



michigan high school athletic association

media information

1661 ramblewood drive east lansing, mi 48823 517.332.5046 fax-517.332.4071 www.mhsaa.com

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Contact: John Johnson or Andy Frushour

517.332.5046 or media@mhsaa.com

MHSAA Website Media Page: www.mhsaa.com/media

MHSAA Network Page: www.mhsaa.tv

Scholar-Athlete Award Finalists Announced

EAST LANSING, Mich. – Jan. 29 -- The 120 finalists for the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Scholar-Athlete Award for the 2008-09 school year have been announced.

The program, which has been recognizing student-athletes since the 1989-90 school year, will honor 32 individuals from MHSAA member schools who participate in at least one sport in which the Association sponsors a post-season tournament. Farm Bureau Insurance underwrites the Scholar-Athlete Award, and will present a \$1,000 scholarship to each recipient. This year, 2,008 applications were received from 504 schools.

Scholarships will be presented proportionately by school classification, with 12 scholarships to be awarded to Class A student-athletes, 6 female and 6 male; 8 scholarships will be awarded to Class B student-athletes, 4 female and 4 male; 6 scholarships will be awarded to Class C student-athletes, 3 female and 3 male; and 4 scholarships will be awarded to Class D student-athletes, 2 female and 2 male. In addition, there will also be 2 at-large honorees which are also part of the general judging process, may come from any classification, and are designated by their school at the time of entry.

Every MHSAA member high school could submit as many applications as there are scholarships available in their classification, and could have more than one finalist. Twenty-three schools had two or more finalists this year. Berkley, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood, Hillsdale each have three finalists; while Allen Park, Bangor John Glenn, Birmingham Brother Rice, Birmingham Groves, Carleton Airport, Cass City, Fraser, Garden City, Hillsdale Academy, Holland Christian, Marlette, Milan, Montague, North Branch, Plymouth, Rock Mid Peninsula, Ubly, Warren DeLaSalle, Wayland Union and White Lake Lakeland each have two finalists.

Multiple-sport participation is again the norm for this year's applicants, and even more so for the finalists. The average sport participation rate of the finalists is 2.55, while the average of the application pool was 2.07. There are 69 three-sport participants in the finalist field. All but four of the 28 sports in which the MHSAA sponsors post-season tournaments are represented in the finalist field.

The applications were judged by a 69-member committee of school coaches, counselors, faculty members, administrators and board members from MHSAA member schools, from which the 120 finalists were selected. The selection of the 32 scholarship recipients will take place in early February. Class C and D scholarship recipients will be announced on February 17; Class B scholarship recipients will be announced on February 24; and Class A scholarship recipients will be announced on March 3. All announcements will be made on the MHSAA Website.

To honor the 32 Scholar-Athlete Award recipients, a ceremony will take place during halftime of the Class C Boys Basketball Finals at the Breslin Student Events Center in East Lansing on March 28.

To be eligible for the award, students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 (on a 4.0 scale), and have previously won a varsity letter in at least one sport in which the MHSAA sponsors a post-season tournament. Students were also asked to respond to a series of short essay questions, submit two letters of recommendation and submit a 500-word essay on the importance of sportsmanship in educational athletics.

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2-2-2 – Scholar-Athlete Award Finalists Announced

Farm Bureau Insurance, one of Michigan's major insurers, has a statewide force of over 400 agents serving more than 380,000 Michigan policyholders. Besides providing life, home auto, farm, business and retirement insurance, the company also sponsors lifesaving, real-time Doppler weather tracking systems in several Michigan communities.

The MHSAA is a private, not-for-profit corporation of voluntary membership by over 1,600 public and private senior high schools and junior high/middle schools which exists to develop common rules for athletic eligibility and competition. No government funds or tax dollars support the MHSAA, which was the first such association nationally to not accept membership dues or tournament entry fees from schools. Member schools which enforce these rules are permitted to participate in MHSAA tournaments, which attract approximately 1.6 million spectators each year.

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Farm Bureau Insurance, Farmers Insurance, MEEMIC Insurance Company & Meijer are year-round MHSAA Corporate Partners

2008-09 MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award Finalists

Class A Girls

Rebecca Moore, Allen Park
Carley Shann, Bay City Western
Michelle Lapin, Berkley
Cara Baughman, Birmingham Groves
Allison Hawkins, Birmingham Groves
Chelsea Culter, Carleton Airport
Jena Manilla, Clarkston
Michelle Gaedke, Dearborn Edsel Ford
Bridget Hickey, Farmington Hills Mercy
Kelsey Irwin, Fraser
Amanda A. Quartz, Garden City
Kelsey Byxbe, Grandville
Erinn F. Wilson, Greenville
Samantha Matthew, Grosse Pointe North
Ashley Holmes, Holland West Ottawa
Mellisa Bageris, Milford
Patricia Anton, Niles
Sarah Rounsifer, Northville
Megan Quinlan, Plymouth
Ashley Amanda Richards, Warren Cousino
Macy Merchant, Wayland Union
Kelsey Sterkenburg, Wayland Union
Rachael Hogarth, White Lake Lakeland
Katherine Elizabeth O'Leary, White Lake Lakeland

