

GREATER OMAHA SPORTS COMMITTEE

Fall Scholar Athlete Award
Winners

January 10, 2023

Hilton Omaha, Downtown –
1001 Cass St



MARIAN



Elkhorn South High School

COLE BALLARD – FOOTBALL

Awards

- **Class Rank: 69th in a class of 360 GPA. 4.056**
- **9th Grade: Football Team Captain, Scout Team Captain, Most Unselfish Player**
- **10th Grade: Offensive Team MVP, Lincoln Journal Star – All State Honorable Mention, Varsity Letter, Omaha World Herald – All State Honorable Mention**
- **11th Grade: Team MVP, Offensive Team MVP, Varsity Letter, Academic All State, 1000 Yard Guy Super State 1st Team, 1000 Guy All State 1st Team, Lincoln Journal Star – Super State 2nd Team, Omaha World Herald – All Metro, Omaha World Herald – All Nebraska Football Team – Honorable Mention**
- **12th Grade: Team Captain – Set School record for 7 touchdowns in 1st half of game – ALL STATE TEAM CAPTAIN**



Elkhorn South High School

COLE BALLARD

Varsity Participation and others not in nominated sport:

- Varsity Letter Basketball 10 & 11th, Varsity Letter in Track & Field – 11th. Placed 8th at State Track in the 4X4 relay.
- NSAA State Basketball Championship, NSAA Track & Field Championship –
- Certificate of Participations

School and Community Activities

- Huddies Buddies – Down Syndrome Walk Volunteer – 2022
- Youth Football Camp – 3rd – 6th Grade – Volunteer 2020, 2021, 2022
- Youth Football Camp – 6th – 8th Grade – Volunteer 2020, 2021, 2022



Brought to you by:



Gretna High School

ZANE FLORES - FOOTBALL



Awards

- GPA – 3.97
- 10th Grade: All State Honorable Mention Quarterback
- 11th Grade: All Nebraska 1st Team Quarterback – Offensive Captain. State Champions
- 12th Grade: Team Captain, Class A career passing yards record, All Class Completion record
- ALL STATE TEAM CAPTAIN

Brought to you by:



Gretna High School

ZANE FLORES

Varsity athletic participation and honors not in nominated sport:

- Varsity Track & Field 2 years 10th & 11th Grade
- Qualified for State track in long & triple jump, placed 7th in Triple

School and Community Activities

- National Honors Society
- Track & Field
- 4th Grade Flag Football Coach – Past 2 years
- Flag Football referee – past 4 years
- Helped with youth football and track camps the past 3 summers



Brought to you by:



Millard West High School

ALANNA BANKSTON - VOLLEYBALL

Awards

- GPA. 3.5 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade: USAV Girls 14 National Champion
- 10th Grade: AVCA phenom watchlist, Prep Volleyball High School All American Honorable Mention
- 11th Grade: 2021 NE Class A State Runner-up, 5th Place at USAV, 17 Open National Championship, All Metro honorable mention, AVCA phenom watchlist, All State Honorable Mention Class A, USA National Training Development Program, Commitment to University of Louisville
- 12th Grade: Preseason Super Six, Second Team All-American, 2022 ANCA All region, Varsity Co-Captain, USA National Training Development Program, Prep Volleyball Top 150, Class A FIRST TEAM



Millard West High School

ALANNA BANKSTON



Varsity athletic participation & honors other than nominated sport:

- Millard West Athletic Leadership Academy

School & Community Activities

- FCA
- Pay it Forward
- HOSA Club
- Volunteer at Volleyball Special Olympics
- Millard West Athletic Leadership
- Volunteer at Open Door Mission Soup Kitchen
- Volunteer at Saint Francis House Holiday Drive
- Volleyball Varsity Captain
- Millard West Volleyball Kids Camp Worker

Brought to you by:



Papillion LaVista South High School

STELLA ADEYEMI - VOLLEYBALL

Awards

- GPA. 3.94 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade: Frosh 59 Prep Volleyball, 2019 State Champion
- 10th Grade: Prep Volleyball Top 50
- 11th Grade: LJS Super State 1st Team, LJS Class A 1st Team All-State, OWH All Nebraska and Team, OWH All Nebraska Class A 1st Team, All Metro 1st Team, AVCA Phenom Watchlist, Under Armour Selection Camp Nominee, Prep Volleyball 2023 Top 150, USAV NTDP, Max Preps Underclassmen All American.
- 12th Grade: OWH Super 6, AVCA Phenom Watchlist, Max Preps Preseason All American, USAV NTDP Fall Training Series, Gatorade player of the year nominee, All-State Team, All Tournament Team – Class A FIRST TEAM



