



## **SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR NOMINATION**

**Individual/Team Name:** Mike Hollins, UVA Football

**Sport:** Football

**Connection to Virginia:** Running Back, University of Virginia

### **2023 Achievement(s):**

- Returned to the field in 2023 after surviving an on-campus shooting, during which three teammates were killed
- 2023 stats:
  - 80 carries, 274 yds, 7 touchdowns
  - 10 receptions, 34 yds, 1 touchdown
- 2023 ACC Brian Piccolo Award recipient

## Will Driscoll

---

**From:** Virginia Sports Hall of Fame <info@vasportshof.com>  
**Sent:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** Will Driscoll  
**Subject:** Sportsperson of the Year Award Entry

**Name of Individual**

Mike Hollins

**Name of Team**

University of Virginia Football

**Sport(s)**

Football

**Connection to Virginia**

Running Back for UVA Football

**Significant Athletic Achievement in 2023**

Returned to play in 2023 after surviving on-campus shooting during which three teammates were killed.

**Nominee Contact Information (email or phone)**

---

Twitter @MikeHollins7 Instagram @M7KEHOLLINS

---

If there are any additional accolades, accomplishments, or comments you would like the Hall of Fame to consider as it reviews your nomination, please list them here (500 words or less). Please include links to articles or news stories, and online biographical information in the space provided

[https://richmond.com/virginias-mike-hollins-named-recipient-of-accs-piccolo-award/article\\_cf4aae26-5a6c-525f-922a-53765f708437.html](https://richmond.com/virginias-mike-hollins-named-recipient-of-accs-piccolo-award/article_cf4aae26-5a6c-525f-922a-53765f708437.html)

<https://virginiasports.com/player/mike-hollins/>

---

Please include any documents that details the student's academic and athletic achievements, and community contributions; this includes letters of support/recommendation and student essay.

 [Hollins.jpg](#)

---

**Nominator Name**

Tom Yeager

---

**Nominator Email**

[yeagerte@gmail.com](mailto:yeagerte@gmail.com)

---

**Nominator Phone Number**

(804) 229-9549

---

**All nomination materials must be received together**

Acknowledged

Sent from [Virginia Sports Hall of Fame](#)

[https://dailyprogress.com/sports/college/cavalierinsider/football/virginias-mike-hollins-named-recipient-of-accs-piccolo-award/article\\_4f8bf4c0-8d79-11ee-a6ed-db4acd0ee8c0.html](https://dailyprogress.com/sports/college/cavalierinsider/football/virginias-mike-hollins-named-recipient-of-accs-piccolo-award/article_4f8bf4c0-8d79-11ee-a6ed-db4acd0ee8c0.html)

VIRGINIA FOOTBALL

## Virginia's Mike Hollins named recipient of ACC's Piccolo Award

Gmadia

Nov 27, 2023



From left to right, UVa's Mike Hollins, UVa's Head Coach Tony Elliot, and Hollins brother Deuce on the field at senior at Scott Stadium on Saturday, Nov. 25 2023.

CAL CARY THE DAILY PROGRESS

Gmadia

**T**here was not a more fitting honor for Virginia running back Mike Hollins, who was named the recipient of the ACC's Brian Piccolo Award on Monday evening.

The Piccolo Award has been given annually to the "most courageous" football player in the conference.

Hollins returned to game action less than 10 months after surviving the Nov. 13, 2022 shooting in Charlottesville that killed teammates Lavel Davis Jr., D'Sean Perry and Devin Chandler.

Hollins suffered gunshot wounds to his stomach, but made a miraculous recovery in time to be on the field again for spring practice, and from the instant he was around the Cavaliers again, he was their inspirational leader all the way through the end of the season.

"He's one of those transformational type of individuals that we'll look back years from now and be like, 'Wow, we were around somebody that's truly, truly special,'" UVa coach Tony Elliott said last week about Hollins ahead of his senior day.

