



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 9, 2009

TEXAS A&M QUARTERBACK STEPHEN MCGEE WINS FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES/BOBBY BOWDEN ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Bowden Presents Award During AFCA Convention

(Kansas City, MO) – The Fellowship of Christian Athletes selected **Stephen McGee** as the recipient of the 2008 FCA Bobby Bowden Athlete of the Year. McGee will receive the sixth annual award from **Coach Bobby Bowden** on Wednesday, January 14th, during the American Football Coaches Association FCA Breakfast in Nashville, Tennessee. **Marcus Freeman** from Ohio State University and **Ryan McDonald** from the University of Illinois were also finalists for this year's award.

McGee, a six-foot-three, 207-pound quarterback, was earlier named the recipient of the 2008 Aggie Heart Award – the top honor given to an Aggie senior football player. Stephen earned his degree in just over three years in spite of a demanding athletics schedule, and is close to receiving his master's degree. McGee has also dedicated time to his community, becoming an active participant in "Aggie Athletes Involved" where he speaks to local churches and schools.

Named after the legendary Florida State University football coach, who has been very involved in FCA throughout his long career, the Bobby Bowden Athlete of the Year award recognizes the Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division IA) football player who epitomizes the student-athlete who conducts himself as a faith model in the community, in the classroom and on the field. Nominees must have a 3.0 GPA or better and be recommended by his school's Athletic Director and Head Football Coach.

-- more --

FCA President and CEO, **Les Steckel**, said of this award, "Stephen McGee's athletic skills are obviously outstanding, but more importantly, he is an exemplary young man of faith, character and community service. He demonstrates the essence of FCA's core values; and it's an honor for FCA to recognize him with this prestigious award."

Past winners include **Jason Wright** (Northwestern University and Cleveland Browns), **Billy Bajema** (Oklahoma State University and San Francisco 49ers), **D.J. Shockley** (University of Georgia and Atlanta Falcons), **Carl Pendleton** (University of Oklahoma), and **Jacob Tamme** (University of Kentucky).

#

About FCA

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the heart and soul in sports, is touching millions of lives... one heart at a time. Since 1954, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes has been challenging coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world for Jesus Christ. FCA is the largest Christian sports ministry in the world and focuses on serving local communities by equipping, empowering, and encouraging people to make a difference for Christ.

MEDIA CONTACT

Tom Rogeberg
Senior VP – Communications & Development
816-876-2279
trogberg@fca.org