

2007 UCSD Alumnus to be Honored by Foundation Among "Heroes in the Fight Against Brain Tumors"

2007 baseball team captain cited for making a difference

Pat JaCoby

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Matt Lawson, captain of the ground-breaking 2007 baseball team at the University of California, San Diego, will be honored by the Tug McGraw Foundation at a Nov. 2 ceremony recognizing individuals "who have made a difference in the fight against brain tumors."

Now working as a law clerk in San Diego, Lawson graduated from UCSD in June with a degree in management science after serving as captain of the 2007 baseball team, UCSD's first NCAA II Playoff qualifier. In addition to his clerking job, Lawson is helping Coach Dan O'Brien with this year's UCSD baseball team.

Lawson will be on hand in St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 2 as the Tug McGraw Foundation recognizes brain tumor survivors who exemplify baseball legend Tug McGraw's "Ya Gotta Believe" spirit with 2007 *Good Guy Awards*. The Foundation, which supports research to improve quality of life for brain tumor patients and their families, cites Lawson for "his strength and courage in the face of disease that have made him a role model for all who meet him."

Lawson, 23, found out he had a brain tumor in 2006. He gets brain scans regularly and says "I'm doing great now...so far, so good."

O'Brien notes that "Matt is an inspiration to all of us because of his courage in the face of adversity. He's decided to live his life and not concern himself with things that are out of his control. His courage was contagious to his teammates, coaches, and all those who have had the opportunity to meet him."

Bob Costas, Emmy Award-winning sports commentator, will present the Good Guy Awards during the Nov. 2 ceremony. Entertainment will feature performances by Tim McGraw, Grammy award-winning country musician, and his band, the Dancehall Doctors.

Media Contact: Pat Jacoby, 858 534-7404

