns on the season, including an NCAA record three against UCLA.

He also set an NCAA mark with 277 punt return yards against the Bruins. His other touchdown return, which tied the NCAA career mark at seven, came against Missouri. The returns were spectacular too, with lengths of 84, 74 and 65 against UCLA and 65 against Missouri.

Perkins, who also started every game at cornerback and had two interceptions on the season, finished No. 20 in the nation in return average, but that figure was diluted by the fact that his 53 attempts out-distanced the rest of the country's returners by at least eight.

Year	PR	Yds	Avg	TD
2002	43	643	15.0	3
2003	53	642	12.1	4
2004	17	156	9.2	1
Totals	113	1,441	12.8	8



2003 ★ ALL-AMERICAN ★ DERRICK STRAIT ★ CB

Derrick Strait duplicated former OU great Roy Williams by winning the Nagurski (best defensive player) and Thorpe (best defensive back) Awards in 2003. Strait earned consensus All-American and All-Big 12 honors as a senior. He was named AP Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year.

Strait set school records for starts (53), career interception return yards (397) and passes broken up (53). The Austin native ignited Oklahoma's 65-13 win over Texas in 2003 with a season-high 11 tackles, an interception, a 30-yard return, two fumble recoveries and three pass deflections against the Longhorns. Strait was a Thorpe Award semifinalist and consensus first team All-Big 12 selection in 2002.

He started every game at corner and tied for the OU lead with six interceptions. He contributed immediately as a redshirt freshman and was named Big 12 Conference Defensive Newcomer of the Year in Oklahoma's 2000 National Championship season.

Year	UT	ΑT	TOT	TFL	INT	PBU	FC-FR
2000	na	na	65	5-27	2-32	15	2-0
2001	na	na	57	3-4	3-63	15	0-0
2002	50	18	68	1-2	6-175	13	3-1
2003	58	22	80	7-19	3-127	12	2-5
Totals	na	na	270	16-52	14-397	55	7-6



2003 * ALL-AMERICAN * JASON WHITE * QB

From two reconstructive knee surgeries in successive years to consensus All-American. That was the out-of-the-blue story for Jason White, who wasn't even announced as the team's starter until the summer before the 2003 season. He posted mind-boggling numbers, the most impressive of which were the 40 touchdowns and just 10 interceptions.

White proved particularly adept at completing the long ball and set a school season record with 17 hookups of 40 or more yards. He completed 50 percent or more of his passes in all but two games and was over 60 percent nine times, including 16-of-21 against Texas and 16-of-18 vs. Texas A&M. He fired five TD strikes against both Iowa State and A&M and had a career-high 394 passing yards against Texas Tech.

Year	Comp.	Att.	Yards	TD	Int.	Pct.
1999*	1	2	9	0	0	.500
2000	0	0	0	0	0	0
2001	73	113	681	5	3	.646
2002*	20	34	181	1	2	.588
2003	278	451	3,846	40	10	.616
2004	255	390	3,205	35	9	.654
Totals	627	990	7,922	81	24	.628

^{*} Granted extra year of eligibility after early season injury



2003 & 2002 * ALL-AMERICAN * TOMMIE HARRIS * DT

Tommie Harris rose to the pinnacle of his position in his junior season, which would be his last at OU. He departed for the NFL after just three years in Norman. As a junior, he continued to rocket into opposing backfields with his uncanny quickness. Harris had 10 tackles for loss and 19 quarterback hurries.

After finishing as a finalist for the Lombardi Award one year earlier, he won the coveted piece of hardware in his final Sooner season. He also was one of four finalists for the Nagurski Award, which went to teammate Derrick Strait. Harris' sophomore season was impressive despite an injury. Slowed all by a groin pull suffered in August, Harris still faced regular double teams.

He was named to three All-America squads and was named a finalist for the Bednarik Award. He was the 14th overall selection in the 2004 draft by the Chicago Bears.

