

# Tommy Eichenberg Named Semifinalist for Lott IMPACT Trophy



Ohio State linebacker Tommy Eichenberg has been named a semifinalist for the Lott IMPACT Trophy, an award which recognizes athletic performance and personal character.

Eichenberg - one of Ohio State's six team captains this season - has been a leader on and off the field for the Buckeyes, leading the defense with 85 tackles (eight for loss), 2.5 sacks and an interception returned for a touchdown.

He's seen a strong turnaround playing under defensive coordinator Jim Knowles, who said Eichenberg is "tough, driven and focused."

"(He) has the respect of the defense and continues to improve," Knowles said earlier this season.

The other semifinalists for the Lott IMPACT Trophy - of which the winner will be announced on Dec. 11 - are Alabama linebacker Will Anderson and safety Jordan Battle, Clemson linebacker Trenton Simpson, Georgia defensive lineman Jalen Carter, Kansas State defensive end Felix Anudike-Uzomah, LSU defensive end BJ Ojulariand, Penn State cornerback Joey Porter Jr. and USC defensive lineman Tuli Tuipulotu.

Eichenberg is also a semifinalist for the Bednarik and Butkus awards, which honor the best defensive player and the best linebacker in college football, respectively.