

## **Mitchell Wins Payton Award**

Written by Mike Kelly  
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Quarterback Bo Levi Mitchell of Eastern Washington University has been named the Walter Payton Award winner by The Sports Network.

Mitchell, who was named the Most Outstanding Player in the Football Championship Series championship game last year when

Eastern Washington defeated Delaware, had a record-setting year.

He led the nation with 4,009 passing yards and 33 touchdown passes. He completed 63% of his passes and he averaged 365 yards per game. Mitchell was also named the Big Sky Conference Offensive Player of the Year. Eastern Washington, which was beset by numerous injuries this season, finished the year at 6-5.

Eric Breitenstein of Wofford College was 14th in the voting. He received two first-place votes for 30 points; Breitenstein, a red-shirted junior, ran for 1,474 yards and scored 19 touchdowns. The Terriers (8-4) lost to Northern Iowa in the opening round of the FCS playoffs.

Wide receiver Brian Quick of Appalachian State was 15th in the voting. He did not receive any first place votes and finished with 27 points. Quick, the all-time leading receiver in ASU history in receiving yards, touchdown receptions, and receptions, finished his senior year with 71 receptions for 1,069 yards and 11 touchdowns. The Mountaineers (8-4) were eliminated by Maine in the opening round of the FCS playoffs---their earliest exit from the playoffs since 2002.

Breitenstein was a first team selection; Quick was a second-team selection on The Sports Network All-America team, which was released in December.

**Photo Courtesy: Eric Breitenstein, Wofford College Athletics**