Year	UT	ΑT	TOT	TFL	Sacks	PBU	FC-FR
2001	19	15	34	18-47	2-15	1	0-0
2002	13	12	25	6-11	2-8	2	0-1
2003	19	18	37	10-39	5-24	1	1-1
Totals	51	45	96	34-97	9-47	4	1-2



Determining the greatest linebacker in OU history is a tough chore. With Teddy Lehman in the mix, determining the fastest is much easier. That speed, which made him an outstanding high school sprinter, set the Sooner backer apart from his peers. He capped a brilliant career by winning the Butkus and Bednarik Awards after finishing as a finalist for each just one year earlier. His ability to get from sideline to sideline caught a lot of attention ... and ball carriers. As a senior, he had 117 tackles, including 19 for 47 yards in losses.

As a junior, Lehman logged 112 tackles, including 17 for loss. He also had two interceptions, which went for 51 yards in returns, including one that set up the go-ahead touchdown against Texas. His one-yard return against Texas as a sophomore, the one that came on the back end of a play that saw Roy Williams leap a blocker to disrupt Longhorn QB Chris Simms, is one of the most memorable plays in school history. He was picked in the second round of the 2004 draft by the Detroit Lions.

Year	UT	ΑT	TOT	TFL	Sacks	INT	PBU	FC-FR
2000	7	4	11	3-10	0-0	0	0	0-0
2001	59	30	89	13-41	3-17	1-2	4	0-3
2002	85	27	112	17-47	2-17	2-51	7	1-2
2003	63	54	117	19-47	2-6	1-0	6	1-0
Totals	214	115	329	52-145	7-40	4-53	17	2-5



2002 ★ ALL-AMERICAN ★ BRANDON EVERAGE ★ FS

Free safety Brandon Everage earned All-America honors after a stellar junior campaign in 2002.

Six interceptions, with 107 yards in returns, would indicate that Everage understood the centerfield nature of his position. The 94 tackles, third-highest on the team, speak to the linebacker-like mentality with which the Oklahoma free safety played. It was that combination of abilities that landed Everage on the All-America rolls.

Everage recorded 60 tackles in 2003 (44 solo) including four for loss and one sack. He also nabbed one interception with four passes broken up.

Year	UT	ΑT	TOT	TFL	Sacks	INT	PBU	FC-FR
2000	27	28	55	3-3	0-0	2-0	9	1-1
2001	54	22	76	3-9	1-6	1-0	4	3-0
2002	65	29	94	4-32	3-29	6-107	11	1-0
2003	44	16	60	4-5	1-1	1-11	4	0-0
Totals	190	95	285	14-49	5-36	10-118	28	5-1



2001 ★ ALL-AMERICAN ★ JEFF FERGUSON ★ P

Most punters are known for the length and/or the accuracy of their kicks. Jeff Ferguson was outstanding in both areas. But Ferguson separated himself with athletic ability and intelligent play that made him the complete player at his position. He ended his career as the school record holder for punting average in a career and became just the second player in school history to average more than 40 yards in each of his four seasons. The length of the kicks did not come at the expense of accuracy. Twenty-one of his 71 senior season punts were downed inside the 20-yard line. The thunderous punts and the balls that trickled dead deep in enemy territory will be secondary as time remembers Ferguson's career, though. In his junior season, he made a brilliant play in the national championship game against Florida State, turning a bad snap into a safety rather than an opportunity for the Seminoles to get back into the game.

Year	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TB	FC	120	50+
1998	61	2,529	41.5	72	5	6	17	10
1999	55	2,302	41.9	73	18	8	19	11
2000	56	2,437	43.5	66	8	2	14	12
2001	80	3,438	42.9	71	8	2	21	20
Totals	252	10,706	42.5	73	39	18	71	53

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2001 * ALL-AMERICAN * ROY WILLIAMS * SS

By the time his career was over, Roy Williams was more feared by offensive opponents and more respected by his defensive peers than any player in the country.

In his final season at Oklahoma, he won the Nagurski Award as the nation's top defender and the Thorpe Award as the nation's top defensive back. He was No. 7 in the Heisman Trophy voting, the highest finish of the year by a non-quarterback.

