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Family plans sale of original Heisman Trophy

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The Southwest Florida family of the sculptor who created the Heisman Trophy wants to sell the 1935 original for \$1.25 million.

The family, which is not speaking publicly about the sale, has retained Fort Myers attorney Kevin Jursinski to sell the plaster sculpture by the late Frank Eliscu.

"They want to remain low-key," said Jursinski, 53, who is also a vice president of KC Sports Management.

The sculpture, the iconic award handed out every year to America's best college football player, will not be auctioned off.

The family and Jursinski have selected 150 influential sports and business people as potential buyers. Candidates such as basketball legend Michael Jordan and Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones will be sent information on the sculpture. No proposals will be accepted after Aug. 10.

"For the right investor it will be a wonderful piece to have," Jursinski said.

Eliscu, who resided on Siesta Key in Sarasota, died in 1996.

The announcement of the sale of the enduring image of a football player clutching a ball in his left arm and fending off a tackler with his right was made Tuesday, which would have been Eliscu's 92nd birthday.

Jursinski said he recently visited The State Hermitage Museum in Russia, where he viewed works by Rembrandt.

When he returned home, Jursinski, 53, saw the original 1935 sculpture in the Eliscu home.

"I got more chills in my spine when I saw that," Jursinski said.

"It's a wonderful thing to see. I'd like to have it on my mantle."

PHOTO CAPTION

The 1935 original Heisman Trophy plaster sculpture will be sold.