Class A Boys

Joseph Johnson, Allen Park
Philip Mathew, Ann Arbor Huron
Travis Braun, Berkley
Jacob Robert Goodman, Berkley
Kevin Dzierzawski, Birmingham Brother Rice
Michael Murphy, Birmingham Brother Rice
Michael Steltenkamp, Birmingham Seaholm
Satish Subramanian, Canton
Brian LaFleur, Carleton Airport
Carson Beauchaine, Fraser
Ronald D. Pummill, Garden City
John Davies, Grosse Pointe South
Ian David McKay, Holland
Bryan Bush, Lapeer East
Thomas New, Lincoln Park
Ara Markarian, Livonia Churchill
Brian Klemczak, Livonia Stevenson
Matthew M Russell, Midland Dow
Christian Roehmer, Mt Pleasant
Derek Lax, Plymouth
Peter J. Maniez, St Johns
Anthony Zaki, Troy
Keiran Scott, Warren DeLaSalle
Patrick Vaughn, Warren DeLaSalle

Class B Girls

Sarah Kemmer, Bangor John Glenn
Leah Steinhauser, Berrien Springs
Katherine Congdon Blessing, Bloomfield Hills
Cranbrook-Kingswood
Abigail Cohen, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-
Kingswood
Erin Benjamin, Chelsea
Breanna Kellogg, DeWitt
Kara Marie Nusbaum, Hillsdale
Amber Hop, Holland Christian
Lindsay Johnson, Holland Christian
Meghan Petiprin, North Branch
Margaret Liederbach, Petoskey
Chelsea Guzikowski, Reed City
Courtney Clancy, Richland Gull Lake
Halley Brianne Rycenga, South Haven
Katlin Abbs, Sturgis
Emily Holt, Wyoming Rogers

Class B Boys

Kyle Lark, Alma
Ty Richards, Bangor John Glenn
Daniel DuComb, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-
Kingswood
Adam Dings, Corunna
Kyle Jensen, Gladstone
David Rietema, Grand Rapids Christian
David Ptacek, Hamilton
Dylan McKay, Hastings
Korey Caulkins, Hillsdale
Scott Lantis, Hillsdale
Christopher A Siegler, Kingsford
Andrew Doane, Lake Odessa Lakewood
Timothy Hochradel, Milan
Samuel Rowe, Milan
Cody Stawecki, North Branch
Nathan Lee, Spring Lake

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2-2-2 – Scholar Athlete Award Finalists

Class C Boys

Jennifer Morneau, Bad Axe
Rachel Stattler, Bloomfield Hills Academy of the
Sacred Heart
Michelle Lynn Burgess, Brown City
Jennica Richards, Cass City
Jordanna Kero, Hancock
Averi McEwen, Marlette
Jenna C Thompson, Marlette
Miranda Zygiel, Norway
Kelsey Hutchinson, Ottawa Lake Whiteford
Jennifer Messing, Ubly
Lyndsay Marie White, Ubly
Kathryn Elizabeth Stickney, Union City

Class C Boys

Troy Klingler, Bronson
Benjamin Lukas Varney, Cass City
Andrew McCubbin, Galesburg-Augusta
Joshua Steven Boeckman, Harbor Springs
Timothy J Obradovich, Iron Mountain
Christopher Max Rush, Leroy Pine River
William M Rickert, Manchester
Blake Terrill, Marcellus
Stuart Benjamin Jeffries, Montague
Jeffrey Phillip Petsch, Montague
Christopher Ryan Hessell, New Haven
Ryan Holcomb, Saginaw Valley Lutheran

Class D Girls

Kelsey Heinrich, Au Gres-Sims
Rebekah Kline, Auburn Hills Oakland Christian
Sheena Richmond, Eben Junction Superior Central
Connaught Blood, Hillsdale Academy
Julie Schultz, Holland Calvary
Ashley Paige Bauman, Manistee Catholic Central
Brooke Granquist, Powers North Central
Anna Viau, Rock Mid Peninsula

Class D Boys

Andrew Bauer, Bay City All Saints
Tyler Ingalls, Ellsworth
Ethan Smith, Hillsdale Academy
Forrest L Tarsa, Lake Leelanau St Mary
Ben Fellows, Leland
Justin Victor Distelrath, Marine City Cardinal Mooney
Earl Roland Lancour, Rock Mid Peninsula
Lucas Proeber, Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary