

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Campus Compact
Montana

Montana Campus Compact Honors Student Athlete Volunteers

(Missoula, Montana) Montana Campus Compact (MTCC), an eighteen campus higher education network, honored student athletes from across the state of Montana for their outstanding community service work at the November 23rd **Brawl of the Wild** Football Game in Bozeman. The MTCC Board and OCHE Commissioner Clay Christian, presented these 14 exemplary college student athletes MTCC's **Montana Athletes in Service Award**.

For 26 years, Montana Campus Compact and its affiliate campuses has supported students, faculty and communities across Montana with programs that encourage and recognize community service. Montana Campus Compact and the State of Montana are proud to honor the following athletes whose extensive volunteer efforts have been of great benefit to their communities.

*"College students in Montana do amazing community work, and their investment of time, talent and energy help improve our communities across the state. Campus Compact's **Montana Athletes In Service Award** honors the contributions of student athlete-volunteers."* said Josh Vanek, of MTCC.

The 2019 Montana Athletes in Service are:

- Nadia Augustiro, Sophomore, Miles Community College; Sport: Rodeo
- Teigen Avery, Senior, University of Montana; Sport: Golf
- Cal Christian, Sophomore, Fort Peck Community College; Sports: Basketball, Cross Country, Weight Lifting
- April Davis, Sophomore, Dawson Community College; Sport: Softball
- Tanner Haverfield, Sophomore, University of Montana Western; Sport: Basketball
- Preston Jeschke, Junior, Flathead Valley Community College; Sport: Logger Sports
- Gillian Maness, Senior, MSU; Sport: Cross Country, Track & Field
- Emerson McLaughlin, Senior, University of Providence; Sport: Soccer
- Kyle McLaughlin, Senior, MSU Billings; Sport: Track & Field
- Max Melfi, Junior, Rocky Mountain College; Sport: Football
- Shania Neubauer, Junior, MSU Northern; Sport: Volleyball
- Jenna Starke, Senior, Carroll College; Sport: Volleyball
- Zach Torgerson, Sophomore, Montana Tech; Sport: Football
- Charnea Two Bulls, Sport: Little Big Horn College; Sport: Basketball

Detailed information about each of the winners follows:

Nadia Augustiro, Sophomore at Miles Community College; Sport: Rodeo.

Service activities include: Rodeo Team Manager, Associated Students Rodeo Team Representative, Sports Advisory Council; MCC Student Assistant through the Student Services Office, coordination of the Custer Network Against Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault community event, coordinator for the Hoofin' it for Hunger event.

"Often referred to as the "Mom of the rodeo team" because of her ability to keep everyone organized and in check, Nadia is a leader. But, more importantly for me, she is someone I can count on to get things done. I believe Nadia's positive impact will result in a ripple effect. This means that our returning and future students

will benefit because of her desire to leave behind her best!” – Richard DeShields, Miles CC Dean of Student Engagement

Teigan Avery, Senior, University of Montana, Sport: Golf; Service:

Teigan Avery has been a shining star in the Griz Community program. She is an excellent representation of a student athlete at the University of Montana and the Big Sky Conference. As an Economics & Political Science major and a Varsity Golfer she has made time to give back to the Missoula community. Teigan has generously donated her time to the following:

- The American Red Cross – is a liaison between the Red Cross and the Davidson Honors College. She organizes Blood Drives and it is a donor.
- The Montana Food Bank Network volunteer
- Missoula Office of Housing and Development intern and housing advocate.
- SAAC (Student Athlete Academic Committee)
- Missoula Mayor’s office intern
- Big Sky Exceptionalities class volunteer
- Ronald McDonald House volunteer
- Poverello Center meal volunteer
- Lady Griz School Day class buddy
- Special Olympics volunteer
- Davidson Honors College peer mentor and advocate
- Junior Golf swing coach
- Glacier High School – We The People advisor and volunteer coach
- Tester Campaign volunteer
- Missoula County Animal Control volunteer
- Get Out to Vote campaign volunteer
- One Shirt One Body T-shirt Drive volunteer

“As a successful student athlete Teigan has made time each week throughout her entire time at the University of Montana to give back to our Missoula community. Her legacy of service is a shining role model for younger athletes in our athletic department & students on our University of Montana campus.” -- M. Helen Houlihan, UM Director of Student-Athlete Support Services

