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### **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual ARA Sportsmanship Award Candidate Search Now Underway**

#### Award to Recognize Good Character On and Off the Football Field

GLENVIEW, Ill. (May 1, 2007) – The Awards and Recognition Association will accept applications starting June 15<sup>th</sup> for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual ARA Sportsmanship Award – a national award for NCAA Division I College Football athletes.

All NCAA Division I schools are eligible to submit nominations for the ARA Sportsmanship Award. Ten finalists will be selected in a blinded process. The winner will be selected by a blue-ribbon panel of former football coaches, sports and media professionals and representatives from ARA and other complementary organizations. Nominations for the ARA Sportsmanship Award are due by September 4, 2007. Application forms are available starting in June at [www.ara.org](http://www.ara.org).

The ARA Sportsmanship Award is presented to the collegiate football player who most exemplifies sportsmanship on and off the field. To qualify for the award, an athlete must be a starting player of significant contributor to his team, be a senior in good academic standing, demonstrate great respect for competitors, school teammates and coaches, show an ability to accept victory and defeat graciously, convey a high degree of humility and integrity, and demonstrate commit in the classroom and to the community.

The inaugural ARA Sportsmanship Award was presented to University of Memphis' tailback DeAngelo Williams in 2005. Last year's award was presented to Rutgers University's fullback Brian Leonard. For more information on Williams and Leonard, visit [www.ara.org](http://www.ara.org).

The Awards and Recognition Association is the official sponsor of the ARA Sportsmanship Award. ARA is a membership organization of 4,000 companies dedicated to increasing the professionalism of recognition specialists and advancing the awards and engraving industry. The ARA is headquartered in Glenview, Ill.

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