

Quick Added To Payton Watch List

Written by Mike Flynn

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Appalachian State University wide receiver Brian Quick was officially added to The Sports Network's official watch list for the 2011 Walter Payton Award on Tuesday. Quick is one of 20 players under official consideration for the Payton Award, which is presented annually to the nation's top

NCAA Division I FCS player. Voting for the 2011 Payton Award, which is sponsored by Fathead.com, will be conducted following the conclusion of the regular season and the award will be presented on Jan. 6 in Frisco, Texas.

Despite being one of many options on Appalachian's high-powered offense, Quick ranks among the nation's leaders with 53 receptions for 905 yards (17.1 avg.) and nine touchdowns this season. He has six 100-yard games on the campaign, just one shy of the ASU record set by Payton Award finalist DaVon Fowlkes in 2004. The 6-5, 220-pounder is also widely regarded as one of the top wide-receiver prospects in the 2012 NFL Draft.

Last Saturday, the senior became Appalachian's all-time leader with 3,227 receiving yards, breaking the 31-year old record of 3,124 yards amassed by current ASU senior associate athletics director Rick Beasley from 1978-80. He also moved within 16 catches of Fowlkes' school record of 200 career receptions.

Quick will be the ninth Mountaineer on the Payton Award ballot in the last eight years but the first receiver since Fowlkes in '04. In 2008 and '09, Appalachian's Armanti Edwards became the first and only two-time winner in the 24-year history of the Payton Award. ASU also boasts the only two-time winner of the Buck Buchanan Award, which honors the nation's top FCS defensive player, as College Football Hall-of-Famer Dexter Coakley won the first two Buchanan Awards in 1995 and '96.

Quick and the Mountaineers close out the regular season against another Payton Award candidate in Elon WR Aaron Mellette on Saturday. The ASU-Elon regular-season finale kicks off at 3 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium in Elon, N.C. The game will be televised live on the SoCon Sports Network, and the game can also be heard on AM 1450, WATA.

Photo Courtesy: Meghan Gay, ASU Athletics

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