Brought to you by:



Papillion LaVista South High School

STELLA ADEYEMI



School & Community Activities

- National Honors Society
- Echoes Chili Feed
- New Visions Homeless Shelter Feed
- Abide Community Center Kids Program
- Canned Food Drive
- 2019-2022 Honor Roll
- Volleyball Special Olympics
- Neighborhood Pumpkin Carving Helper

Brought to you by:



Skutt Catholic High School

MORGAN BURKE - VOLLEYBALL

Awards

- GPA. 3.993 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade:
- 10th Grade: LJS All State Honorable Mention, OWH Class B Honorable Mention, All State, OWH Honorable Mention All Omaha Area
- 11th Grade: LJS Class B All Tournament Team for State Tournament, LJS Class B First Team All State, OWH Class B First Team, All State, OWH First Team All Omaha Area, River City Conference First Team, Academic All Conference Award, All Conference 1st Team
- 12th Grade: Channel 6 Athlete of the week, OWH Super six, All Tournament team. AVCA All American 3rd Team, AVCA Best & Brightest First Team – Class B FIRST TEAM

Varsity athletic participation & honors other than nominated sport:

- Under Armour All American Nominee



Skutt Catholic High School

MORGAN BURKE

School & Community Activities

- Team Captain at Club – All years
- Team Captain at Skutt – 1 Year
- National Honors Society – 2 years
- Many Volunteer Honors
- Biology Outstanding Student
- FBLA
- Leadership Council



Brought to you by:



Westside High School DESTINY NDAM-SIMPSON VOLLEYBALL

Awards

- Class Rank: 30 in a class of 500 GPA. 3.8 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade: Class A district runner – up, All State honorable mention
- 10th Grade: NSAA Class A State Appearance, District Champions, NSAA Academic All State, All State 2nd team, School record for kills in a match, Varsity Captain
- 11th Grade: NSAA Class A semi-finalist, A-6 District Champion, Super State team (OWH, LJS), school record for season kills (506)
- 12th Grade: A-3 District Champion, OWH Super Six, Varsity Captain, Class A Start runner up, NSAA All-Tournament Team, School record for kills – Class A ALL-STATE Winner – Team Captain



Varsity athletic participation & honors other than nominated sport:

- 9th grade track, honor roll, Believers & Achievers

Westside High School

DESTINY NDAM-SIMPSON



School and Community Activities

- Red Shield – 12th Grade (student section)
- Hy-Vee Employee (2021 – present)
- Daycare employee (April 2022-present)
- Volunteer speaker @ middle school
- DECA
- CNA qualified UNMC Alliance
- Respect Retreat Camp Counselor
- Special Olympics Volunteer
- Youth Sports Coach/ref/clock
- Lincoln Marathon Volunteer
- Food Drive Volunteer
- Abide Omaha Volunteer
- Special Needs @ the Zoo – Volunteer

Brought to you by:



Gretna High School FAITH MILLS – SOFTBALL

Awards

- GPA. 3.6 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade: 2019 – Honorable Mention – ITG All Area, Nominated for Metro Conference Freshman of the Year, School District Champs & 3rd Place at State Softball Tourney – Class A, batted .538 during the 2019 State Tournament
- 10th Grade: All State Honorable Mention – Lincoln Journal Star & Omaha World Herald
- 11th Grade: LJS & OWH Super State First Team All Nebraska, Class A – All State First Team, 1st Team All Metro Conference/Captain/All Academic All Metro, NFCA All-Region Summer/Fall – 2nd Team 3rd Baseman, Extra Elite Ranking #230 overall, #191 for infielder, and #54 for position.
-
- 12th Grade: OWH - Super-State First Team All Nebraska, OWH Class A – All State First Team, 1st Team All Metro Conference/All Academic All Metro, School District Champs & State Runner up. Rick Gilbride Sportsmanship Award – Omaha Metro Softball Coaches



Gretna High School **FAITH MILLS**

List of Varsity athletic participation and honors not in nominated sport:

