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**BOSTON COLLEGE'S MATT RYAN WINS
2007 JOHNNY UNITAS GOLDEN ARM AWARD**

BALTIMORE, MD (12/3/07) --- Boston College quarterback Matt Ryan has been named the 2007 winner of the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award.

The award is presented annually by the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. to the best senior college quarterback in the nation. The official announcement was aired the evening of Monday, December 3rd on "Out of Bounds," on CN8, The Comcast Network.

This past November, Ryan surpassed Doug Flutie for the most passing touchdowns in a single season by an Eagle QB with 28 touchdowns.

With a final bowl game remaining in the 2007 season, Ryan has completed 306 of 667 passes, and amassed 4,258 yards through the air, capping off an impressive collegiate career.

"Like Johnny Unitas, Matt Ryan has been a leader on the playing field and off, carrying the ideals of football forward into his relations with his community and his fellow man," says John Unitas, Jr., President of the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc.

"The winner of the Golden Arm Award is recognized not only for his athletic accomplishments, but also for his character, citizenship, scholastic achievement, leadership qualities, and athletic abilities," Unitas, Jr. continues. "With respect to each of these measures, Matt Ryan is truly outstanding and a most worthy recipient of this prestigious award."

In winning the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award, Ryan joins an outstanding group of previous winners, including last year's recipient, Brady Quinn (Notre Dame), Matt Leinart (USC), Eli Manning (Mississippi), Carson Palmer (USC), David Carr (Fresno State), and Peyton Manning (Tennessee).

The Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award bears the name of the man many refer to as the finest quarterback to ever play the game of football. Johnny Unitas played for the Baltimore Colts from 1956-1972. When he retired in 1973 after one year with San Diego, he left behind him records for: most pass attempts (5,186); most completions (2,830); most total yards (40,239); most touchdowns (290); most 300-yard games (26); and most consecutive games throwing touchdown passes (47). He also led the Colts to one Super Bowl Crown, three NFL championships, and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1979.

In addition to honoring a player with the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award, the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. has awarded more than \$500,000 in scholarships to deserving scholar-athletes from local area high schools both in Maryland and Kentucky.

“Despite my Dad’s outstanding accomplishments, he never forgot his humble beginnings, and this won him a permanent place in the hearts of all who ever knew him,” notes Unitas, Jr. “Giving life to his commitment to ‘give back,’ the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. was established to promote football on all levels by providing financial aid to deserving young athletes.”

Matt Ryan will receive the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award at a ceremony to be held this Friday, December 7, from 5:30-9 p.m. at the Tremont Grand Hotel (225 North Charles Street in Downtown Baltimore). Presenters at the awards ceremony will include Oriole great Brooks Robinson, and NFL Hall of Famer and former Baltimore Colt Raymond Berry.

The award presentation will be televised as a special edition of “Out of Bounds” at 7 p.m. on CN8. The Golden Arm Award special will also be rebroadcast several times during the month of December.

The award ceremony is by invitation only. Members of the media, however, are invited to attend both the award presentation and a tour of Sports Legends Museum at Camden Yards attended by the Golden Arm Award winner, to be held earlier that afternoon.

The Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award is presented by TransAmerica. Additional sponsors include Black & Decker, Century Engineering, CitiGroup, Constellation New Energy, Dunbar Armored, First Mariner Bank, Maple Leaf Title LLC, Mortgage Seekers, MyAdBox, R2i.ntegrated, Southwest Airlines, and MedStar Union Memorial Sports Medicine.

Additional information on the Golden Arm Award and the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. may be obtained from John Unitas, Jr. (Email: junitasjr@comcast.net), and/or Jason Policastro of Stanton Communications at jpolicastro@stantoncomm.com.