

# Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association

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## WIAA ANNOUNCES 2009 SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD WINNERS

**STEVENS POINT, Wis.** – Thirty-two senior students attending Wisconsin public and nonpublic high schools have been named winners of the 2009 WIAA Scholar Athlete Award, presented by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association.

That brings to 764 the number of young men and women honored since the program was launched in 1984 to honor scholastic and athletic excellence.

This year's 16 boys and 16 girls will be recognized at an award ceremony Sunday, May 3, in Wausau. Featured speaker will be Douglas Chickering, the retiring executive director of the WIAA. An educator for 45 years and head of the WIAA since 1986, Chickering will retire on July 31. He has been involved with the Scholar Athlete program since it was launched in 1984.

The WIAA Scholar Athlete Award program has been underwritten since its inception by Liberty Mutual Group, which will host the awards ceremony at the Westwood Conference Center in Wausau.

Every year, each of the WIAA-member high schools in the state is invited to nominate one boy and one girl for Scholar Athlete honors. There were 707 nominations – 351 boys and 356 girls – for the 2009 statewide award from 376 schools. The school and nomination totals are record figures. The following is a list of the 2009 winners, the communities in which they live and the high schools they attend.

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To qualify for the WIAA Scholar Athlete Award, a nominee must have earned at least four varsity letters through the first half of his/her senior year and must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. This year's nominees in four WIAA categories included 178 from 94 schools in Division 1; 180 from 97 schools in Division 2; 193 from 105 schools in Division 3; and 153 from 80 schools in Division 4. The divisions are those used by the WIAA for basketball and volleyball tournament participation.

At the May 3rd awards ceremony, at which the winners' parents and coaches or teachers will also be guests, each 2009 WIAA Scholar Athlete will receive a medallion and certificate, and will take with them a special plaque for display in their school's trophy case.

The following is a list of the 2009 winners, the communities in which they live and the high schools they attend.

**- MORE -**

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\* indicates that the student is that school's first statewide winner. The list of winners is repeated alphabetically, by high school, at the end of this release.

### **DIVISION 1 – BOYS**

Tomás Goldsmith, Kenosha – Tremper High School \*  
Brett Hartman, Hortonville – Neenah High School  
Aaron Kondrasuk, Monona – Monona Grove High School  
Chris Siebert, Baraboo – Baraboo High School

### **DIVISION 1 – GIRLS**

Danielle Carlson, Marshfield – Marshfield High School  
Kiah Ehrke, Stoughton – Stoughton High School  
Amy Feivor, Appleton – Appleton North High School  
Catherine Grandi, Burlington – Burlington High School

### **DIVISION 2 – BOYS**

Jared Abbrederis, Wautoma – Wautoma High School \*  
Hayden Hauschildt, Ellsworth – Ellsworth High School  
Nickolas Olla, Kewaskum – Kewaskum High School \*  
James Rindt, Medford – Medford Area High School

### **DIVISION 2 – GIRLS**

Alexandra Lake, Madison – Madison Edgewood High School \*  
Courtney Oldenburg, West Salem – West Salem High School  
Rachel Vrabc, Menasha – Xavier High School (Appleton) \*  
Hannah Wallace, Whitefish Bay – Whitefish Bay High School

### **DIVISION 3 – BOYS**

Jordan Bauman, Edgar – Stratford High School  
Alex Koeller, Marshall – Marshall High School \*  
Michael Mortenson, Iola – Iola-Scandinavia High School  
Parker Prochaska, Fennimore – Fennimore High School

### **DIVISION 3 – GIRLS**

Alexis Mikaelian, Racine – The Prairie School High School  
Hannah Mueller, Edgar – Colby High School \*  
Sheila Opelt, Neillsville – Neillsville High School  
Alison Swart, Oostburg – Oostburg High School

### **DIVISION 4 – BOYS**

Kevin Berg, Argyle – Argyle High School \*  
Tyler Bosshart, Wilson – Spring Valley High School  
Jordan Hendricks, Benton – Benton High School  
David Klang, Cazenovia – Weston High School

### **DIVISION 4 – GIRLS**

Caroline Starck, Williams Bay – Williams Bay High School  
Jada Straub, Wisconsin Rapids – Assumption High School  
Jamie Vandenberg, Niagara – Niagara High School  
Whitley Zimmer, Ladysmith – Flambeau High School

All of the other students nominated will be presented with a medal at their school recognizing the achievement of each as their school's top male or female scholar athlete.

This year's list of winners turned up these items of interest:

- Of the 366 high schools submitting nominations this year, eight had statewide WIAA Scholar Athletes for the first time.
- Sixteen of this year's 32 Scholar Athletes had a grade point average of 4.0.
- Fourteen of the 2009 WIAA Scholar Athletes have earned at least 10 varsity letters in their first 3 ½ years of high school.
- Kevin Berg is the first WIAA Scholar Athlete from Argyle High School.
- Colby High School has its first WIAA Scholar Athlete – Hannah Mueller.
- Kenosha Tremper High School produced its first WIAA Scholar Athlete – Tomás Goldsmith.
- Kewaskum High School's first WIAA Scholar Athlete is Nickolas Olla.
- Madison Edgewood High School has its first WIAA Scholar Athlete – Alexandra Lake.
- Marshall High School's first WIAA Scholar Athlete is Alex Koeller.
- Wautoma High School produced its first WIAA Scholar Athlete – Jared Abbrederis.
- Xavier High School in Appleton has its first WIAA Scholar Athlete – Rachel Vrabec.
- David Klang of Weston High School is the second member of his family to earn statewide honors. His sister, Sarah, was the school's first WIAA Scholar Athlete in 2006.
- Whitley Zimmer is Flambeau High School's seventh WIAA Scholar Athlete.
- Danielle Carlson is the fifth WIAA Scholar Athlete from Marshfield High School.
- Jordan Bauman is the fifth WIAA Scholar Athlete from Stratford High School.