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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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2015 BRONKO NAGURSKI TROPHY WATCH LIST UNVEILED

DALLAS (FWAA) – The 2014 **Bronko Nagurski Trophy** winner Scooby Wright III tops the 88-man **2015 Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List** announced by the Football Writers Association of America on Friday.

Wright, a junior linebacker from Arizona, will seek to become only the second player in the 22-year history of the award to win it twice after Northwestern's Pat Fitzgerald in 1995-96. Ohio State end Joey Bosa, another first team FWAA All-America from 2014, also returns as a junior to challenge Wright.

There are five FWAA second-teamer All-Americans from a year ago on the 2015 Watch List: Michigan State end Shilique Calhoun, and defensive backs Kendall Fuller of Virginia Tech, Jeremy Cash of Duke, Jalen Ramsey of Florida State and Michael Caputo of Wisconsin.

Players may be added or removed from the watch list during the course of the season. Once again, the FWAA will announce a Bronko Nagurski National Defensive Player of the Week each Tuesday from early September through mid November. If not already on the watch list, the honored player will be added at that time. The FWAA and the Charlotte Touchdown Club will announce five finalists for the 2015 Bronko Nagurski Trophy on Nov. 19.

The Bronko Nagurski Trophy winner will be chosen from those five finalists who are part of the 2014 FWAA All-America Team. The FWAA All-America Committee, after voting input from the association's entire membership, selects the 26-man All-America Team and eventually the Nagurski finalists. Committee members, then by individual ballot, select the winner, the best defensive player in college football during the FWAA's 75th anniversary year.

The annual Bronko Nagurski Trophy Banquet, presented by ACN, will be held on Dec. 7 at the Westin Hotel in Charlotte. In addition to the 2015 Bronko Nagurski Trophy winner's announcement, the banquet will also celebrate the recipient of the Bronko Nagurski Legends Award, sponsored by the CTC and Florida East Coast Railway. Ohio State's Randy Gradishar, a member of the FWAA's 1973 All-America team and a College Football Hall of Famer, will be honored. Auburn head coach Gus Malzahn will be the keynote speaker at the banquet.

The FWAA has named a National Defensive Player of the Year since 1993. In 1995, the FWAA named the award in honor of the legendary two-way player from the University of Minnesota. Nagurski dominated college football then became a star for professional football's Chicago Bears in the 1930s. Bronislaw "Bronko" Nagurski is a charter member of both the College Football and Pro Football Halls of Fame.

Celebrating its 75th anniversary this season, the **Football Writers Association of America** consists of 1,400 men and women who cover college football. The membership includes journalists, broadcasters and publicists, as well as key executives in all the areas that involve the game. The FWAA works to govern areas that include game-day operations, major awards and its annual All-America team. For more information about the FWAA and its award programs, contact Steve Richardson at tiger@fwaa.com.

The Bronko Nagurski Trophy is a member of the **National College Football Awards Association** (NCFAA) which encompasses the most prestigious awards in college football. The 22 awards boast more than 700 years of tradition-selection excellence. Visit www.NCFAA.org to learn more about our story.



Beginning in 2015, **The Home Depot College Football Awards** will have a new home at the National Football Foundation's College Football Hall of Fame and Chick-fil-A Fan Experience in downtown Atlanta. Airing live on ESPN on December 10, 2015, college football's brightest stars will be honored for their performance on and off the field.

The members of the NCFAA are unveiling their preseason watch lists over a 11-day period this month. Sixteen of the association's 22 awards select a preseason watch list and the NCFAA has spearheaded a coordinated effort to promote each award's preseason candidates. Following is the complete 2015 preseason watch list calendar:

Tues., July 7: Bednarik Award/Maxwell Award

Wed., July 8: Mackey Award/Rimington Trophy

Thurs., July 9: Lou Groza Award/Ray Guy Award

Fri., July 10: Bronko Nagurski Trophy/Outland Trophy

Mon., July 13: Jim Thorpe Award

Tues., July 14: Butkus Award/Rotary Lombardi Award

Wed., July 15: Biletnikoff Award/Wuerffel Trophy

Thurs., July 16: Davey O'Brien Award/Doak Walker Award

Fri., July 17: Walter Camp Award

ABOUT THE CHARLOTTE TOUCHDOWN CLUB AND ITS SPONSORS

The **Charlotte Touchdown Club** is a non-profit organization founded in 1990 for the purpose of promoting high school, collegiate, and professional football in the Charlotte, N.C., region. The club's activities and services focus community attention on the outstanding citizenship, scholarship, sportsmanship, and leadership of area athletes and coaches. For more information, contact John Rocco (704-347-2918 or jrocco@touchdownclub.com). The official website of the Charlotte Touchdown Club is touchdownclub.com.

ACN, Inc.

