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Walter Camp Football Foundation Announces 2008 Player of the Year "Watch List"

New Haven, Conn. – The Walter Camp Football Foundation has announced the names of 35 “players to watch” for its prestigious Player of the Year award, the nation’s fourth-oldest individual college football accolade.

“We are proud to continue the great work of Walter Camp and recognize the best college football players in the nation,” Foundation president John Barbarotta said. “This watch list is a great start to what is shaping up to be another exciting year of college football.”

Five players on the 2008 watch list – Ohio State LB James Laurinaitis, Florida QB Tim Tebow, Texas Tech WR Michael Crabtree, Wisconsin TE Travis Beckum and South Florida DE George Selvie – were named to last year’s Walter Camp All-America First Team.

The watch list will be narrowed to 15 semi-finalists in early November. The 2008 Walter Camp Player of the Year recipient, which is voted on by the 119 NCAA Bowl Subdivision head coaches and sports information directors, will be announced on the *ESPN/Home Depot College Football Awards Show* in December. The winner will then receive his trophy at the Foundation’s annual national awards banquet on January 10, 2009 at the Yale University Commons in New Haven.

Last year’s recipient was Arkansas running back and current Oakland Raider Darren McFadden.

Walter Camp, “The Father of American football,” first selected an All-America team in 1889. Camp – a former Yale University athlete and football coach – is also credited with developing play from scrimmage, set plays, the numerical assessment of goals and tries and the restriction of play to eleven men per side. The Walter Camp Football Foundation (www.waltercamp.org) – a New Haven-based all-volunteer group – was founded in 1967 to perpetuate the ideals of Camp and to continue the tradition of selecting annually an All-America team.

2008 Walter Camp Player of the Year "Watch List"

Travis Beckum, TE, Senior, Wisconsin !
Arrelious Benn, WR, Sophomore, Illinois
Sam Bradford, QB, Sophomore, Oklahoma
Tom Brandstater, QB, Senior, Fresno State
Joe Burnett, DB, Senior, Central Florida
Rudy Carpenter, QB, Senior, Arizona State
Michael Crabtree, WR, Sophomore, Texas Tech !
Chase Daniel, QB, Senior, Missouri %
James Davis, RB, Senior, Clemson
Nate Davis, QB, Junior, Ball State
Jarett Dillard, WR, Senior, Rice #
Max Hall, QB, Junior, Brigham Young
Percy Harvin, WR, Junior, Florida
P.J. Hill, RB, Junior, Wisconsin
Malcolm Jenkins, DB, Senior, Ohio State
Ian Johnson, RB, Senior, Boise State
James Laurinaitis, LB, Senior, Ohio State @
Marlon Lucky, RB, Senior, Nebraska
Dan LeFevour, QB, Junior, Central Michigan
Sen’Derrick Marks, DT, Senior, Auburn

Ray Mauluga, LB, Senior, USC
Colt McCoy, QB, Junior, Texas
LeSean McCoy, RB, Sophomore, Pittsburgh
Scott McKillop, LB, Senior, Pittsburgh
Knowshon Moreno, RB, Sophomore, Georgia
Nick Reed, DL, Senior, Oregon
Todd Reesing, QB, Junior, Kansas
Javon Ringer, RB, Senior, Michigan State
George Selvie, DE, Junior, South Florida !
Alphonso Smith, DB, Senior, Wake Forest %
Rusty Smith, QB, Junior, Florida Atlantic
C.J. Spiller, RB, Junior, Clemson
Tim Tebow, QB, Junior, Florida !
Chris Wells, RB, Junior, Ohio State
Pat White, QB, Senior, West Virginia

! – 2007 Walter Camp First Team All-American
@ – 2006 and 2007 Walter Camp First Team All-American
– 2006 Walter Camp Second Team All-American
% – 2007 Walter Camp Second Team All-American