



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TWENTY-NINE TOP COLLEGE QB'S NAMED AS CANDIDATES FOR  
THE 2012 JOHNNY UNITAS GOLDEN ARM AWARD**

BALTIMORE, MD (8/6/12) --- The 2012 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award has been narrowed down to 29 candidates.

The Golden Arm Award, presented annually to the top senior quarterback by the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Foundation encapsulates all that is positive in college sports. Established in 1987, the award has previously honored 25 outstanding young men.

Named after the man many refer to as the greatest quarterback ever to play the game of football, the award acknowledges performance on the field for sure. But it goes beyond completion percentage and touchdown strikes. The award values character, citizenship, integrity and those who honor the game.

Candidates for the Golden Arm Award must be completing their college eligibility or be a fourth-year junior, on schedule to graduate with his class. Candidates are judged upon character, citizenship, scholastic achievement, leadership qualities, and athletic accomplishments –qualities that embody the prestige of this award.

The list of the top 29 candidates, presented by The Golden Arm Award Foundation and Transamerica, includes:

Ryan Aplin, Arkansas State  
Tajh Boyd, Clemson  
Derek Carr, Fresno State  
Seth Doege, Texas Tech  
Mike Glennon, NC State  
Collin Klein, Kansas State  
AJ McCarron, Alabama  
Ryan Nassib, Syracuse  
Keith Price, Washington  
Bryn Renner, North Carolina  
Denard Robinson, Michigan  
Geno Smith, West Virginia

Tyler Tettleton, Ohio  
Jeff Tuel, Washington State  
Tyler Wilson, Arkansas  
Matt Barkley, USC  
Alex Carder, Western Michigan  
B.J. Daniels, South Florida  
Nick Florence, Baylor  
Landry Jones, Oklahoma  
EJ Manuel, Florida State  
Aaron Murray, Georgia  
Casey Pachall, TCU  
Sean Renfree, Duke  
Jordan Rodgers, Vanderbilt  
Nathan Scheelhaase, Illinois  
Brad Sorensen, So. Utah  
Logan Thomas, Virginia Tech  
James Vandenberg, Iowa

The 2012 winner will be presented with his award on **December 7<sup>th</sup>** in Baltimore, Maryland.

Previous winners include Rodney Peete (USC, 1988), Peyton Manning (Tennessee, 1997), Carson Palmer (USC, 2002), Eli Manning (Ole Miss, 2003), Brady Quinn (Notre Dame, 2006), Matt Ryan (Boston College, 2007), Colt McCoy (Texas, 2009), Scott Tolzien (Wisconsin, 2010) and, most recently, Andrew Luck (Stanford, 2011).

Proceeds from the Golden Arm Award help to support the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation. The Foundation provides financial assistance to underprivileged and deserving young scholar-athletes throughout Maryland and Kentucky.

The namesake of the Golden Arm Award has a storied history. Johnny Unitas was an 18-year veteran of the NFL, who played his collegiate career at the University of Louisville before joining the Baltimore Colts in 1958. His career passing figures include 2,830 pass completions for 40,239 yards, 290 touchdowns and one that may stand forever – throwing a touchdown pass in 47 consecutive games.

Unitas was inducted into Pro Football's Hall of Fame in 1979. Further, the Hall of Fame, in commemorations of the NFL's 25th, 50th, and 75th anniversaries selected Unitas as the top quarterback of all-time. In turn-of-the-century listings, he was named to Sports Illustrated list of top 10 athletes, Time Magazine's list of 10 most influential athletes, and ESPN's series on the 50 greatest athletes of the century

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.”

In addition to Transamerica, sponsors of the Golden Arm Award include: Athlon Sports, The Babe Ruth and Sports Legends Museum, Baltimore Sun Media Group, Bloomberg Television, Century Engineering, Coach for America, Comcast, Dunbar Armored, GEICO, HMS Insurance Associates, Inc., Panini, PSAV Presentation Services, R2i. ntegrated, Royal Sonesta Harbor Court Hotel, TRAY PML, The Scott Garceau Show, Union Memorial Sports Medicine, Weiss PR Associates, Inc., Woodberry Kitchen, and Wilson Sporting Goods.

For more information, please visit:

[www.goldenarmfoundation.com](http://www.goldenarmfoundation.com),

[www.baltimoresun.com/sports/college/golden-arm](http://www.baltimoresun.com/sports/college/golden-arm), or

[www.athlonsports.com/college-football/golden-arm](http://www.athlonsports.com/college-football/golden-arm).