

Donald, Carter part of 2026 College Football HoF class

Mark Ingram, the first Alabama player to win the Heisman Trophy, and Ndamukong Suh and Aaron Donald, two of the most fearsome defensive linemen of their era, highlight the 2026 College Football Hall of Fame class announced Wednesday.

Gary Patterson of TCU and Chris Petersen of Boise State and Washington are among four coaches that will be inducted at the National Football Foundation's awards dinner in December in Las Vegas.

The class includes six consensus first-team All-Americans, four multi-year first-team All-Americans and eight major award winners.

Ingram won the Heisman in 2009 while leading Alabama to a 14-0 record and national championship. He led the Southeastern Conference in rushing with an Alabama-record 1,658 yards and scored 20 touchdowns. He finished his Alabama career as the school's all-time leader in rushing touchdowns. He played 12 seasons in the NFL.

Nebraska's Suh turned in one of the most dominant seasons by a defensive lineman in 2009, sweeping the Bednarik, Lombardi, Nagurski and Outland trophies and being voted Associated Press national player of the year. He was the first defensive lineman in 15 years to be a Heisman finalist. Last August



Pittsburgh defensive lineman Aaron Donald (97) competes against North Carolina in 2013.

he was named to the All-Time AP All-America first team. Suh recorded 12 sacks and 21 tackles for loss in 2009 and went on to play 13 NFL seasons.

Pittsburgh's Donald, like Suh, swept the major defensive awards in his last college season. He led

the nation with 28.5 tackles for loss in 2013 and he remains Pitt's all-time leader in career and single-season tackles for loss. He played all 10 of his NFL seasons with the Los Angeles Rams and teamed with Suh on their defensive line in 2018.

2027. Tomlin exited while still under team control for two more years, with the club holding the option for 2027.

During the rare occasions the Steelers have found themselves looking for a head coach, they often have been looking for a certain type. Noll, Tomlin and Bill Cowher were all defensive coordinators in their 30s when Pittsburgh plucked them from relative anonymity. They all left with at least one Super Bowl ring.

It's far too early in the process for the club to start whittling down the field for a job that figures to be among the most coveted of the nine current head coach vacancies in the NFL, considering the Rooney family's track record of giving coaches ample time to find their footing.

at 24-24 following three straight forfeit wins by Seth Hollerman (107), Noah Riddle (114) and Connor Stuttler (121).

Cochranton put the match away with three consecutive falls by Abraham Ly at 127, Cole Schmitt at 133, Austin Boozer at 139 and a technical fall win by Brayden Williams at 145.

Ly pinned Aiden Myers in 2:31, Schmitt decked Austin Hart in 1:08, Boozer pinned Brian Hart in 2:58

"Can I sign up for another Chuck Noll or another Bill Cowher or another Mike Tomlin or somebody that we feel fits that mold? (That) would be great," Rooney said.

Rooney essentially ruled out any of the staff Tomlin left behind — including offensive coordinator Arthur Smith, who has been contacted by Tennessee about its opening — from being a candidate to replace Tomlin, though it's possible they may have an opportunity to stick around in some capacity if they mesh with the new hire.

Whoever takes over will be given the same "the standard is the standard" mandate that Tomlin embraced, though it led to diminishing returns in his final years.

"There will be changes, and we'll have to all get comfortable with kind

of the plans," Rooney said. "Whether you call it a 'rebuild' or not, I don't like that word that much. We'll try to compete Day 1 if we can."

That plan seems unlikely to include Aaron Rodgers. The 42-year-old who helped guide the Steelers to the AFC North title will be a free agent in March, and Rodgers made it clear from the moment he arrived last June that Tomlin's presence was the main reason he signed, a sentiment Rooney echoed on Wednesday.

Rooney declined to put a timeline on a potential hire, though he expects it to be before the NFL combine in late February. The Steelers have the 21st overall pick in the draft, which they will be hosting for the first time.

The club has long pointed to the draft as an opportunity to select its next franchise quarterback, some-

team All-America receiver as the Seminoles compiled a 45-4 record, won a national championship and played for another title. He finished his career as the Atlantic Coast Conference's all-time leader in receiving yards and second in touchdown receptions. He played six NFL seasons.

Harrison excelled as a kick returner and wide receiver, setting multiple school records. He set the Big East record with a 94-yard punt return touchdown against Minnesota in 1995 and ranked among the league's all-time leaders in 100-yard receiving games with 13 and receiving TDs (20). He played 13 NFL seasons with the Indianapolis Colts and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2016.

Other players entering the hall are Jerry Azumah of New Hampshire, Ki-Jana Carter of Penn State, Bruce Collie of Texas-Arlington, George Cumby of Oklahoma, Garrison Hearst of Georgia, Chris Hudson of Colorado, Olin Kreutz of Washington, James Laurinaitis of Ohio State, Jordan Lynch of Northern Illinois, Herman Moore of Virginia, Terence Newman of Kansas State, Bob Novogratz of Army and Eric Weddle of Utah.