Cal Christian, Sophomore, Fort Peck Community College, Sport: Basketball, Cross Country, Weight Lifting; Service:

Cal is a role model amongst his peers because of his ability to balance academics with volunteerism on campus. He’s considered the “go-to” student on campus when positions of leadership or volunteerism are needed. He participates in Student Senate and in cultural activities on the Fort Peck Reservation. Cal demonstrates the ability to build cross cultural relationships and lead students throughout the completion of an initiative. Cal has firsthand experience advocating on behalf of tribal college students at the highest of levels at the annual Tribal College and University Capitol Hill visits in Washington, D.C. where he met directly with state representatives and senators to advocate for TCU funding.

“Cal engages in the community because he understands the great need the Fort Peck Community has for role models and service workers. Cal understands the importance of hard work and “giving back” to his community.” – Elijah Hopkins, VP for Student Services, Fort Peck CC

April Davis, Sophomore, Dawson Community College, Sport: Softball; Service:

- Crew for Athletic Community BBQ
- EPEC (Eastern Plains Event Center) Volunteer
- High School Volleyball Tournament volunteer
- Crew for all the basketball and volleyball games on campus

- Thrift Store Volunteer
- BBQ Badlands Volunteer
- Chamber Annual Banquet volunteer
- FFA (Future Farmers of America) Judge: high school FFA students
- Moved furniture for several people in the community
- Helped a business move their move their belonging to new houses or locations

“April has made a measurable impact over the past two years as a passionate advocate to help others in the community. She inspired many people by her dedication and selflessness to always being a helping hand.”

– Joe Peterson, Dawson CC Athletic Director

Tanner Haverfield, Sophomore, UM Western, Sport: Basketball; Service:

High school basketball camp coach, High school open gym basketball volunteer, YMCA soccer/summer program volunteer, Elks Club volunteer, Community Thanksgiving event volunteer, Dillon JayCee’s Park project volunteer

“Tanner is conscious of how big of a platform he has and how he can make an impact on this community with his service to others. He is the definition of servant stewardship and how he puts others before himself. Growing up in Dillon, Tanner saw firsthand how supportive this community is. He is now giving back to others and providing an example for younger student athletes on how important it is to give back.” – Patrick Jensen, Assistant Coach, UMW

Preston Jeschke, Junior, Flathead Valley Community College; Sport: Logger Sports; Service:

Volunteers regularly with the organizations:

- Local Community Kitchen
- “When the Night Comes” event to raise money for homeless high school students
- Humane Society of NW Montana
- Adopt-A-Highway
- Family Forestry Expo

“Preston volunteers because he believes it’s a great way to help the community and contribute to society...He has taken on a definite leadership role on the logger sports team, being an excellent role model for others, showing what they should be doing not only for the team but how to also volunteer in their community.”

-- Ann Beall, Logger Sports Head Coach, Flathead Valley CC

Gillian Maness, Senior, MSU; Sport: Cross Country, Track & Field;

Service: Eagle Mount Bozeman, Montana Special Olympics, Little Bobcat Track

“Gillian contributes to the community and makes an impact in her own unique ways. She has heart to make an influence within the community that benefits everyone. “

-- Emily Keller, Academic Coordinator for Student- Athlete Affairs

Emerson McLaughlin, Senior, University of Providence; Sport: Soccer;

Service: Eme has been involved in the University of Providence’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), Exercise Science Club, Chemistry Club, and has been the captain for the women’s soccer team. Through her participation in the clubs, committees, and team, she has been involved, and been the leader of, numerous community service activities. As president of SAAC she has helped lead activities such as the UP Spook-a-Roo, remodeling rooms at the Mercy Shelter, and the 6th Graders Day Out basketball event. Annually, Eme has helped the Chemistry Club hold a “Magic Show” which invites local elementary students to campus to watch and participate in science “magic.” Yet, one of her most significant contributions has been her involvement with the women’s soccer team, Team Impact, and a local girl with cystic fibrosis.

Eme was able to get the team to “sign” this young lady to be a teammate and has been instrumental in involving her in our team activities. She has gone above and beyond in being there for the girl through difficult situations.