Williams bypassed his senior season of eligibility to enter the NFL draft, but still left his mark on the OU record book. He was drafted in the first round (No. 8 pick overall) in the 2002 NFL Draft by the Dallas Cowboys.

Year	UT	ΑT	TOT	T-Loss	INT	FC-FR	PBU
1999	57	18	81	7-25	2	1-0	12
2000	58	35	99	13-47	2	0-2	10
2001	73	28	107	14-57	5	0-3	22
Totals	188	81	287	34-129	9	1-5	44



2001 & 2000 * ALL-AMERICAN * ROCKY CALMUS * LB

Only a few players define their position, but that is precisely what Rocky Calmus meant to college football. As a senior, he won the Dick Butkus Award as the nation's top linebacker, but also was a finalist for the Nagurski and Bednarik Awards as the nation's best defender and the Lombardi Award as the country's top interior player. His senior year total of 117 tackles vaulted him into Oklahoma's top five career tacklers and capped an incredible career.

As a junior, he was named the toughest player in college football by The Sporting News during the Sooners' 2000 national championship season. OU's all-time leader in tackles for a loss by a linebacker, Calmus was named Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year by the Associated Press and was a finalist for the Butkus Award. A first-team All-Big 12 selection in each of his last three seasons, Calmus led the squad in tackles in each of those years. He was drafted in the third round of the 2002 draft by the Tennessee Titans.

Year	UT	AT	TOT	TFL	INT	FC-FR
1998	30	25	55	11-38	0	2-0
1999	76	38	120	14-29	1	0-1
2000	64	61	128	17-61	1	2-3
2001	72	45	128	15-48	1	0-3
Totals	242	169	431	57-176	3	4-6



2000 * ALL-AMERICAN * JOSH HEUPEL * QB

The runner-up for the 2000 Heisman Trophy, Josh Heupel became Okla-'s first consensus All-America quarterback and the first Sooner QB to earn All-America honors since Jack Mildren in 1971.

As team captain his two years with the Sooners, Heupel is largely credited with turning an offense that statistically ranked as one of the worst in the nation before his arrival into one of the most explosive in the country.

Heupel was named Associated Press Player of the Year, Walter Camp Player of the Year, The Sporting News Player of the Year, CBS Sports Player of the Year, Big 12 Player of the Year and Big 12 Offensive Player of the Year in 2000.

The first-team all-conference selection guided OU to a school-record 13 wins and its seventh national championship. Heupel left with virtually every OU and numerous Big 12 passing records.

Year	Att	Yds	Avg	TD	Att	Comp	Int	Yds	TD
1999	47	-98	-2.8	5	553	349	16	3,850	33
2000	70	144	2.1	7	472	305	15	3,606	20
Totals	117	46	0.4	12	1.025	654	31	7.456	53



2000 * ALL-AMERICAN * J.T. THATCHER * FS/PR/KR

A standout on both defense and special teams, J.T. Thatcher was named an All-American as both a defensive back and returner. The Mosi Tatupu Special Teams Player of the Year Award winner, Thatcher was one of only seven players to return two or more punts for a touchdown in 2000 and ranked ninth nationally in punt return average. A four-time Big 12 Special Teams Player of the Week selection, Thatcher set OU's single-game (160) and single-season (599) records for punt return yards. He also posted the second-highest single-game kickoff return yard total with 150, including a 93-yard return to set up OU's go-ahead touchdown against second-ranked Kansas State. Thatcher was a semifinalist for the Jim Thorpe Award and tied school records for interceptions in a game (3) and season (8).

Year	UT	ΑT	TOT	TFL	INT	FC-FR		
1997	0	0	1	0-0	0	0-0		
1999	5	1	7	0-0	0	0-0		
2000	39	21	66	3-6	8	1-0		
Totals	44	22	74	3-6	8	1-0		
Year	PR	Yds	Avg	TD	KR	Yds	Avg	TD
Year 1997	PR 0	Yds 0	Avg 0	TD 0	KR 1	Yds 16	Avg 16	TD 0
			•				•	_
1997	0	0	Ö	0	1	16	16	0
1997 1999	0 4	0 146	0 36.5	0 1	1 0	16 0	16 0	0