Palm Beach County Sports Commission Presents

LOU GROZA Collegiate Place-Kicker Award



College Football's <u>Top Kicking Award</u>

LOU GROZA NATIONAL COLLEGIATE PLACE KICKER AWARD "STARS OF THE WEEK" 11/12/2012



Anthony Cantele Kansas State



Dustin Hopkins Florida State



Cairo Santos Tulane

College football's top kicking award, the Lou Groza Collegiate Place-Kicker Award presented by the Palm Beach County Sports Commission recognizes three of the top kickers each week from FBS division teams as the "Stars of the Week." This week, the performances of three of the 20 semifinalists are highlighted.

Senior kicker Anthony Cantele's 3-for-4 field goal performance was vital to Kansas State's 23-10 defeat of TCU in Fort Worth on Saturday night. With the victory, the Wildcats remained undefeated and are on a ride they hope will lead to the BCS Championship game. They are now the #1 team in the BCS rankings for the first time in school history. Cantele connected from 41, 27 and 20 yards and added two extra points. His lone miss on the night came from 48 yards. The Wichita, Kansas native is 17-of-20 on the season and his 53-of-53 extra point mark is the highest in the nation by a kicker yet to miss. His 104 points are second on the team and are third in the nation among kickers.

A last-minute touchdown pulled out a 28-22 victory for Florida State over Virginia Tech in Blacksburg on Thursday night, but were it not for the eight points scored by senior kicker Dustin Hopkins, the Seminoles would not have won that crucial ACC game. The 2011 Lou Groza Award finalist kicked a 52-yard field goal on the first drive of the game and another from 45 yards, while adding two extra points. The Houston, Texas native is now 3-for-3 on 50-yard attempts this season and is tied for third for the most career 50 yarders among active kickers. His 111 points are the most in the nation by a kicker, and give him 437 for his career. That's the fifth highest mark in NCAA history, and just three away from becoming college football's all-time leading kicker.

Tulane University junior Cairo Santos is one of just three qualifying kickers who have yet to miss a field goal this season, and his 17for-17 mark is the best of them. The St. Augustine, Fla. native hit from 45, 43 and 30 yards and converted two PATs in the Green Wave's 37-23 road loss to the University of Memphis on Saturday. His 11 field goals of 40 yards or longer are three more than anyone in the nation, and includes two from beyond 50 yards including the school record of 57. Saturday's game was the first three field goal performance of his career, but his seventh multi-field goal game this season. His 73 points make him the team leader in scoring.

The Lou Groza Award will be presented as part of the Home Depot ESPN College Football Awards in Orlando, Fla. on Thursday, December 6th. The three finalists will be feted at the 21st Annual Lou Groza Awards Banquet on Tuesday, December 4th at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach, Fla. For more information on the Lou Groza Award, the Palm Beach County Sports Commission, and to vote for your favorite Star of the Week, visit <u>www.LouGrozaAward.com</u>.

National College Football Awards Association

The Lou Groza Collegiate Place-Kicker Award is a member of the National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA). The NCFAA was founded in 1997 as a coalition of the major collegiate football awards to protect, preserve and enhance the integrity, influence and prestige of the game's predominant awards. The NCFAA encourages professionalism and the highest standards for the administration of its member awards and the selection of their candidates and recipients. For more information, visit the association's official website, <u>www.ncfaa.org</u>. **About the Palm Beach County Sports Commission**

The Palm Beach County Sports Commission is a private, not-for-profit organization contracted by Palm Beach County to promote and market the County as a sports and sports tourism destination. The Commission brings sporting events and activities to the County, enhances economic impact, stimulates bed tax revenues (primarily in the off-season), and maximizes utilization of County facilities. The Commission offers a full range of event service support, corporate partnerships, sponsorships and a local membership program that support its goals. Local, regional, national and international marketing efforts are ongoing by the Commission with sports organizations and event owners. The Commission also produces sports-related programs for the residents of Palm Beach County including the annual Lou Groza Awards program, the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame, the Kids Fitness Festival of the Palm Beaches and awards the annual Sam Budnyk Student-Athlete Scholarship. For more information on the Palm Beach County Sports Commission go to <u>www.palmbeachsports.com</u>.