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TEWAARATON AWARD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

WASHINGTON, May 15 – The Tewaaron Foundation has announced the men’s and women’s finalists for the 2016 Tewaaron Award, presented by Under Armour. Five men and five women were selected as finalists and will be invited to Washington, D.C., for the 16th annual Tewaaron Award Ceremony on June 2.

The five men’s finalists are:

Connor Cannizzaro, Denver – Jr., Attack
Myles Jones, Duke – Sr., Midfield
Matt Landis, Notre Dame – Sr., Defense
Dylan Molloy, Brown – Jr., Attack
Ben Reeves, Yale – Soph., Attack

The five women’s finalists are:

Taylor Cummings, Maryland – Sr., Midfield
Nicole Graziano, Florida – Sr., Midfield
Alice Mercer, Maryland – Sr., Defense
Barbara Sullivan, Notre Dame – Grad Sr., Defense
Kayla Treanor, Syracuse – Sr., Attack

Two-time reigning Tewaaron winner Taylor Cummings seeks to become the first three-time award winner – man or woman – and is joined by returning finalists Barbara Sullivan (2015) and Kayla Treanor (2014, 2015). Duke’s Myles Jones is the lone returning 2015 men’s finalist. All 10 finalists will compete in this month’s NCAA Tournament, at the conclusion of which the selection committees will vote on and select this year’s winners.

“The Tewaaron Foundation congratulates these 10 finalists that have been chosen among many worthy candidates by the game’s top coaches on the selection committees,” said Jeffrey Harvey, chairman of The Tewaaron Foundation. “We look forward to welcoming each of them and their families to Washington, D.C., on June 2.”

The Tewaaron Award annually honors the top male and top female college lacrosse player in the United States. Finalists come from a pool of 25 men’s and 25 women’s nominees. The

selection committees are comprised of 15 men's and 14 women's current and former college coaches.

Brief bios of the men's finalists:

Denver's **Connor Cannizzaro** helped the Pioneers to the BIG EAST regular-season title and the No. 2 seed in the NCAA Tournament, leading the nation's second-ranked offense with 44 goals, 23 assists and 67 points. The junior attackman from Cazenovia, N.Y., earned a spot on the All-BIG EAST First Team and was named 2016 BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year. A 2015 first-team USILA All-American, Cannizzaro ranks sixth in the country in goals per game (2.93) and ninth in points per game (4.47). He is Denver's second Tewaaron finalist, following former teammate Wes Berg in 2015.

ACC Offensive Player of the Year **Myles Jones** is a Tewaaron finalist for the second consecutive year. A senior midfielder from Huntington, N.Y., Jones paces Duke with 34 assists and ranks second on the squad with 33 goals and 67 points. The No. 1 pick in 2016 Major League Lacrosse Draft and a two-time USILA All-American, Jones is second among all midfielders nationally in points and points per game (3.72). This season, Jones became the first midfielder in Division I lacrosse history to score 100 goals and 100 assists in his career, and his 228 points are second-most all-time by a midfielder, trailing only Syracuse great Gary Gait's 253. He would be the Blue Devils' third Tewaaron winner, joining Matt Danowski (2007) and Ned Crotty (2010).

Notre Dame defenseman **Matt Landis** leads the nation's fifth-ranked scoring defense (7.69 goals per game) and earned his second consecutive ACC Defensive Player of the Year award to go with All-ACC honors. The senior captain and reigning USILA Defenseman of the Year from Pelham, N.Y., has registered 28 ground balls and 17 caused turnovers in helping the Irish to a share of the ACC regular-season crown and the No. 3 seed in the NCAA Tournament. He is Notre Dame's third Tewaaron finalist, and would be the team's first award winner.

Brown attackman **Dylan Molloy** leads the nation with 56 goals, 50 assists, 106 points and 6.63 points per game. The junior All-American from Setauket, N.Y., registered five or more points in 14 of 16 contests this season, helping Brown to a school-record 14 wins and the Ivy League regular-season title with a perfect 6-0 league mark. Molloy won his second consecutive Ivy League Player of the Year award and is the sixth player in NCAA history to post at least 50 goals and 50 assists. The nation's active leading scorer with 237 points, Molloy's 106 points this season rank ninth all-time in NCAA history. He is Brown's first Tewaaron finalist.

Yale attackman **Ben Reeves** paces the Bulldogs with 73 points, 42 goals and 31 assists, and ranks third in the nation in points and points per game (4.87). The Macedon, N.Y., native earned first-team All-Ivy honors and was named Ivy League Tournament MVP, registering nine points as the Bulldogs defeated Harvard to claim the school's fourth league tournament title in five years. Reeves quarterbacked the nation's 10th-ranked scoring offense to the No. 4 seed in the NCAA Tournament. He is Yale's first Tewaaron finalist.

