



JOHN MACKEY AWARD

BEST COLLEGIATE TIGHT END

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2009 JOHN MACKEY AWARD PRESEASON WATCH LIST RELEASED

Manhasset, N.Y. (July 29, 2009) – The 2009 John Mackey Award watch list has been released by the Nassau County Sports Commission. Given annually to the best collegiate tight end, the award recipient is selected by vote of the John Mackey Award Selection Committee and the 2009 John Mackey winner will be announced on December 10, 2009.

NFL Hall of Fame member John Mackey is considered to be the best to have played the tight end position. A tight end by whom all others are measured, Mackey was a role model on and off the field as demonstrated by his Super Bowl Championship, his commitment to community and his place in history as the first President of the NFLPA.

The John Mackey Award presented since 2000, lists eight NFL players as alumni: Dallas Clark ('01) of the 2006 Super Bowl Champion Indianapolis Colts, two-time Super Bowl Champion Daniel Graham ('02) of the Denver Broncos, Kellen Winslow II ('03) of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, two-time Super Bowl Champion Heath Miller ('04) of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Mercedes Lewis ('05) of the Jacksonville Jaguars, Matt Spaeth ('06) of the of the 2008 Super Bowl Champion Pittsburgh Steelers, Fred Davis ('07) of the Washington Redskins and the 2008 John Mackey Award recipient Chase Coffman of the Cincinnati Bengals.

2009 JOHN MACKEY AWARD WATCH LIST

<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>YR</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>YR</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
Jeffrey Anderson	JR	UAB	Blaine Irby	JR	Texas
Jake Ballard	SR	Ohio State	Jeron Mastrud	SR	Kansas St
Greg Boone	SR	Virginia Tech	Anthony McCoy	SR	USC
Nate Byham	SR	Pittsburgh	Mike McNeill	JR	Nebraska
Jeff Cottam	SR	Tennessee	Tony Moeaki	JR	Iowa
Ed Dickson	SR	Oregon	Ryan Moya	SR	UCLA
Richard Dickson	SR	LSU	Logan Paulsen	SR	UCLA
TC Drake	SR	Kentucky	Dennis Pitta	SR	BYU
Charlie Gantt	JR	Mich St	Andrew Quarless	SR	Penn St
Riar Geer	SR	Colorado	Kyle Rudolph	SO	Notre Dame
Garrett Graham	SR	Wisconsin	Weslye Saunders	JR	South Carolina
Jermaine Gresham	SR	Oklahoma	Cody Slate	JR	Marshall
Rob Gronkowski	JR	Arizona	Tommy Trott	SR	Auburn
Aaron Hernandez	JR	Florida	DJ Williams	JR	Arkansas
Mike Hoomanawanui	SR	Illinois	Ben Wooster	SR	Wake Forest

The Nassau County Sports Commission, a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization created to enhance the quality of life through sports is responsible for the administration of the John Mackey Award and the John Mackey Award Selection Committee. For more information, please visit www.nassausports.org.

The John Mackey 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, www.ncfaa.org.