- Varsity Letter basketball – 2020-21

School & Community Activities

- Character in Action Club – CIA – 3 years
- FCA – Fellowship of Christian Athletes – 4 years
- Leadership Team for FCA – senior year
- National Honor Society – initiated Spring 2021
- Selected for 2020 Sportsmanship & Leadership Summit
- UNO Softball Scholarship recruit Fall 2021
- Volunteer Softball Coach – 2021-2022
- Initiated and led a food drive during spring 2020 pandemic while home in remote school



Brought to you by:



Marian High School

MADDIA GROFF – SOFTBALL

Awards

- GPA. 4.19 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade: First Team All-State Class A, First Team All Conference, Metro Conference Freshman of the Year
- 10th Grade: All Nebraska Super-State Second Team, First Team All-State Class A, First Team All Conference, Metro Conference Pitcher of the Year
- 11th Grade: All Nebraska Super- State First Team, First Team All-State Class A, First Team All Conference, Metro Conference Pitcher of the Year.
-
- 12th Grade: Metro Conference Player of the Year, All-Nebraska Super State Captain, All-Nebraska Super State First Team, Metro Conference Captain, First Team All-State Class A, State Champions Class A 2022, 307 Strikeouts this season, (1024 Total), ERA = 0.93, Batting Average is .506



Brought to you by:



Marian High School

MADDIA GROFF

MARIAN



School & Community Activities

- Part of Elevating Others
- Managing Editor of Yearbook
- Volunteer at All-Play Miracle League
- Student of the Year – Spanish 3



Brought to you by:



Omaha North High School **NAYERA ABDESSALAM** **CROSS COUNTRY**

Awards

- Class Rank – 1 out of 395
- GPA: 4.0 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade: Academic All Metro, Academic All State, Class A XC State Qualifier
- 10th Grade: COVID
- 11th Grade: Academic All Metro, Academic All State
- 12th Grade: Academic All Metro, Academic All State, Believer & Achievers School Award, Class A Super – State Recipients – 14th Place



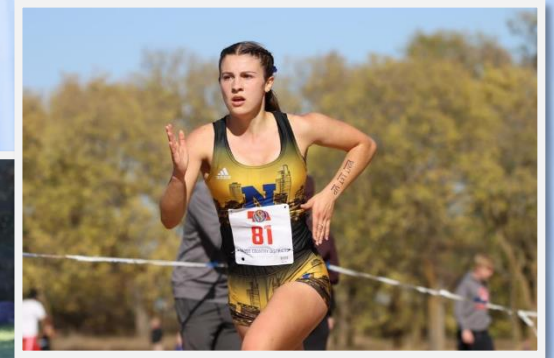
Varsity athletic participation and honors not in nominated sport:

- 2022 Building Omaha Scholar Athlete of the Week CW

Omaha North High School **NAYERA ABDESSALAM**

School & Community Activities:

- Haddix Stem Corridor Intern – Creighton University
- Student Council – Vice President
- National Honor Society – Officer
- Newspaper – Managing Editor
- Student Ambassador – Officer
- Computer Science student
- Advisory Board – Co-Chair
- Novel Idea: Book Club – Vice President
- Math Club – Officer
- Computer Science Team
- Chemistry Bowl Team
- Science Olympiad
- Camp Invention Volunteer
- Phenomenal STEM Girls – Event Planner, Volunteer
- Heartland Family Services
- AP Scholar
- PSAT National Merit – Semi Finalist
- Nebraska Sportsmanship Summit



Brought to you by:



Skutt Catholic High School

ANIKA RICHARDS – CROSS COUNTRY

Awards

- GPA: 4.180 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade: Team Runner-up at State, Outstanding Freshman Award, Team at Districts and Conference Runner-up,
- 10th Grade: Team 3rd place at State and 20th place finish. Individual Outstanding Award, NCPA Academic All-State Award, Team Runner up at Districts and Conference, All Conference Team, Academic All Conference Team.
- 11th Grade: Team 3rd Place & 4th Place individual at State Team MVP Award, NCPA Academic All-State Award. Class B All-State Cross Country Team, Team Captain, Individual District Champion, Individual Conference Champion, All Conference Team, Academic All Conference Team.
-
- 12th Grade: Team 4th Place & 9th Place Individual at State. Team MVP Award, NCPA Academic All State Award, Class B State Medalist (9), Team Captain, Conference Team, Academic All Conference. One of 2 girls in school history to medal top 10 twice.