In addition to Patterson and Petersen, coaches who will be inducted are Jim Margraff of Johns Hopkins and Ken Sparks of Carson-Newman.

thing that has proven elusive since Ben Roethlisberger's retirement in January 2022. The discussion about the quarterbacks "will be an important one" when Rooney and general manager Omar Khan meet with prospective candidates.

Whatever quarterback/coach combination walks onto the field at Acrisure Stadium next fall will be tasked with helping the franchise emerge from a decade of purgatory in which it has been good but not nearly good enough, and do so quickly.

"I'm not going to say, 'Well, we're going to take a couple years to figure this out, and then we'll try and compete,'" Rooney said. "So I think you try every year. Some years you have the horses to really get there, some years you don't. But you try."

▶ Steelers

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"I can't explain the more recent history there," Rooney said. "It's hard to explain, given the overall track record. Frustrating for all of us, mostly for Mike."

Fans inside Acrisure Stadium didn't hesitate to voice their displeasure at times this season, chanting "Fire Tomlin!" on multiple occasions, including in the waning minutes against the Texans.

Asked if those playoff failures factored into Tomlin's decision to walk away, Rooney demurred. He also declined to get into specifics about what might happen should Tomlin want to return to coaching in

2027. Tomlin exited while still under team control for two more years, with the club holding the option for 2027.

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before Williams recorded a 22-7 win over Orvis Davis.

Port Allegany 42, Redbank Valley 30

NEW BETHLEHEM — Aiden Bliss and Lucas Risser orchestrated back-to-back falls to give visiting Port Allegany a 42-30 win over Redbank Valley in a District 9 League match.

With the score tied 30-30, Bliss decked Devon Weckerly in :53 at

215 pounds and Risser put the finishing touches on the match with a fall over Bailey Bower in :51 at 285.

The Bulldogs took an early 11-0 lead as Colton Buzard earned a 17-1 technical fall over Alyxander Haggard at 107 and Corban Summerville was awarded a forfeit win at 114.

The Gators won the next three bouts to take an 18-11 lead before Brandon Smith and Tristan Johnston posted back-to-back wins to put Red-

bank back in front. Smith recorded a 2-0 decision over Ayden Bachman at 139 and Johnston pinned Maddin Nelson in 5:09 at 145 for a 20-18 edge.

Grant Shoemaker followed with a 14-0 major decision win over Collin Fiohr at 160 and Jordan Smith decked Bryce Fessenden in :40 at 189 for the Bulldogs with the Gators winning bouts at 152 and 175 to knot the score at 30-30.

▶ Roundup

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Gary Kiselka got the Knights on the board with a forfeit win at 215 before Emmitt Summerlin followed with a 10-6 decision over Kaden Kiselka at 285 to bump the Cardinals' lead to 24-6.

Franklin, however, tied the match

at 24-24 following three straight forfeit wins by Seth Hollerman (107), Noah Riddle (114) and Connor Stuttler (121).

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THE DAILY SCOREBOARD

NFL PLAYOFFS

Wild-card Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 10

L.A. Rams 34, Carolina 31

Chicago 31, Green Bay 27

Sunday, Jan. 11

Buffalo 27, Jacksonville 24

San Francisco 23, Philadelphia 19

New England 16, L.A. Chargers 3

Monday, Jan. 12

Houston 30, Pittsburgh 6

Divisional Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 17

Buffalo at Denver, 4:30 p.m.

San Francisco at Seattle, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 18

Houston at New England, 3:00 p.m.

L.A. Rams at Chicago, 6:30 p.m.

Conference Championships

Sunday, Jan. 25

AFC

AFC lowest remaining seed at AFC highest remaining seed

NFC

NFC lowest remaining seed at NFC highest remaining seed

Super Bowl LIX

Sunday, Feb. 8

At Santa Clara

Conference Championships winners, 6:30 p.m. (NBC/Peacock)

NHL STANDINGS

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

GP W L OT Pts GF GA

Tampa Bay 45 29 13 3 61 160 116

Detroit 48 28 16 4 60 149 148

Montreal 47 26 14 7 59 159 154

Buffalo 45 25 16 4 54 148 140

Boston 47 26 19 2 54 155 146

Toronto 46 23 16 7 53 155 149

Florida 45 24 18 3 51 139 145

Ottawa 46 22 19 5 49 151 153

Metropolitan

GP W L OT Pts GF GA

Carolina 47 28 15 4 60 158 142

N.Y. Islanders 46 25 16 5 55 138 130

Washington 47 24 17 6 54 153 135

Philadelphia 45 22 15 8 52 135 137

Pittsburgh 45 21 14 10 52 141 137

New Jersey 47 24 21 2 50 126 145

Columbus 46 20 19 7 47 140 156

N.Y. Rangers 48 20 22 6 46 126 147

Western Conference

Central

GP W L OT Pts GF GA

Colorado 45 33 4 8 74 182 103

Dallas 47 27 11 9 63 161 133

Minnesota 47 26 12 9 61 148 130

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