Heisman power rankings: This week is Miami duo's chance to convince voters

BY AUSTIN CURTRIGHT
USA TODAY



CARMEN MANDATO Getty Images
Receiver Malachi Toney, left, and quarterback Darian Mensah, right, have given the Miami Hurricanes two Heisman Trophy contenders.

Who's going to have their Heisman Trophy moment? College football's slate of games in Week 10 is loaded with high-tier ranked games, including No. 1 Miami-No. 6 Notre Dame, a matchup with multiple contenders for college football's most prestigious individual award.

The race feels wide open with four weeks left in the regular season. Ohio State receiver Jeremiah Smith, a front-runner for several weeks, now appears in jeopardy of winning the award due to the Buckeyes' offensive struggles without starting quarterback Julian Sayin.

Smith was peppered with targets in Ohio State's 30-18 upset loss to Southern California in Week 9, but the struggles of true freshman quarterback Luke Fahey could impact Smith's Heisman candidacy.

Darian Mensah, Malachi Toney and CJ Carr could all vault up the Heisman power rankings with strong performances in one of the biggest college football games of the season.

Here's a look at USA TODAY's weekly Heisman Trophy power rankings after Week 9 of the college football season:

HEISMAN POWER RANKINGS AFTER WEEK 9

1. Jeremiah Smith, Ohio State (1)

Despite Ohio State's offensive struggles, Smith remains the front runner – for now. He caught 10 passes for 83 yards with a touchdown in the Buckeyes' loss to USC, also breaking the Big Ten record for all-time receiving touchdowns with his 40th.

The 6-foot-4 top-tier NFL prospect is easily one of the best players in college football. If his quarterback can keep getting him the ball at a decent rate – and if Ohio State doesn't completely fall off the tracks – his Heisman candidacy should remain strong.

Smith still ranks second nationally with 1,067 receiving yards this season.

2. Darian Mensah, Miami (2)

Mensah faces his first test since transferring to Miami. A huge performance in a win over Notre Dame in Week 10, with "College GameDay" in town, could be the last obstacle he has to overcome before becoming the Heisman front runner.

Mensah ranks eighth nationally with 2,425 passing yards, tied for first nationally with 25 passing touchdowns and tied for second nationally with only one interception. He also boasts the nation's best QBR at 90.3 this season.

The former Tulane and Duke quarterback is completing 80.7% of his passes this season and has been dominant in every game against lesser opponents. It's time to see if he can do it against a team of Notre Dame's stature.

3. Malachi Toney, Miami (3)

Mensah and Toney have been the best quarterback-receiver duo in college football this season. As a result, they're both vying for the Heisman in 2026.

Toney has 73 receptions for 1,027 yards and 13 touchdowns this season, but has been especially dominant in Miami's last three wins against Florida State, Pittsburgh and North Carolina. He has a ridiculous 34 catches for 433 yards with seven touchdowns during his recent stretch.

If Toney goes ballistic against Notre Dame, maybe it's him that jumps to the top of the Heisman race, not his quarterback.

4. Trinidad Chambliss, Ole Miss (5)

Ole Miss and Trinidad Chambliss bounced back in a huge way after their loss to Texas in Week 8. Chambliss had a slow start, but still completed 22 of 34 passes for 263 yards with two touchdowns to an interception in the win, also rushing seven times for 65 yards with another score.

Chambliss has a chance for another Heisman moment if the Rebels can take down No. 2 Georgia at home in Week 10.

5. Sam Leavitt, LSU (10)

Sam Leavitt is quietly playing the best football of his career the last two weeks, and is getting healthy for LSU, which is still vying for a berth in the SEC Championship.

Leavitt ranks fourth nationally in QBR at 85.3, and is coming off back-to-back performances with 300 or more total yards with eight total touchdowns and no turnovers. He could earn his biggest win of the season if he and the Tigers defeat Alabama on Nov. 7.

6. CJ Carr, Notre Dame (9)

CJ Carr was solid enough in Notre Dame's 35-13 win over Navy in Week 9, as he completed 19 of 29 passes for 210 yards with two touchdowns in the win.

Carr and the Fighting Irish only led 14-13 at halftime, which sparked some questions. Still, he's having an efficient season for one of college football's top brands, and is a huge performance against Miami away from vaulting back into the elite tier of Heisman contenders.

7. Gunner Stockton, Georgia (8)

Like Carr, Georgia quarterback Gunner Stockton's Heisman status falls more into the category of being a solid quarterback on a national championship contender than one lighting up scoreboards every week.