Varsity athletic participation and honors not in nominated sport:

- Track & Field – Letter winner – 4 years, NCPA Academic All State Award, Outstanding Sophomore Award, Team MVP, 8th place medalist in 3200, Academic all Conference

Brought to you by:



Skutt Catholic High School

ANIKA RICHARDS

School & Community Activities

- All-State Choir
- All State Concert Choir
- Vocal Music letter
- Outstanding Christian Service Award
- Speech Team
- Vivace Team, Dance Captain
- Honor Choir
- Acapella Group
- Tri-M Honors Society
- Academic Honors – Distinguish Honors – Academic Honors
- Leadership Council
- Concert Choir
- Skyhawks for Life
- Discipleship Group
- Angels Prayer Group
- Allegro Team
- Campus Ministry Letter
- Honors Spanish Student
- Spark Summer Program



Brought to you by:



Skutt Catholic High School

ALEXANDER RICE – CROSS COUNTRY

Awards

- **GPA: 4.251 4 year Varsity Letter**
- **9th Grade: Team Championat State and 16th Place Individual, Outstanding Freshman Award, Team Champion Conference and Districts all Conference Award, Academic All Conference Award.**
- **10th Grade: Team Champion and 20th Place Individual at State Outstanding Sophomore Award, Team Conference and District Champion All Conference Award, Academic All Conference Award, Team Captain.**
- **11th Grade: Team Runner up and 16th place individual at State, Outstanding Junior Award, Team conference and district Champion All Conference Award, Academic All Conference Award, Team Captain**
- **12th Grade: Team runner up and 8th place individual at State, Team MVP award, NCPA academic All State Award, Class B State Medalist (8), Team Captain, Conf. & Dist. Team Champion, All Conference Team, Academic All Conference Team, one of two boys in school history to finish top 20 all 4 years.**



Brought to you by:



Skutt Catholic High School

ALEXANDER RICE

Varsity athletic participation & honors other than nominated sport:

- Track & Field – NCPA Academic All-State Award (11)
- Distinguished Honor Roll
- Outstanding Sophomore
- Activity Student Award
- Outstanding Team Mate Award
- 2nd Place 4 x 800p relay at State, 7th place medal 800 meter
- State qualifier 1600, 800 & 4 x 800 (10 & 11)
- Academic All Conference (10 & 11)
- District & Conference Team Champion (10 & 11)

School & Community Activities:

- Speech Captain - 12
- Oral interpretation of Drama
- 6th Place at State
- Duet Acting
- Spring play
- National Honors Society
- Guardians Prayer Group
- National Merit Commanded Scholar
- Honors Physics Student of the Year
- Honors Chemistry Student of the Year



Brought to you by:



Millard South High School

BEN BOUDREAU - TENNIS

Awards

- GPA: 4.0 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade:
- 10th Grade: 3rd Place at Metro – 2 Singles, 8th seed at State, All Metro Scholar
- 11th Grade: 9th Place at Metro – 1 singles, 15 seed at State, All Metro Scholar, All State Honorable Mention
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- 12th Grade: 4th Place at Metro – 1 Singles, 8th Place at State - #8 Seed, 25-11 record, All Metro Scholar, All State Scholar, All State Honorable mention

Varsity athletic participation and honors not in nominated sport:

- 4 years Varsity Basketball
- 1 year Varsity Soccer



Brought to you by:



Millard South High School

BEN BOUDREAU



School & Community Activities

- Student Council 9, 10, & 11
- National Honor Society – 11
- FLA 9, 10, & 11
- Junior Class Board
- Circle of Friends
- Leadership Academy



Brought to you by:



Millard North High School IZABELLA PESICKA - GOLF

Awards

- GPA: 3.45 4 year Varsity Letter
- 9th Grade: Medaled in 3 Varsity Golf Tournaments, Won 1st Place in Nebraska Junior Golf Championship
- 10th Grade: Played 11 Varsity tournaments and medaled in 10. Awarded 2nd Team all-metro selection by the Metro Conference, Medaled 8th at District A-1 Tournament, NJG Player of the Year & NTG 1st Place & NJG Championship.
- 11th Grade: Played in 1 Varsity Tournaments & Medaled in 10. Awarded 1st Team All-Metro Selection, Medaled 16th at State Golf Tournament in Norfolk, medaled 4th at District A-1 Tournament.
-
- 12th Grade: Played in 11 Varsity Tournaments & medaled in all 11. 1st Place in 5 Varsity Tournaments, 3rd in two Varsity Tournaments, 4th in 1 Varsity Tourney. 5th Place at State Golf Tournament, 1st Place at Metro Conference Tournament, Athlete of the week, MVP athlete of the month (Millard North), Medaled in 31 of 33 Tournaments in last 3 seasons. Awarded girls Golf super State by Neb Coaches Assoc.



