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BRAD KOTZ TO BE HONORED WITH 2015 TEWAARATON LEGENDS AWARD

WASHINGTON, January 26, 2015 – The Tewaaraton Foundation has named former Syracuse lacrosse star and National Lacrosse Hall of Famer Brad Kotz as the recipient of the fifth annual Tewaaraton Legends Award.

"Brad epitomized excellence in an era of dominant lacrosse for Syracuse University. He continues to represent the game, his teammates and the university with great honor and respect," said Jeff Harvey, Chairman of The Tewaaraton Foundation.

A native of Camillus, N.Y., and graduate of West Genesee High School, Kotz was a high school All-American in 1981 when his team won the New York state title with an undefeated 24-0 record. He went on to play at Syracuse University where he was a four-time All-American, earning first-team honors at midfield from 1983-85 and captaining the team in 1984 and 1985. In 1983, he led Syracuse to its first NCAA national championship (11 total in the modern era). It was in this championship game that Kotz scored five second-half goals to help Syracuse erase a 12-5 deficit and eventually defeat Johns Hopkins, 17-16. He was named the 1983 NCAA Tournament MVP and received the Raymond J. Enners Award as the nation's top Division I player. In 1985, he was selected to play in the North-South All-Star game.

Kotz played on the U.S. National Team in 1986 and 1990, and was selected to the All-World Team in 1990. In 1990, he was also selected to the U.S. delegation that presented the sport of lacrosse to the Chinese Olympic Committee & Sports Ministry in Beijing and Hong Kong. He was a four-time all-club player, earning player of the year honors in 1986. He played for the NLL champion Philadelphia Wings in 1989 and 1990. He was the league's leading scorer in 1989 and a first-team All-Pro selection in 1990.

Kotz was named to the NCAA's 25th Anniversary Team in 1997. He was inducted into the Upstate New York chapter of the Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1994, the U.S. Lacrosse National Hall of Fame in 2001 and the Greater Syracuse Sports Hall of Fame in 2012.

Kotz was a two-year graduate assistant at the University of Pennsylvania in 1988 and 1989, helping the Quakers to the 1988 Ivy League title. Brad has taken up the women's game of lacrosse and currently coaches a championship-winning Bethesda Lacrosse Club team. He currently resides in Cabin John, Md., with his wife and two daughters, both of whom play lacrosse.

The Tewaaron Legends Award annually honors one recipient who played college lacrosse prior to 2001, the first year in which the Tewaaron Award was presented. Recipients are chosen on the basis that their collegiate performance would have earned them a Tewaaron Award, had the award existed when they played. The previous four Legends Award winners were Syracuse's Jim Brown (2011), Cornell's Eamon McEneaney (2012), Johns Hopkins' Joe Cowan (2013) and Navy's Jimmy Lewis (2014).

"Brad was one of the first modern-era stars we had at Syracuse. Strong, fast, great stick skills and he was one of the most coachable and brightest players I've ever encountered. I'm so pleased that the Tewaaron Foundation has decided to present him with this award. Syracuse lacrosse isn't what it is today without Brad Kotz," said Roy Simmons, Jr., former Syracuse lacrosse coach and 2009 Spirit of Tewaaron recipient.

Kotz will receive the Legends Award during the Tewaaron Award Ceremony, May 28, 2015, at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

The Tewaaron Foundation will unveil the 2015 Tewaaron Trophy nominees live at a special fundraising reception in New York City on Feb. 26. Check Tewaaron.com for more details.

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

About The Tewaaron Foundation

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 www.tewaaron.com.

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