Who’s Who for UCF Football

Several players for UCF will be returning next season in hope to repeat as undefeated National Champions. Five players on UCF’s roster have been put on several watchlists for this upcoming football season. All of these players have been an All-AAC selection at one point in their collegiate careers.

McKenzie Milton, the starting quarterback for the Knights, intends on having another historic season in 2018. In 2017, he broke the UCF records for passing yards and touchdowns, with 4,037 yards and 37 touchdowns. He finished with a completion percentage of 67.1%, passing efficiency of 179.3 (single-season program record), ran for 613 yards (single-season record for a UCF quarterback) and averaged 357.7 yards of total offense per game, which helped him become the AAC Offensive Player of the Year, and First Team All-AAC selection. Due to these efforts, he has placed himself on three award watchlists: the Maxwell Award, the David O’Brien National Quarterback Award, and the Walter Camp Award. The Maxwell Award recognizes the best all-around player in the NCAA. Last season, Milton was a semifinalist for the David O’Brien Award. The Walter Camp Award is the fourth oldest individual collegiate football accolade, that recognizes the 2018 Player of the Year.

Jordan Johnson returns as the starting Center for the Knights. He started all 13 games at center in 2017, and was a First Team All-AAC selection as a sophomore. Johnson was selected on to the John H. Outland Trophy and the Dave Rimington Trophy watchlist. The John H. Outland Trophy is the third oldest major college football award, which is only eligible for interior offensive or defensive linemen. The Dave Rimington Trophy is awarded to the best center in college football.

Defensive lineman, Trysten Hill, has been selected on to three watchlists: the John H. Outland Trophy, the Chuck Bednarik Award, and the Nagurski Award. The Chuck Bednarik Award is given to the best defensive collegiate player, judged by the Maxwell Football Club. The Bronko Nagurski Trophy is awarded to the best defensive collegiate player according to the Football Writers Association of America. Hill has started all 26 of the Knights games since he joined their roster. As a sophomore, he was a second team All-AAC selection in 2017.

Kyle Gibson led UCF with four interceptions as a junior last season. His 64 tackles, four pass breakups, and two fumble recoveries as a junior helped Gibson become a 2017 first team All-AAC selection. He has been selected on to the Bronko Nagurski Trophy watchlist and the Thorpe Award watchlist. The Jim Thorpe Award is given to the best defensive back in collegiate football, voted on by the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame.

Mac Loudermilk has been placed on the Ray Guy Award watchlist. The Guy Award is awarded to the best punter in collegiate football. Last year, Loudermilk was a finalist for the Mortell Holder of the Year Award. He dropped 19/41 punts inside the 20 yard line, forced 23 fair catches, and launched six punts over 50 yards, which helped him to become a second team All-AAC selection.