Founded in 1993, ACN is the world's largest direct seller of telecommunications, energy and essential services for residential and business customers. ACN provides the services people need and use every day including home phone service, high-speed internet, wireless, television, home security and automation, computer support and natural gas and electricity. ACN operates in 24 countries with offices located throughout North America, Europe, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific. For more information, visit myacn.com. For information on ACN's home-based business opportunity, visit acninc.com.

Florida East Coast Railway

FECR is a regional freight railroad that extends along a 351-mile corridor between Jacksonville, Fla., and Miami, Fla., with exclusive rail access to the Port of Palm Beach, Port Everglades (Ft. Lauderdale) and the Port of Miami. For more information, visit fecrwy.com.

Electrolux

Electrolux is a global leader in appliances for household and professional use, selling more than 50 million products to customers in more than 150 countries every year. The company focuses on innovations that are thoughtfully designed, based on extensive consumer insight, to meet the real needs of consumers and professionals. Electrolux products include refrigerators, dishwashers, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, cookers and air-conditioners sold under esteemed brands such as Electrolux, Frigidaire, Kelvinator, AEG, and Eureka. In 2012, Electrolux had sales of \$17 billion (\$5.1 billion in North America) and 58,000 employees. The Electrolux North American headquarters is located at 10200 David Taylor Drive, Charlotte, NC 28262 in the University Research Park. For more information visit <http://newsroom.electrolux.com/us/>.



2015 BRONKO NAGURSKI TROPHY PRESEASON WATCH LIST

The **Bronko Nagurski Trophy** is presented to the National Defensive Player of the Year by the **Charlotte Touchdown Club** and the **Football Writers Association of America**.

Tackles (14)

Andrew Billings, Baylor
Kenny Clark, UCLA
Maliek Collins, Nebraska
Sheldon Day, Notre Dame
Adam Gotsis, Georgia Tech
Chris Jones, Mississippi State
Gerrard Johnson, ULM
Luther Maddy, Virginia Tech
Corey Marshall, Virginia Tech
Robert Nkemdiche, Ole Miss
A'Shawn Robinson, Alabama
Travis Tuiloma, BYU
Adolphus Washington, Ohio State
Anthony Zettel, Penn State

Ends (20)

Jonathan Allen, Alabama
Derek Barnett, Tennessee
Joey Bosa, Ohio State
DeForest Buckner, Oregon
Shilique Calhoun, Michigan State
Kamalei Correa, Boise State
Ken Ekanem, Virginia Tech
Myles Garrett, Texas A&M
Jordan Jenkins, Georgia
Bronson Kaufusi, BYU
Carl Lawson, Auburn
Shawn Oakman, Baylor
Pat O'Connor, Eastern Michigan
Emmanuel Ogbah, Oklahoma State
Drew Ott, Iowa

Dadi Nicolas, Virginia Tech
Sheldon Rankins, Louisville
Pete Robertson, Texas Tech
Ian Seau, Nevada
Charles Tapper, Oklahoma

Linebackers (25)

Dominique Alexander, Oklahoma
Kendell Beckwith, LSU
Vince Biegel, Wisconsin
Kentrell Brothers, Missouri
James Burgess, Louisville
Su'a Cravens, USC
Kyler Fackrell, Utah State
Leonard Floyd, Georgia
Myles Jack, UCLA
Darron Lee, Ohio State
Curt Maggitt, Tennessee
Blake Martinez, Stanford
Tyler Matakevich, Temple
Cassanova McKinzy, Auburn
Antonio Morrison, Florida
Jared Norris, Utah
Joshua Perry, Ohio State
Reggie Ragland, Alabama
Jovan Santos-Knox, Massachusetts
Joe Schmidt, Notre Dame
Jaylon Smith, Notre Dame
Terrance Smith, Florida State
Eric Striker, Oklahoma
Jeremy Timpf, Army
Scooby Wright III, Arizona

Backs (29)

Budda Baker, Washington
Dante Barnett, Kansas State
Vonn Bell, Ohio State
Quin Blanding, Virginia
Brieon Boddy-Calhoun, Minnesota
Maurice Canady, Virginia
Michael Caputo, Wisconsin
Jeremy Cash, Duke
Tony Conner, Ole Miss
Kendall Fuller, Virginia Tech
Vernon Hargreaves III, Florida
Adoree' Jackson, USC
William Jackson, Houston
Jonathan Jones, Auburn
Karl Joseph, West Virginia
William Likely, Maryland
Jordan Lucas, Penn State
Danzel McDaniel, Kansas State
Adrian McDonald, Houston
Jalen Mills, LSU
Fabian Moreau, UCLA
Eric Murray, Minnesota
Jalen Ramsey, Florida State
Will Redmond, Mississippi State
KeiVarae Russell, Notre Dame
Zack Sanchez, Oklahoma
Darian Thompson, Boise State
Xavier Woods, Louisiana Tech
Ronald Zamort, Western Michigan

By conference (88): SEC (20), Big Ten (15), ACC (13), Big 12 (11), Pac-12 (10), Independents (7), Mountain West (4), American (3), Mid-American (3), Conference USA (1), Sun Belt (1).