Stockton is one of college football's best at operating within an offense, although he didn't do much in Georgia's 27-8 win over Florida in Week 9: The second-year starter completed 13 of 23 passes for 101 yards with no touchdowns or interceptions, while rushing 12 times for 45 yards.

He makes the plays needed to win, and there's something to be said for that trait.

8. Drew Mestemaker, Oklahoma State (6)

Drew Mestemaker is likely upset with his defense after Oklahoma State's 51-49 loss to Iowa State in Week 9. The potential first quarterback off the board in the upcoming NFL draft passed for 323 yards with five touchdowns in the loss, as the Cowboys' defense was torched for 521 total yards.

OSU now has two conference losses, which puts a huge dent in its Big 12 Championship chances. It'll be tough for Mestemaker to win the Heisman if OSU keeps losing.

9. Jesse Legree, Oregon State (4)

Jesse Legree and Oregon State were upset by Fresno State in Week 9, falling 38-22 in the Pac-12 matchup.

Legree had his worst game of his college career, although it says something about how prolific he has been this season given he still had seven receptions for 70 yards in the loss. The true freshman still leads college football with 1,110 receiving yards and 14 receiving touchdowns this season.

He's still on the radar, but his chances of making it to New York take a hit after the loss.

10. Gio Lopez, Wake Forest (NR)

It's time to start taking Wake Forest seriously, including quarterback Gio Lopez.

The left-handed quarterback has been outstanding for the Demon Deacons, with 2,176 passing yards and 18 touchdowns to an interception this season. His 84.4 QBR ranks sixth nationally and he has 317 rushing yards with six scores.

Lopez is a good story, too. He struggled at times last season at North Carolina and was even benched for the ACC bottom-feeder last season. Now, he's near the top of the conference and could push for Heisman contention if Wake Forest keeps winning.

Larry Csonka celebrates Vikings' loss on behalf of '72 Dolphins

Field Level Media

Larry Csonka wasted little time celebrating the last of the NFL's undefeated teams going down on Sunday.

With a cigar in one hand and a celebratory drink in the other, Csonka flashed a big smile in a picture he shared on social media shortly after the Detroit Lions' 19-15 win over the Minnesota Vikings.

"CONGRATS to the #DetroitLions on the Win and a game well played today," the 79-year-old Hall of Famer wrote. "CHEERS to all my '72 undefeated teammates and #MiamiDolphin fans on our now 54 year record! Cheers!"

The 1972 Miami Dolphins posted a 14-0 record in the regular season, won two playoff games and recorded a 14-7 victory over Washington in Super Bowl VII to finish their undefeated campaign. Csonka was the team's leading rusher that season with 1,117 yards and six touchdowns.

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Legals

Legals & Public Notices

MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE

In order to comply with the orders of the Fayette Circuit Court, the Commissioner will sell the property described in the following action on **NOVEMBER 23, 2026,** at the hour of 12:00 noon in the ROBERT F. STEPHENS COURTHOUSES, FAYETTE CIRCUIT COURT BUILDING, 120 NORTH LIMESTONE, Lexington, Kentucky. A bailiff will direct you to the appropriate room. Said property shall be sold to raise the amounts hereinafter set forth, together with interest and the costs of the action, and upon the (unless otherwise indicated) following terms and conditions. (A) At the time of sale the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. **In the event the successful bidder does not pay cash, the bidder will be required to post bond and furnish an acceptable surety thereon**. Said bond shall be for the unpaid purchase price and bear interest at the rate the judgment bears from the date of sale until paid, and shall have the force and effect of a judgment. (B) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes or assessments upon the property for the current fiscal tax year (i.e. the amount that will be due thru June 30, 2027) and all subsequent years. All other delinquent taxes or assessments upon the property for prior years shall be paid from the sale proceeds **if** properly claimed in writing and **filed of record** by the purchaser within ten (10) days from the date of sale. (C) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Fayette County Court Clerk's Office and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the defendant(s). **Master Commissioner Sales are **"Buyer Beware"** Sales. The Property is sold **"As Is" "Where Is."** The condition of the property, the merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose of any type or nature, is not warranted by the Court, by the Master Commissioner, or by the Plaintiff. If you bid on property, you should have done your due diligence before you bid, not after!** FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THESE SALES AND OTHER UPCOMING SALES, AS WELL AS PAST SALES CAN BE FOUND AT **WWW.FAYCOM.INFO.** PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS ARE ADVISED AND ENCOURAGED TO REFER TO THAT WEB SITE FOR ANSWERS TO THEIR QUESTIONS.