---

## **People are also reading...**

- 1 Home sales dropped to the lowest level in 28 years. See where home sales are headed in Richmond**
- 2 Ex-Spiders star Tyler Burton jumped to Villanova. Was that the right move?**
- 3 SCHOOL CLOSINGS: Hanover, Goochland, Powhatan opening two hours late Friday**
- 4 Richmond-area Chick-fil-A restaurants to offer free chicken sandwich**

---

And Hollins was excellent in his role on offense throughout the campaign. He rushed for 274 yards and a team-best seven touchdowns while playing in a rotation along with fellow running backs Perris Jones and Kobe Pace.

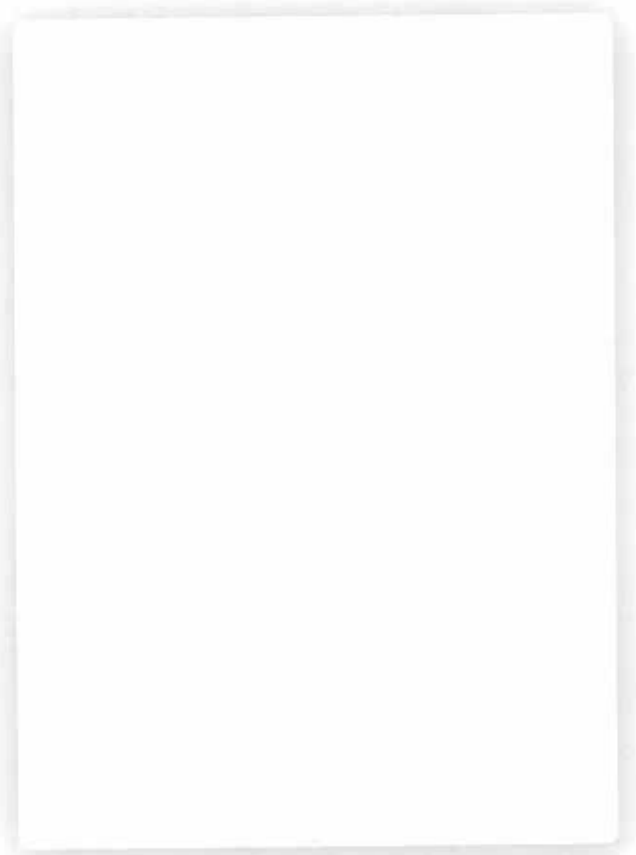
It was Hollins, too, who had the most impactful performance of his career in one of the most historic victories for the Hoos. In their Oct. 21 upset win over then-No. 10 North Carolina — for UVA's first ever road victory over a top-10 foe — Hollins rushed for 66 yards and scored three rushing touchdowns.

“We envisioned. We kept fighting, and this team is full of fighters,” Hollins said that night.

And about receiving the award, Hollins said in a press release: “When I received the news that I was named the Piccolo Award winner, I had to talk to the team that day at practice. I told them this was not a ‘me’ award, this was a ‘we’ award. And I really mean that. This year, together, we have gone through something we could have never imagined.”

He's the sixth ever UVA player to earn the Piccolo Award, which was established by the conference in 1970 in memory of the late Brian Piccolo who starred at Wake Forest. Piccolo's NFL career was cut short with the Chicago Bears after he was diagnosed with cancer.

Other Cavaliers who've been named Piccolo Award winners are Scott Gardner (1975), Chris Harrison (1994), Anthony Poindexter (1998), Kevin Bailey (2003) and Ryan Best (2005).



