



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Lowe's Senior CLASS Award Names 30 NCAA® Student-Athletes to the 2009 Football Candidate Class

September 2, 2009 (Overland Park, KS) – Thirty NCAA® football student-athletes who excel both on and off the field were tabbed as candidates today for the 2009 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior in the Football Bowl Subdivision and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence – classroom, character, community and competition. The complete list of candidates follows this release.

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*™, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities.

The 2009 candidates include student-athletes from 13 teams ranked in the Associated Press preseason top 25 poll. There are five AP All-Americans, one American Football Coaches Association All-American, one member from the AFCA's Allstate Good Works Team and one former Heisman Trophy winner. In addition, three candidates were named to last year's CoSIDA/ESPN The Magazine Academic All-American team and five student-athletes have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.8 or better, including two who have recorded perfect 4.0 GPAs in their careers. Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA, will announce the Senior CLASS Award winner in early January.

The 30 candidates will be narrowed to 10 finalists midway through the regular season, and those 10 names will be placed on the official ballot. Ballots will be distributed through a nationwide voting system to media, coaches and fans, who will select one finalist who best exemplifies excellence in the four Cs of classroom, character, community and competition.

"The Lowe's Senior CLASS Award candidates for football are the best of the best in NCAA Division I athletics," said Bob Gfeller, Lowe's senior vice president of marketing. "They have set high standards for themselves throughout their collegiate careers and have consistently risen to the highest levels in the classroom and in their communities."

This marks the second year for the football division of the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award. In 2008, Ohio State University linebacker **James Laurinaitis** took home the inaugural football award.

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## **Lowe's Senior CLASS Award news release continued**

### **ABOUT THE AWARD**

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*<sup>™</sup>, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award honors the attributes of senior student-athletes in four areas: classroom, community, character and competition. The award program is designed exclusively for college seniors who are utilizing their complete athletic eligibility, remaining committed to their university and pursuing the many rewards that a senior season can bring. Sportscaster **Dick Enberg**, Honorary Chairman of the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, first conceived the idea of an award for seniors in 2001 in response to the growing trend of men's basketball players leaving school early for the NBA. The award program has expanded the past two years to include a total of nine NCAA<sup>®</sup> Division I sports – football, men's and women's soccer, men's ice hockey, men's lacrosse, baseball and softball in addition to men's and women's basketball. The award is sponsored by Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA<sup>®</sup>, and managed by Premier Sports Management. For more information, visit [www.seniorclassaward.com](http://www.seniorclassaward.com).

### **ABOUT LOWE'S**

With fiscal year 2008 sales of \$48.2 billion, Lowe's Companies, Inc. is a FORTUNE<sup>®</sup> 50 company that serves approximately 14 million customers a week at more than 1,675 home improvement stores in the United States and Canada. Founded in 1946 and based in Mooresville, N.C., Lowe's is the second-largest home improvement retailer in the world. For more information, visit [Lowe.com](http://Lowe.com).

### **ABOUT THE NCAA**

The NCAA is a membership-led nonprofit association of colleges and universities committed to supporting academic and athletics opportunities for more than 400,000 student-athletes at more than 1,000 member colleges and universities. Each year, more than 54,000 student-athletes compete in NCAA championships in Divisions I, II and III sports. Visit [www.NCAA.org](http://www.NCAA.org) and [www.NCAA.com](http://www.NCAA.com) for more details about the Association.

**2009 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award  
Football Candidates**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>School</b>
Mike Anello	Cornerback	University of Notre Dame
Javier Arenas	Cornerback/Return Specialist	University of Alabama
Zane Beadles	Offensive Tackle	University of Utah
Richie Brockel	Fullback	Boise State University
Antonio Coleman	Defensive End	Auburn University
Eric Decker	Wide Receiver	University of Minnesota
Auston English	Defensive End	University of Oklahoma
Kurtis Gregory	Offensive Line	University of Missouri
Nnamdi Gwacham	Wide Receiver	Utah State University
Moses Harris	Safety	Fresno State University
Tim Hiller	Quarterback	Western Michigan University
Jerry Hughes	Defensive End	TCU
Jammie Kirlew	Defensive End	Indiana University
Sean Lee	Linebacker	Pennsylvania State University
Dan LeFevour	Quarterback	Central Michigan University
Andrew Lewis	Offensive Line	Oklahoma State University
Trevar Lindley	Cornerback	University of Kentucky
Taylor Mays	Safety	University of Southern California
Colt McCoy	Quarterback	University of Texas
Zoltan Mesko	Punter	University of Michigan
Mike Nixon	Linebacker	Arizona State University
Eric Norwood	Linebacker	University of South Carolina
Joe Pawelek	Linebacker	Baylor University
George Selvie	Defensive End	University of South Florida
Andrew Sendejo	Safety	Rice University
Darrell Stuckey	Safety	University of Kansas
Tim Tebow	Quarterback	University of Florida
Syd'Quan Thompson	Cornerback	University of California, Berkeley
Reed Williams	Linebacker	West Virginia University
Ryan Wolfe	Wide Receiver	University of Nevada-Las Vegas