1- **908 GERARDI ROAD**, 23-CI-02886, Principal to be raised $84,810.30. Parcel No. 19338270

2 -**205 WHITFIELD DRIVE,** 26-CI-03794, Principal to be raised $75,365.03. Parcel No. 21027575

3 -**609 GALAXIE DRIVE,** 25-CI-05216, Principal to be raised $1,604,338.05. Parcel No. 13739088

5 -**700 ORLEAN CIRCLE,** 25-CI-04097, Principal to be raised $45,299.92. Parcel No. 19324320

6 -**1873 TIMBER CREEK DRIVE,** 24-CI-00720, Principal to be raised $32,354.82. Parcel No. 19305410; **SOLD SUBJECT TO** The mortgage held by Defendant, U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-KS1, with a principal balance of $103,142.14 as of March 13, 2025, P & I in the amount of $1,062.39, with interest at the rate of 9.1400% recorded in Mortgage Book 5895 Page 6222, having a maturity date of November 1, 2036.

JAMES H. FRAZIER, III
MASTER COMMISSIONER

IPL0387090
Nov 6 2026

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Stock Yards Bank & Trust Company, 1040 East Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky, 40206 has made the application to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the State of Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions to close our Retail Banking Services at 360 E Vine St, Suite 100, Lexington, KY 40507 (Fayette). Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at the Regional Office at **300 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 1700, Chicago, IL 60606**, or the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions at **1025 Capital Center Drive, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601**, not later than fifteen days after the publication date of this notice. The non-confidential portions of the application are on file at the appropriate FDIC office and the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions. This information is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the FDIC and upon written request to the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions. Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application will be made available by FDIC upon request. A schedule of charges for such copies can be obtained from the Regional Office. This notice is published pursuant to Part 303.44 of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the State of Kentucky.

Stock Yards Bank & Trust
By: /S/
Ja Hillebrand
Ja Hillebrand, CEO and Chairman
750466/1001466063
IPL0387015
Nov 6 2026

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Citadel Self Storage - Lexington located at 133 N. Locust Hill Dr., Lexington, KY, 40509 intends to hold a public sale to sell the property stored by tenants for default on their rental agreement. The sale will occur as an Online auction via www.storagetreasures.com on 11/10/2026 at 10:00 AM. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.
7568-364348
IPL0383053
Nov 6 2026

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Board of Architectural Review will hold a meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at 4:00 pm EST (3:00 pm CST), in the Council Chambers, Government Center, 200 East Main Street, Lexington, KY.
A public hearing will be held for the following Certificate of Appropriateness applications:

111 Wabash Drive: Construct garage additions and change openings.

138 Lackawanna Road: Construct garage.

163 East Third Street: Construct front porch and rear concrete patio.

330 Hampton Court: Enclose rear porch.

362 Transylvania Park: Paint unpainted brick structure.

To view the agenda, please see www.lexingtonky.gov/calendar or contact the Historic Preservation Office, 101 E. Vine St., Lexington, KY, 859-258-3265.
IPL0387012
Nov 6 2026

NOTICE

The Courthouse Area Design Review Board will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at 2:00 pm EST (1:00 pm CST), in the Council Chamber, Government Center, 200 East Main Street, Lexington, KY, in order to:

1. Introduce Kristin Dyer, the new Historic Preservation Director

2. Adopt the meeting and filing schedule for 2027

The full Agenda is available at www.lexingtonky.gov/calendar.

For further information, contact:
Historic Preservation Office
200 East Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507
Phone: 859-258-3265
IPL0387030
Nov 6 2026

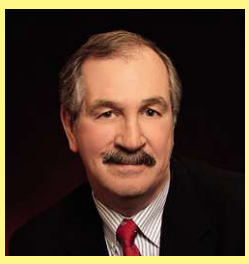
Public Notice

Kroger Limited Partnership I, 1014 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202, Hereby declares intention(s) to apply for a Quota Retail Package License, for Kroger # 359 Liquor Store, publication of notice for license, no later than November 4, 2026. The business to be licensed as Kroger # 359 Liquor store, located at 1650 Bryan Station Rd, STE 170, Lexington, KY 40505, Fayette County. The Principal Officers and Directors are as follows: President George Vincent, and Vice-President and Treasurer Carin Fike, located at 1014 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic, may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the KY Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 500 Mero St 2NE33, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, within thirty (30) days of the date of legal publication.
IPL0387141
Nov 6-10 2026

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