

Kansassm Partners in Education

Best Practices Case Study

www.kspartners.org

December 2009

Editor's note: This case study is an educational service to KSPE members, their organizations, and prospective partners.

Wendy's High School Heisman Awards recognize student athletes and leaders

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2009 Heisman winner with National Wendy's High School Heisman winners

The 2009 Heisman Trophy winner, Mark Ingram from the University of Alabama holds the Heisman with the 2009 Wendy's High School Heisman winners, Malia Cali from Hammond, LA and Kyle Pollock from Wiggins, CO. Nokia Theatre, New York City, December 12, 2009. See page 2 for Kansas Heisman finalists and state winners.

The Wendy's High School Heisman program, awarded in conjunction with the collegiate Heisman, celebrates the achievements of the nation's top high school seniors both in and out of the classroom. Just as the collegiate Heisman is known for being the top award in college football, the Wendy's High School Heisman award is known for being the most prestigious award at the high school level. The award encourages future leadership by recognizing well-balanced lifestyles at an early age.

Created in 1994, WSHS has set the standard for high school student-athletes and gained tremendous prestige in its own right. To date, more than 188,000 high school students have represented their schools and been touched by the Heisman glory. The program consists of six stages of awards – applicants, school winners, state finalists, state winners, national finalists, and national winners. Entries are initially evaluated by ACT Assessment during the Applicant, State Finalist and State Winner phases and then passed on to a distinguished panel of judges. Known for the ACT college entrance exam, ACT is a nonprofit organization offering educational measurement and research services.

Twelve National Finalists are invited to participate in Heisman weekend festivities during an all-expense paid trip to New York City. ESPN features all 12 National Finalists during the national telecast of the college Heisman Memorial Trophy presentation.

“The Wendy’s High School Heisman award is committed to honoring outstanding high school student-athletes who continue to shine in the classroom, on the field, in their local communities,” according to Archie Griffin, two-time collegiate Heisman Memorial Trophy winner and national spokesperson. “I’m proud to be a part of a program that honors young men and women who embody the spirit of the Heisman tradition of hard work, dedication and an outstanding record both on and off the field.”

2009 Kansas Winners - Wendy’s High School Heisman:

Zachary Nemechek, Quinter Junior-Senior High School, Quinter, KS

Jenna Ulrich, Lucas-Luray High School, Lucas, KS

2009 Kansas Finalists:

Allison Bruna, Hanover School, Hanover, KS

Tyler Bruton, Burrton High School, Burrton, KS

Kelsey Carbajo, Spring Hill High School, Spring Hill, KS

Ethan Cordray, Field Kindley Memorial High School, Coffeyville, KS

Savannah Dwyre, Ingalls High School, Ingalls, KS

Matthew Hager, Pleasant Ridge High School, Easton, KS

Ben Harstine, Circle High School, Towanda, KS

Lisa Imgrund, Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, Shawnee, KS

Zachary Nemechek, Quinter Junior-Senior High School, Quinter, KS

Jared Regehr, Halstead High School, Halstead, KS

Rachel Renken, Lakeside High School, Downs, KS

Abigail Smith, Uniontown High School, Uniontown, KS

Brandon Somerhalder, Wichita Collegiate School, Wichita, KS

Schuyler Stump, Kapaun Mount Carmel High School, Wichita, KS

Jordan Tice, Osage City High School, Osage City, KS

Jenna Ulrich, Lucas-Luray High School, Lucas, KS

Emily Volker, Thomas More Prep-Marian High School, Hays, KS

Nicole Walden, Bishop Carroll High School, Wichita, KS

Macy Warburton, Cedar Vale Memorial High School, Cedar Vale, KS

Colby Wetter, Sacred Heart Junior-Senior High School, Salina, KS

Students can now self-nominate for the award online, in addition to being recommended by principals, teachers, guidance counselors, and coaches. For a listing of all Kansas Heisman nominees, see www.WendysHeisman.com.

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