

# **JOHN MACKEY AWARD**

**BEST COLLEGIATE TIGHT END**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **2016 JOHN MACKEY AWARD SEMI-FINALISTS ANNOUNCED**

New York, N.Y. (November 14, 2016) – The Friends of John Mackey have announced eight semi-finalists for the 2016 John Mackey Award. Listed alphabetically, they are: Adam Breneman (JR, Massachusetts), Jake Butt (SR, Michigan), Evan Engram (SR, Ole Miss), Gerald Everett (SR, South Alabama), Cole Hikutini (SR, Louisville), Bucky Hodges (JR, Virginia Tech), O.J. Howard (SR, Alabama) and Jordan Leggett (SR, Clemson).

The eight semi-finalists were determined by confidential balloting of the John Mackey Award Selection Committee. Given annually to the most outstanding collegiate tight end, the 2016 John Mackey Award recipient will be announced on December 7, 2016 and presented live on December 8, 2016 at The Home Depot College Football Awards Red Carpet Show: 6:00 p.m. ET on ESPNU. Other key dates include the announcement of the 2016 Mackey Finalists on November 22, 2016. All future announcements can be found at [www.johnmackeyaward.com](http://www.johnmackeyaward.com) and on our official twitter account: [@JohnMackeyAward](https://twitter.com/JohnMackeyAward).

NFL Hall of Fame member John Mackey is considered to be the best to have played the tight end position. A tight end by whom all others are measured, Mackey was a role model on and off the field as demonstrated by his Super Bowl Championship, his commitment to community and his place in history as the first President of the NFLPA.

The John Mackey Award presented since 2000, recognizes fourteen alumni that have played in the NFL: two-time Super Bowl Champion Daniel Graham ('01), 2006 Super Bowl Champion Dallas Clark ('02), Kellen Winslow II ('03), two-time Super Bowl Champion Heath Miller ('04), Mercedes Lewis ('05) of the Jacksonville Jaguars, 2008 Super Bowl Champion Matt Spaeth ('06), Fred Davis ('07), Chase Coffman ('08), D.J. Williams ('10), Dwayne Allen ('11) of the Indianapolis Colts, Tyler Eifert ('12) of the Cincinnati Bengals, Austin Seferian-Jenkins ('13) of the New York Jets, Nick O'Leary ('14) of the Buffalo Bills and 2015 John Mackey Award recipient Hunter Henry of the San Diego Chargers.

The John Mackey Award is a member of the National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA) which encompasses the most prestigious awards in college football. The 22 awards boast over 722 years of tradition-selection excellence. Visit [www.NCFAA.org](http://www.NCFAA.org) to learn more about our story.

The Friends of John Mackey are responsible for the administration of the John Mackey Award and the John Mackey Award Selection Committee. Please visit [www.johnmackeyaward.com](http://www.johnmackeyaward.com) for all John Mackey Award related information.

### **2016 John Mackey Award Semi-Finalists**

(Listed alphabetically)

Adam Breneman (JR, Massachusetts)

Jake Butt (SR, Michigan)

Evan Engram (SR, Ole Miss)

Gerald Everett (SR, South Alabama)

Cole Hikutini (SR, Louisville)

Bucky Hodges (JR, Virginia Tech)

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