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# UT's Xavier Worthy is worthy pass catcher

(VILLAGER) - How fast is Texas sophomore wide receiver Xavier Worthy?

Fast enough to run a personal-best 10.55 seconds in the 100 meters in high school.

Fast enough to lead all FBS freshman in receiving yards, receiving yards per game, and receiving touchdowns.

In other words, Worthy is as fast as he needs to be.

Worthy has three gears - fast, very fast, and gone.

Beep! Beep!

It doesn't matter who, what, or where, 5-star cornerback or no-star cornerback, Worthy catches passes - especially the long ball - against all comers.

Defensive backs know they can't handle Worthy one-on-one, not unless they're on a motorcycle. Stubbornly, they try anyway.

When Worthy tracks a pass in the air, his stride smooths out and he shifts into a higher gear, with defenders, usually hapless, stumbling in pursuit.

Like his more heralded teammate, junior running back Bijan Robinson, Worthy - as he did last week against Alabama, while Robinson was mostly held in check - can dictate the flow of a game.

As a true freshman - no redshirt year was necessary - Worthy, 12



XAVIER WORTHY



months removed from torching high school secondaries - set UT freshman records in receptions (62), yards (981) and touchdown receptions (12). He averaged a ridiculous 31.2 yards per TD catch. That's almost a third of the length of the football field, every time he scored. He also led the Longhorns with 15 explosive plays (20 or more yards).

In his signature game against arch-rival Oklahoma, Worthy caught nine passes for 261 yards (the second most in a game in UT history and best ever output against the

Sooners) with two touchdowns. Against Texas Tech, three of his five receptions went for touchdowns. He averaged 28.8 yards on four catches against Baylor, and he snatched a career-high 14 receptions with three more touchdowns against Kansas. A virtual scoring machine, Worthy recorded touchdowns in seven of his first 12 college games.

So far this season, Worthy has picked up where he left off. In his first two games, Worthy has seven catches for 121 yards (19.4-yard average). That includes five receptions for 97 yards

against Alabama.

Worthy had one catch for 46 yards in the first quarter against Alabama's vaunted secondary where he blazed past a defensive back to create the necessary separation to make a diving grab. On an earlier drive, Worthy couldn't

hold onto a deep ball in the back of the end zone - again featuring his uncanny ability to leave defensive backs in the dust.

It doesn't seem to matter who's throwing the ball to Worthy, who's caught touchdown passes from three differ-

ent UT quarterbacks, including precocious freshman Quinn Ewers, who's sidelined indefinitely with a shoulder injury suffered against Alabama.

In the immortal words of Keyshawn Johnson, just give Worthy the damn ball!

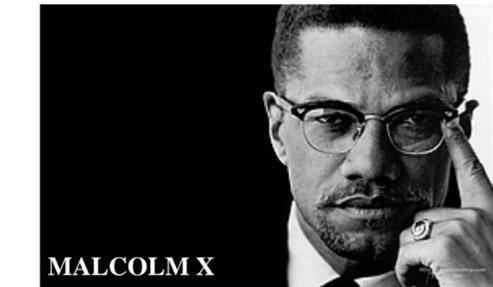
## Malcolm X becomes 1st Black honoree in Nebraska Hall of Fame

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Fifteen years after being rejected as too controversial, Malcolm X is the first Black honoree to be inducted into the Nebraska Hall of Fame.

The organization's commission selected the civil rights icon on Monday with a 4-3 vote, edging out the late University of Nebraska educator and author Louise Pound.

"Malcolm X used the lessons he learned early in life and his intellectual power, dedication and perseverance in the fight for freedom and equality for all during the civil rights movement in America," said commission chairman Ron Hull. "His work and his legacy continue to impact the citizens of the world."

Malcolm X was born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1925 as the son of a Baptist preacher. His family left for Milwaukee the following year af-



MALCOLM X

ter threats from the Ku Klux Klan.

At 20, he was convicted of burglary in Boston and sentenced to nearly seven years in prison, where he converted to Islam and later changed his name. He emerged as a fiery Nation of Islam minister with a message that Black people should cast off white oppression "by any means necessary," before later splitting from the Nation of Islam and renouncing racial separatism.

He was assassinated in Manhattan's Audubon Ballroom by gunmen who opened fire during a speaking engagement.

The firebrand was

first nominated for Nebraska's Hall of Fame in 2004, but passed over by a commission made up solely of white men who instead selected a mid-1900s U.S. senator who made a name for himself with his campaign to remove gay men from government posts in the 1940s and 1950s. The pick of Sen. Kenneth Wherry was later nixed because of an open-meetings violation.

Malcolm X was passed over again in 2007 for little-known botanist Charles Bessey.

Each Nebraska Hall of Fame member is immortalized with a bronze bust displayed in the state Capitol.



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