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Bay State Games Athletes Awarded for Excelling On and Off the Field

Six high school juniors receive \$2,000 Future Leaders Scholarship

WOBURN, MA – The Bay State Games is proud to announce the 2010 Future Leaders Scholarship recipients. After a rigorous application process, filled with many deserving Bay State Games participants, the following six student-athletes were selected for possessing outstanding credentials in academics, athletics, community service and leadership.

Tori Daniels: South Hadley, Frontier Regional High School

Volleyball and church are two great passions for Daniels. The Arizona native has been involved with Junior Olympic volleyball for five years and has been selected as a captain of her team for the last three. When moving from South Hadley High to Frontier Regional this year made her ineligible to play, she volunteered to be the team manager just so she could stay involved with the sport she loved. Daniels is also a part of the Frontier track and field team and a co-founder of the school's Plyos Club. At church, she is an active member of the Center Church Youth Group and volunteers as a lesson coordinator and Sunday school teacher for the nursery care at Center Church. Daniels has managed to juggle all of these activities while still maintaining a 3.95 GPA.

Ashley DiFraia: Revere, Revere High School

DiFraia has made an impact on the field and in the classroom at Revere High School. She is a three-sport Varsity athlete (softball, basketball, and volleyball) and has recently been named captain of each team for her senior year. In the classroom, DiFraia has earned a cumulative GPA of 3.87, while taking several Honors and AP level courses. This student-athlete keeps herself just as busy in the summer, playing for three softball teams, including an All-Star team, which she has been nominated for since she was 9 years old, as well as working as a camp councilor for the Revere Recreation Department.

Sean Flanagan: Framingham, Bishop Feehan High School

While the Framingham native has been a part of both the cross country and winter track teams at Bishop Feehan, he has truly left his mark in baseball. In 2010, Flanagan was named an Under Armour Preseason All-American, as well as a Perfect Game Preseason All-American. In 2008, he was ranked as a top prospect at the Perfect Game National Underclass Showcase in Connecticut. Besides his athletic accomplishments, Flanagan earned his Young Artist's Certificate in Cartooning and Animation from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2007 and is scheduled to take AP Art during the 2010-2011 school year. As a deaf citizen himself, this talented student-athlete is an ambassador for other deaf children as he is the founder and president of the American Sign Language Club at BFHS and was an assistant instructor at the Beverly School for the Deaf baseball clinic in 2009.

Kathleen Krah: Medfield, Medfield High School

Krah helped propel the Medfield High Varsity volleyball team to back-to-back D-II State Championships and has been voted team captain for the fall 2010 season. This student-athlete has also run track since she was in sixth grade and is currently on the Varsity team at MHS. The Medfield native has been actively involved in student government since sixth grade and currently holds the position of class secretary. Krah is also a devoted Girl Scout, recently earning the Spirit Alive Award (highest Catholic Girl Scout award) and the Presidential Volunteer Service Gold Award for over 250 hours of service. Krah is a talented musician, dancer and math student, as well. She is a cellist in the school orchestra and a member of the Math League.

Alexander Lagos: Millis, Millis High School

Lagos, a recent transfer to Millis High School, was named a Tri-Valley 1st Team All-Star and Defensive Player of the Year Runner-Up for his efforts on the Varsity baseball team in 2010. He was also awarded the Tri-Valley Sportsmanship Award. At King Philip Regional High School, he was a part of the Varsity basketball team that was awarded the Boston Celtics 3C's Award for academic excellence, community service, and sportsmanship. As for community service, Lagos is an active member of Student Athletes For Excellence in Education (S.A.F.E.E.), through which he reads to elementary school children and leads bullying discussions. He has also participated in mission trips with his church, where he performed construction work and community outreach. His next trip is scheduled for July, when he will travel to Rosarito, Mexico to visit orphanages and help with construction.

Matthew Nutter: Georgetown, Georgetown High School

Nutter is an avid swimmer. He has been swimming competitively for 10 years and is currently a part of the Andover YMCA Hurricanes swim team. He also swims for both the summer and winter YMCA national teams. At school, the Georgetown student was elected treasurer of the National Honor Society and enjoys tutoring middle school students in math and science. Each week, Nutter spends time volunteering at the Salem Animal Shelter, where he cleans cages, walks the dogs, among other duties. During the summer, this student athlete is employed as a lifeguard at Salisbury Beach. Putting his talents to use, he competes in the Ipswich Triathlon at Crane's Beach to help raise money for the Ipswich YMCA.

Applications for the scholarship were submitted by Bay State Games athletes who were in the 11th grade as of the 2009-10 academic year. More than 100 applications were reviewed by Bay State Games staff and board members, before a pool of 18 were asked to interview. This year, six students from that pool were selected to receive a \$2,000 scholarship. For more than two decades, the Future Leaders Scholarship program has distributed over \$200,000 to students. For more information on the Future Leaders Scholarship and the Bay State Summer Games, please visit www.baystategames.org.

About the Massachusetts Amateur Sports Foundation

The Massachusetts Amateur Sports Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that was established in 1982 to host the first sanctioned state games of the commonwealth. It operates with the mission of promoting personal development, education, physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship to Massachusetts citizens of all ages and abilities. The Foundation is recognized nationwide for holding high-quality, Olympic-style events through the Bay State Summer and Winter Games, as well as educational programs including the Kids Fitness Challenge, High School Spirit Program and Verizon Future Leaders Scholarship. With more than 30,000 people from 300 cities and towns directly participating in its programs each year, the Foundation is an integral part of the lives of citizens across the commonwealth.

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