7

## MIKE HOLLINS

<b>RB</b>	<b>5'9"</b>	<b>204 LBS.</b>	<b>GRADUATE STUDENT</b>
Position	Height	Weight	Class

<b>BATON ROUGE, LA.</b>	<b>UNIVERSITY LAB</b>
Hometown	High School

 **@MIKEHOLLINS7**  **@M7KEHOLLINS**



BIO



STATS



NEWS



## HONORS

**2023** – Recipient of the ACC’s Brian Piccolo Award, annually given to the league’s most courageous football player ... winner of the Capital One Orange Bowl-FWAA Courage Award ... won the 2023 Comeback Player of the Year given out by CSC, Associated Press and the Fiesta Bowl ... named on of three finalists for the Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year Award. **2022** – Academic All-ACC

## AT VIRGINIA

**2023** – Voted as one of five team captains at the conclusion of the season ... appeared in 11 of UVA’s 12 games ... led the Cavaliers with seven rushing touchdowns, tied for the 14th-most in the ACC ... had eight total touchdowns (7 rush, 1 rec) tied for the 15th most in the ACC ... rushed for 274 yards on 80 carries ... caught 10 passes for 37 yards ... **rushed for three-touchdowns** and had a season-high 15 carries and 66 rushing yards in UVA’s 31-27 road win over then-No. 10 North Carolina, the most by a UVA running back since 2019 (Wayne Taulapapa vs. FSU) ... the three touchdowns were the most against a top-10 opponent by a UVA running back since Tiki Barber in 1996 against by then-No. 6 Texas ... in the home opener against JMU on UVA Strong Day, scored two touchdowns (**4-yard rush & 9-yard rush**) and rushed for 28 yards on 12 carries ... put together his third multi-touchdown (**1-yard rush & 10-yard rush**) game of the season against Miami while rushing for 49 yards on 13 carries ... UVA won both game in which he amassed 50 or more rushing yards (North Carolina – 66 yards & Duke 50 yards) ... Against Duke on Nov. 18 had a 22-yard rush, his longest of the season. **2022** – Appeared in nine of UVA’s games, starting in two ... rushed eight times for 24 yards and scored a touchdown in Virginia’s season opener against Richmond ... returned three kickoffs for 74 yards against Richmond... rushed five times for 12 yards and caught two passes for 13 yards against Richmond ... rushed eight times for 29 yards and scored a touchdown against Old Dominion ... rushed twice for 22 yards and caught two passes for 15 yards against Syracuse ... rushed three times

for 14 yards and returned two kickoffs for 46 yards against Duke ... rushed twice for 16 yards and caught a pass for 64 yards against Miami, Virginia's longest reception of the season ... rushed 16 times for 75 yards against UNC ... rushed eight times for 23 yards and caught three passes for 22 yards against Pitt ... named to 2022-23 ACC Honor Roll. **2021** - Appeared in nine of UVA's games and started against Wake Forest ... rushed 10 times for 38 yards and a touchdown in a win over Miami ... rushed seven times for 30 yards and a touchdown against Pitt ... returned four kickoffs against Wake Forest for 71 yards. **2020** - Did not appear in any games. **2019** - Appeared 12 of UVA's 14 games ... one of 17 UVA true freshmen to appear in 2019 ... made collegiate debut on special teams at Pitt ... scored a touchdown on his first career rush against William & Mary (nine yards) ... became the first Cavalier since Jordan Ellis in 2015 to score a touchdown on first career rush ... led UVA with 11 rushes for 78 yards (7.1 ypr) and two touchdowns against the Tribe ... made a special teams tackle and rushed twice at Miami ... rushed eight times for 27 yards and a touchdown in the win over Liberty.

## HIGH SCHOOL AND PERSONAL

Played running back and linebacker at University Lab High School for head coach Chad Mahaffey ... led University Lab to back-to-back 3A state championships in 2017 and 2018 ... earned MVP honors of the 2018 state championship game after rushing 27 times for 237 yards and four touchdowns ... also caught five passes for 47 yards and a score in the state title game ... finished senior season with 1,645 rushing yards and 33 touchdowns on the ground ... a three-star recruit by ESPN.com, Rivals.com and 247sports.com ... major is American Studies and a major in African-American & African Studies...earning a graduate certificate in Education...recipient of the 2022-2023 Sanford B. Prater Football Scholarship



© 2024 All rights reserved.  
[Privacy Policy](#) / [Terms Of Use](#)

Powered by