“Eme will leave a legacy of compassion and energy to help others within University of Providence and the greater community. She has already made an enormous impact on the young lady with CF which will have a lasting positive effect on the rest of her life. Her leadership and concern to help serve the community has caused those around to her to be compelled to do the same.” – Brian Clarke, Women’s Soccer Head Coach, University of Providence

Kyle McLaughlin, Senior, MSU Billings, Sport Track & Field; Service:

Kyle has been involved in numerous campus events that has helped provide service to the city of Billings. He is the President of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee on campus, where he has established new and creative ways for students to provide for members of the community which will be around long after he has graduated. He has coordinated over 1300 lbs of food donations for local nonprofits through the University, created new ways to give back to those without access to basic services, and brings awareness to how important it is for Student Athletes to get involved with community service.

“Kyle has made an impact at MSUB for setting a high standard and providing an example of how students should become involved with community service at their Universities.” -- Krista Montague, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, MSU Billings

Max Melfi, Junior, Rocky Mountain College, Sport: Football; Service:

Max is a Preschool teacher at Priscilla’s Place Preschool and helps out in elementary school classrooms all across Billings on a regular basis. He is also a 2 year House Leader for Rocky Mountain College’s education department which partners with Beartooth Elementary.

“Max is a constant reminder to young kids that if you work hard you can accomplish anything. Whether he is working with his preschool kids or helping out in an elementary school classroom, he is always impacting lives. Max is always telling kids to never give up, don’t let anyone tell you that you can’t do something, and to work hard for what you believe in. His success story is something that can spark a fire in the eyes of a young kid to defeat the odds just like he did.” – Jeff Malby, Director of Athletics, Rocky Mountain College

Shania Neubauer, Junior, MSU Northern, Sport: Volleyball; Service: Member of Association of Student’s Athletes – Volleyball Representative, Volunteer at the Native American Classic Basketball tournament, Volunteer at Native American Powwow, Volunteer District Basketball tournament, Volunteer at Northern Football (Spring) and all Basketball competitions.

“Shania is an extremely genuine and giving person who truly cares more about others than herself. She has a great sense of forward thinking, and works hard to be an active member of the community by fostering positive growth and development. She wants the volleyball team to be better known in the community by helping the community, something they had not done a lot of when she first arrived on campus.” – Jerry Wagner, MSUN Head Volleyball Coach

Jenna Starke, Senior, Carroll College Volleyball; Service: Jenna has been the consummate servant for her community throughout her college career and well before it. She’s volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters, Rocky Mountain Care Center, the Carroll sophomore retreat, as a F.R.E.E. International Missionary, with Families with Heart, as a junior high St. Andrew girls basketball coach, Florence Crittenton Home Fundraiser, “Headlights” Immersion and Service Trip, Carroll Girls STEM Round-Up Instructor, Helena Area Habitat for Humanity Women’s Build, among many others.

“Jenna’s dedication to serving so many will leave a lasting impact on the community. Whether it’s serving a man with cerebral palsy every week, or mentoring Helena’s youth, she touches every demographic in Helena in a meaningful way.” -- Erik Anderson, Sports Information Director, Carroll College

Zach Torgerson, Sophomore, Montana Tech; Sport: Football; Service:

Member of SAAC, leads the Montana Tech student-athletes in-school program the T.E.C.H. Way, AmeriCorps.

“Zach likes to help others in need. It only takes a small amount of time and can make a big difference. At the end of the day, Zach wants to impact as many lives as possible and hopefully change their lives for the better. Zach likes to help kids in need.” – Nick Bowsher, Executive Associate Athletic Director, Montana Tech

Charnea Two Bulls, Sport: Little Big Horn College; Sport: Basketball; Service: college-community outreach leader, fundraising.

“Charnea has set the bar for any new in-coming students and has been a role model for current students near and far in her service to our college and community. She isn’t afraid to get down and dirty when performing duties such as picking up garbage, planting trees, washing bleachers, whatever needs to be done.”

-- Gernell Killsnight, LBHC Women’s Basketball Coach

MTCC is proud to honor these student athletes for their efforts to improve Montana communities. Each student was nominated for qualities that demonstrate the integral part they play in their communities and campuses.

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