

Rotary Club of Burlington Lakeshore

Press Release

June 9, 2009

Annual Athletic Awards

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The Rotary Club of Burlington Lakeshore held its annual Awards night dinner tonight. This marked the 26th year local student athletes were recognized. Each recipient is awarded \$2,500 as they continue on in their education while also continuing to excel in athletics at the next level. This year there were 21 applicants, 15 women and 6 young men.

This year's winners are, ***Cara Cutaia, Meghan Hughes, Natalie Fisher and David Olejnik***

Cara Cutaia / Soccer

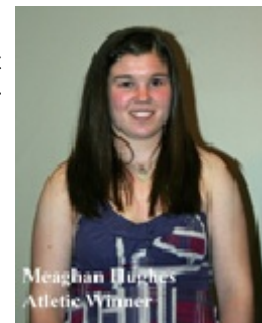
Cara is an honours student from Notre Dame HS. Next year she will attend Eastern Michigan University on a soccer scholarship and be studying Exercise Science. This past season she was a member of the Oakville Phantoms U-17 team when they won their league and were Ontario Cup Champions. The previous season with the Phantoms U-16 team they won both the indoor and outdoor Ontario Cup. With Notre Dame she was their 08 Captain on a team that reached the Y4 finals at OFSSA, and there was recipient of a Sportsmanship award. Cara is also a gifted basketball player as well, having played with the Blessed Sacrament U-19 team who won the gold medal for Ontario Division 1. She was her high school team Captain, and they were Halton Sr. girls Champions. She has also excelled in gymnastics and volleyball. Her High School coach in basketball, and one of 8 people, who wrote glowing



endorsements for Cara, says of her. "Cara is a gifted young lady who balances academic achievement with athletic prowess as a result of her tireless work ethic and perseverance" She ,also devotes volunteer hours at the school serving as a Prefect and on the Student Athletic Assoc.

Meghan Hughes / Soccer

Meghan is an honour roll student from L.B.Pearson HS. and has been every year since grade nine. She has been invited to St Francis Xavier's Varsity Training camp and will play with them next season. While playing at the university level at StFX she will study Human Kinetics with a goal to becoming a medical doctor. For the past 7 seasons she has played for the Oakville Rockets Rep Team, a top ranked Ontario team. That team has won numerous tournaments in the Premier Division. They have won the Premier Div. Championship and that year Meghan was the Coaches Player of the Year. With Pearson she was their soccer team Captain this year. While at Pearson she has twice been the schools basketball MVP and team captain. In Hockey in grade nine she was Pearson's top rookie This year she was Captain and in 07 she was team MVP, as they were GHAC runner-up. Outside of school Meghan is a lifeguard at the Burl. YMCA, and also a C3 level soccer official. Janet Bishop, AD. at Pearson says of Meghan as being a " focused student, driven athlete, and valued leader in the gym and in the classroom." She is on the on the Exec of the school's Athletic Council and devotes numerous hours volunteering her time for various school events.



Natalie Fisher Volleyball

Natalie has been on the honour roll all her years at Assumption H.S., where this year she maintains an over 90% average in her grades. She has been recruited to play volleyball at Queens and McGill. She has chosen Queens where she will play for their women's Volleyball team next year and is enrolled to get her Bach. of Commerce degree. In 2006 she was MVP with the Blaze rep volleyball team, here in Burlington. She then moved to Mountain Athletic Volleyball club in Hamilton, where she was named at the Ontario Championships a member of the U19 All-star team. This season she is with the Kitchener Waterloo Predators. In 2007 Natalie at age 16 was named to the D18 Provincial Team. At Assumption she played with the Senior team in grade 10 as was the team's MVP and the school's Jr athlete of the year. While Captaining her Assumption team she was named to the Halton West All Star Team and was named their Captain as well. She also was a competitive figure skater from 97 through 2006. Assumption Phys. Ed. Head, John Lowicki says, Natalie is "a great ambassador for the school and that integrity and maturity are words that best describe her." She has initiated and organized a World Vision fundraiser at her School She works with the 'Best Buddies' program Natalie was asked by her school principal to serve on the Catholic Board's Student Senate. Natalie this year was honoured when she received a coveted 'Millennium Excellence Award.'



David Olejnik Golf

David has been an honour roll student all through his years at Aldershot, where this year his grades are over 85%. Next year he will attend Western and expects to compete for them on their golf team. David has competed in golf both nationally and internationally since 2001. In 2008 David won a Mizuno Cup Qualifier at Mount Hope and from that was named to the 17 to 19 age team that competed for Canada in South Carolina. Last year he missed winning the Halton Championship by 2 strokes, coming in 2nd at Burlington Golf and Country. In addition to captaining Aldershot's golf team he has played for their basketball, volleyball, and baseball teams This year's basketball team was Halton runner up. He also played Rep baseball from 99 through 2006 with the Burlington Bulls AAA team. Sandra Shields, Head at Aldershot, cites David "as an extremely bright young man apart from his athletics, and has demonstrated superior knowledge and critical thinking skills." David has volunteered his time with the Waterdown Rotary, plus countless hours in prior years at Tyandaga Golf course. This past year to supplement his golf and training expenses, he has worked as a short order cook.

