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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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2014 BRONKO NAGURSKI TROPHY WATCH LIST UNVEILED

DALLAS (FWAA) – The Pac-12 Conference led all leagues with 18 players on the **2014 Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List**, with Oregon, Stanford, USC and Washington supplying the majority from that conference.

The four other power conferences – ACC, Big 12, Big Ten and SEC – all had double-digit players on the 81-man list. Eight of the 10 NCAA Division I Bowl Subdivision conferences are represented.

Twelve schools had at least three players on the list – Stanford (4), Washington (4), Alabama, Clemson, Georgia, Michigan, Michigan State, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, TCU and USC.

There are no returning first-team defensive FWAAs All-America players from last season, but three 2013 second-teamers are on the 2014 Nagurski Watch List: end Vic Beasley, Clemson; back Ifo Ekpre-Olomu, Oregon; and end Ryan Mueller, Kansas State.

Players may be added or removed from the watch list during the course of the season. Once again, the FWAAs will choose a Bronko Nagurski National Defensive Player of the Week each Tuesday throughout the season. If not already on the watch list, the honored player will be added at that time. The FWAAs and the Charlotte Touchdown Club will announce five finalists for the 2014 Bronko Nagurski Trophy on Nov. 20.

The Bronko Nagurski Trophy winner will be chosen from those five finalists who are part of the 2014 FWAAs All-America Team. The FWAAs 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 America.

The annual Bronko Nagurski Trophy Banquet will be held on Dec. 8 at the Westin Hotel in Charlotte. In addition to the 2014 Bronko Nagurski Trophy winner announcement, the banquet will also celebrate the recipient of the Bronko Nagurski Legends Award, sponsored by Florida East Coast Railway. Maryland's Randy White, a member of the FWAAs 1974 All-America team and a College Football Hall of Famer, will be honored. Alabama head coach Nick Saban will be the keynote speaker at the banquet.

The FWAAs has named a National Defensive Player of the Year since 1993. In 1995, the FWAAs 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. Pittsburgh tackle Aaron Donald won the award last season.

The **Football Writers Association of America**, a non-profit organization founded in 1941, consists of more than 1,400 men and women who cover college football for a living. The membership includes journalists, broadcasters and publicists, as well as key executives in all areas that involve the game. The FWAAs works to govern areas that include gameday operations, major awards and its annual All-America team. For more information about the FWAAs and its award programs, contact Steve Richardson at tiger@fwaa.com or 214-870-6516.



more/over

The **Charlotte Touchdown Club** was founded in 1991 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.

The **Bronko Nagurski Trophy** is a member of the **National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA)**. The NCFAA encompasses the most prestigious awards in college football. The 21 awards boast nearly 700 years of tradition-selection excellence. Visit ncfaa.org to learn more about our story.

The members of the NCFAA are unveiling their preseason watch lists over a 12-day period this month. Fifteen of the association's 21 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 2014 preseason watch list calendar:

July 7: Maxwell Award/Bednarik Award

July 8: Mackey Award/Riminigton Trophy

July 9: Lou Groza Award/Ray Guy Award

July 10: Bronko Nagurski Trophy/Outland Trophy

July 11: Jim Thorpe Award

July 14: Butkus Award/Rotary Lombardi Award

July 15: Biletnikoff Award

July 16: Davey O'Brien Award

July 17: Doak Walker Award

July 18: Walter Camp Award



2014 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 (10)

Michael Bennett, Ohio State
Malcom Brown, Texas
Christian Covington, Rice
Carl Davis, Iowa
Chucky Hunter, TCU
Grady Jarrett, Clemson
Luther Maddy, Virginia Tech
Robert Nkemdiche, Ole Miss
Danny Shelton, Washington
Gabe Wright, Auburn

Ends (23)

Henry Anderson, Stanford
Vic Beasley, Clemson
Joey Bosa, Ohio State
Shilique Calhoun, Michigan State
Frank Clark, Michigan
Tyeler Davison, Fresno State
Alvin Dupree, Kentucky
Mario Edwards Jr., Florida State
Devonte Fields, TCU
Trey Flowers, Arkansas
Dante Fowler Jr., Florida
Markus Golden, Missouri
Randy Gregory, Nebraska
Martin Ifedi, Memphis
Hau'oli Kikaha, Washington
Lorenzo Mauldin, Louisville
Ryan Mueller, Kansas State

Shawn Oakman, Baylor
Cedric Reed, Texas
A'Shawn Robinson, Alabama
Charles Tapper, Oklahoma
Tony Washington, Oregon
Leonard Williams, USC

Linebackers (24)

Stephone Anthony, Clemson
Kelby Brown, Duke
Trey DePriest, Alabama
Kyler Fackrell, Utah State
Leonard Floyd, Georgia
Alani Fua, BYU
Bryce Hager, Baylor
Ben Heeney, Kansas
Myles Jack, UCLA
Jordan Jenkins, Georgia
A.J. Johnson, Tennessee
Eric Kendricks, UCLA
Derrick Malone, Oregon
Tyler Matakevich, Temple
Derrick Mathews, Houston
Benardrick McKinney, Mississippi State
Denzel Perryman, Miami
Hayes Pullard, USC
Jake Ryan, Michigan
Jaylon Smith, Notre Dame
Eric Striker, Oklahoma

A.J. Tarpley, Stanford
Shaq Thompson, Washington
Ramik Wilson, Georgia

Backs (24)

Craig Bills, BYU
Alex Carter, Stanford
Sam Carter, TCU
Jeremy Cash, Duke
Landon Collins, Alabama
Blake Countess, Michigan
Su'a Cravens, USC
Quandre Diggs, Texas
Lorenzo Doss, Tulane
Kurtis Drummond, Michigan State
Ifo Ekpre-Olomu, Oregon
Kendall Fuller, Virginia Tech
Vernon Hargreaves III, Florida
Anthony Harris, Virginia
Steven Nelson, Oregon State
Marcus Peters, Washington
Cody Prewitt, Ole Miss
Jordan Richards, Stanford
KeiVarae Russell, Notre Dame
Zack Sanchez, Oklahoma
Derron Smith, Fresno State
Jared Tevis, Arizona
Trae Waynes, Michigan State
P.J. Williams, Florida State

By conference (81): Pac-12 18, SEC 16, Big 12 13, ACC 12, Big Ten 10, American Athletic 4, Independents 4, Mountain West 3, Conference USA 1.