

The Heisman Trophy

The Heisman Trophy is awarded annually to one outstanding football player on a college team in the United States. The winner of the Heisman Trophy is virtually guaranteed a position on a National Football League



Heisman Memorial Trophy

professional team and many former Heisman Trophy winners have become famous professional players. The Heisman Trophy was created by members of the Downtown Athletic Club of New York City and the first trophy was presented in 1935.

Club members decided to make the trophy as an action figure statue cast in bronze. Ed Smith, a star player on the New York University football team in 1934, served as the model for sculptor Frank Eliscu, who designed the trophy. With the assistance of the head coach of Fordham University and some of his players, Eliscu was able to capture the real life action of the game in his bronze statue of a charging football player. In 1936, that the trophy was named after the football genius John W. Heisman.

Only one company supplies the Heisman Memorial Trophy and that is Herff Jones Company of Indiana, Inc. whose headquarters are in Indianapolis. This company employs 3,500 people who make commemorative items for schools as well as a variety of other items, like choir and judicial robes. The company offers a full line of high school class rings, diplomas and diploma covers, and all types of paper memorabilia relating to high school graduation like invitations and announcements.