Brought to you by:



Millard North High School **IZABELLA PESICKA**

Varsity athletic participation and honors not in nominated sport:

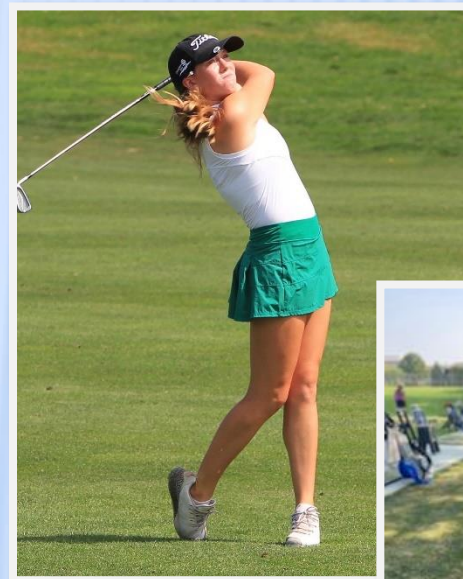
- Varsity Tennis – Sophomore & senior Year

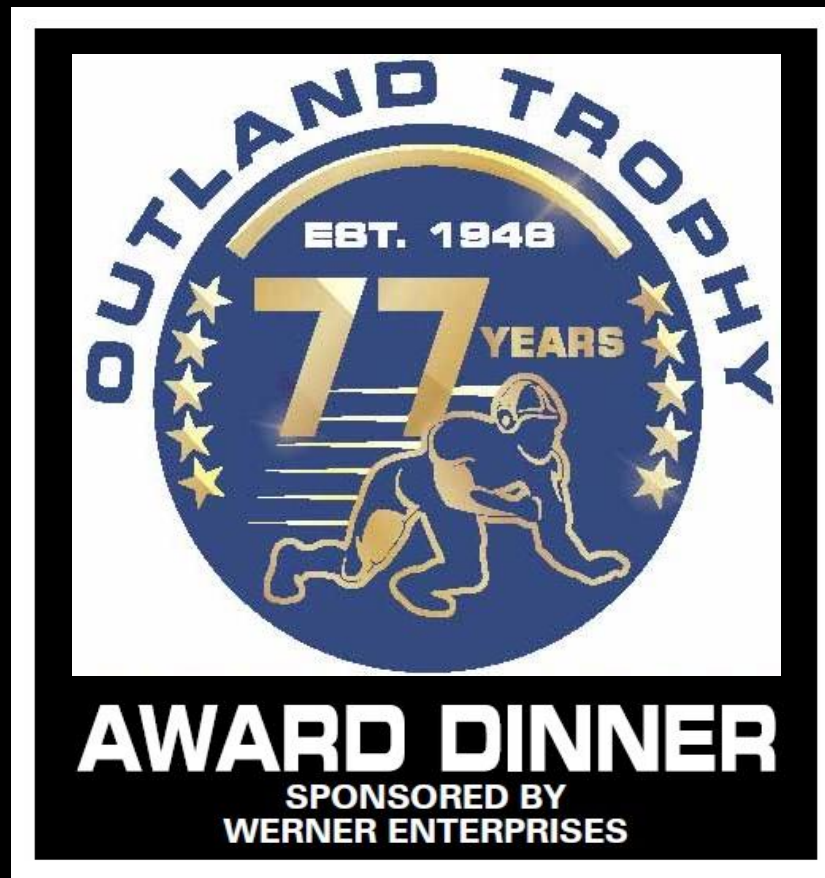
School & Community Activities

- Varsity Golf 4 years
- Varsity Tennis 2 years
- Community Organizations
- Salvation Army
- Summer Kids Cuisine
- Turkeyfest meal delivery
- Winternight Watch
- Heartland Hope Mission
- Food Pantry

School Organizations:

- HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America)





**A SALUTE TO
THE BIG GUY IN THE TRENCHES AND
THE UNSUNG HERO OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

Wednesday, January 11, 2023 - Hilton Omaha Downtown