Brief bios of the women's finalists:

Maryland senior **Taylor Cummings**, the two-time defending Tewaaron winner (2014, 2015), led the Terrapins to a perfect regular-season mark and the No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament. The midfielder from Ellicott City, Md., was named Big Ten Midfielder of the Year and Big Ten Tournament MVP as the Terrapins took home the conference regular-season and tournament titles. She quarterbacked the nation's top scoring offense (15.32 goals per game) with a team-best 67 points, 57 ground balls, 124 draw controls and 43 caused turnovers. She seeks to become the Terps' seventh Tewaaron winner, and the first three-time Tewaaron winner, man or woman.

Florida's **Nicole Graziano**, the BIG EAST Midfielder of the Year, Most Outstanding Player and Tournament MVP, has led the Gators to the best start in program history at 18-1, with the team capturing conference regular-season and tournament titles en route to the No. 2 seed in the NCAA Tournament. The redshirt senior midfielder from Mendham, N.J., leads Florida with 58 points, 42 goals, 16 assists and 40 draw controls, and is second on the Gators with 29 ground balls and 22 caused turnovers. She became the sixth player in Florida history to reach 100 career goals. Graziano is Florida's fifth Tewaaron finalist, and would be the program's first winner.

Maryland co-captain **Alice Mercer** leads the Terrapins' sixth-ranked defense (6.84 goals per game) as the unanimous Big Ten Defender of the Year. The senior from Woodbine, Md., has 28 ground balls (third on the team), 16 draw controls and 22 caused turnovers (second) this season. Mercer earned All-Big Ten and Big Ten All-Tournament Team honors as the Terps completed a perfect 19-0 regular season and earned the top seed in the NCAA Tournament. She would be the Terrapins' record seventh Tewaaron winner.

Returning Tewaaron finalist **Barbara Sullivan** is the leader of a Notre Dame defense that leads the nation in caused turnovers (14.05 per game) and ranks second in the ACC at 8.16 goals allowed per game. The graduate senior defender and three-year captain from Garden City, N.Y., set a school single-season record with 51 caused turnovers, good for tops in the ACC and fourth nationally. In addition, her team-leading 44 ground balls and 59 draw controls earned Sullivan ACC Defensive Player of the Year honors for a second consecutive season. She owns Fighting Irish career marks in caused turnovers and draw controls, and would be the program's first Tewaaron winner.

Syracuse senior attacker **Kayla Treanor** is a Tewaaron finalist for a third consecutive season. The Niskayuna, N.Y., native topped the Orange with 46 goals, 38 assists and 84 points (tied for 10th in the nation and tops in the ACC), earning her record third consecutive ACC Offensive Player of the Year award. She led the nation with 189 draw controls—averaging more than nine per game—became the program's all-time leading goal scorer with 256 and earned first-team All-ACC honors for a fourth straight year. Treanor is the NCAA Division I active leader in points (387, fourth all-time) and goals (tied for eighth all-time). She would be Syracuse's first Tewaaron winner.

The guidelines for finalists and recipient selections are as follows:

- Finalists will be the best five players chosen without regard to institution.

- Finalists will be selected based on individual performance and a player's contribution to the success of their team.
- Finalists are chosen based on the current year's regular season performance (date of selection is at the conclusion of the regular season, before playoffs).
- Recipients are chosen based on the current year's regular season and playoff performance.
- Sportsmanship can play a role in the selection process and it is important that the recipient upholds the mission and values of the Tewaaron Award.

Media credentials are available for the Tewaaron Award Ceremony in the News and Press section of www.tewaaron.com. Credential requests are due by Tuesday, May 31.

This year's initial Watch Lists were announced on Feb. 23 and included the top 50 men's and women's college lacrosse players in the country. Two rounds of additions to the Watch Lists were announced on March 17 and April 7. The 25 men's and women's nominees were announced on April 29.

Under Armour returns as the proud presenting sponsor of The Tewaaron Award in honoring the top collegiate lacrosse players in the United States.

For more information on the Tewaaron Foundation or to attend this exciting event, visit tewaaron.com. Like and follow The Tewaaron Foundation at facebook.com/tewaaron, twitter.com/tewaaron and instagram.com/tewaaron.

About The Tewaaron Foundation

Founded at the University Club of Washington DC and first presented in 2001, the Tewaaron Award is recognized as the preeminent lacrosse award, annually honoring the top male and female college lacrosse player in the United States. Endorsed by the Mohawk Nation Council of Elders and U.S. Lacrosse, the Tewaaron Award symbolizes lacrosse's centuries-old roots in Native American heritage. The Tewaaron Foundation ensures the integrity and advances the mission of this award. Each year, the Tewaaron Award celebrates one of the six tribal nations of the Iroquois Confederacy – the Mohawk, Cayuga, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca and Tuscarora – and presents two scholarships to students of Native American descent. To learn more about The Tewaaron Foundation, please visit <http://www.tewaaron.com>.

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