

# 48th Annual Christman Awards

*In honor of Clarence A. Christman Jr*



**Brooklyn Wilson**



**Madisyn Callahan**



**Hannah Casto**



**Katie Zeigler**



**Jaycie McRoberts**



**Wendy Hawk**



**Megan Self**



**Whitney Cockerill**



**Cameron Eckles**



**Miranda Wheeler**



**Brody Morris**



**Cole Massie**



**Jakob Snyder**



**Kody Scott**

# Christman Award: A Fayette County tradition

By Chris Hoppes  
choppes@civitasmedia.com

The 48th Annual Clarence A. Christman Award will be presented at a dinner meeting of the Kiwanis Club at the Crown Room in Washington C.H. Tuesday, May 24 at 6:30 p.m.

The award, given annually since 1969, goes to a senior from Washington High School or Miami Trace High School who best represents excellence in the areas of athletics, academics and leadership. The award is sponsored by the Record-Herald and the Washington C.H. Kiwanis Club.

This year, seven student-athletes from Miami Trace High School and seven from Washington High School have been nominated for the award.

Clarence A. Christman Jr. came from humble beginnings in Washington C.H.

Growing up, he showed an ability to perform ably in athletic endeavors and loved sports throughout his life.

He had help from others, shopkeepers and businessmen, with the tools he needed to participate in sports.

He spent the rest of his life paying back, as well as forward, to the young people of the community.

As an adult with the means, he would often help youngsters who were just like him, eager and interested in athletics, but often unable to acquire even the most modest equipment to compete in



Clarence A. Christman Jr. and his wife, Mary Lou, in 1970.

Courtesy photo

sports.

Christman dropped out of Washington High School in his sophomore season and entered the U.S. Navy.

He served in the navy for three years during World War II. Christman served in a submarine and was wounded when his sub was hit by an enemy depth charge.

Upon returning to Washington C.H. after the war, Christman married and began a family.

As life continued on after the war, Christman worked

for the Farm Bureau and subsequently became the city's auditor and later, city manager.

The Christman Award started as the Record-Herald award in 1969.

After Christman's untimely death from a heart attack following helping to fight a local fire, the award was soon renamed in his honor. To this day, Christman's widow, Mary Lou Haines, still keeps up with the Christman Award and attends the program.

There is also Christman

Park in Washington C.H., named in Clarence's honor, located off Elm Street across from the city water department with Paint Creek flowing along nearby.

Since 1969, the Christman Award has been celebrated as a way to recognize an outstanding high school senior who has excelled in the areas of academics, athletics and leadership.

Reach Chris Hoppes at 740-335-3611, ext. 1104, or on Twitter @choppes1

## Christman Award winners... through the years

1969.....	Donald Bennett, Miami Trace
1970.....	Tom Gifford, Miami Trace
1971.....	Jeff Blake, Washington Senior
1972.....	Bill Junk, Washington Senior
1973.....	Glenn Gifford, Miami Trace
1974.....	Chuck Wilson, Washington Senior
1975.....	Jeff Smithson, Miami Trace
1976.....	David Thompson, Washington Senior
1977.....	Joe Black, Miami Trace
1978.....	John Moore, Washington Senior
1979.....	Debby Wheat, Washington Senior
1980.....	Robbie James, Miami Trace
1981.....	John Lehman, Miami Trace
1982.....	Steve Grooms, Miami Trace
1982.....	Jenny Bienz Breedlove, Washington Senior
1983.....	Darly Hennessy, Miami Trace
1984.....	Cathy Ward, Miami Trace
1985.....	Jan Thompson-Roop, Washington Senior
1986.....	Jeff Bartlett, Washington Senior
1987.....	Jason Johnson, Washington Senior
1988.....	Cathy Grover, Miami Trace
1989.....	Joe Ward, Miami Trace
1990.....	Miguel Lorente, Washington Senior
1991.....	Todd Henry, Miami Trace
1992.....	Jason Pittser, Washington Senior
1993.....	Jason King, Miami Trace
1994.....	Betsy Lewis, Washington Senior
1995.....	Becky Ondrus, Washington Senior
1996.....	Farrar Pond, Washington Senior
1997.....	Michael Reeves, Miami Trace
1998.....	Clarissa Hitchon, Miami Trace
1999.....	Beth Walters, Washington Senior
2000.....	Valerie King, Washington Senior
2001.....	Matt Zink, Miami Trace
2002.....	Mark Bihl, Washington Senior
2003.....	Kiley Black, Miami Trace
2004.....	Mary Myers, Miami Trace
2005.....	Meredith Wilson, Miami Trace
2006.....	Kalyn Klontz, Miami Trace
2007.....	Stephanie Stinson, Miami Trace
2008.....	Travis Shaw, Washington Senior
2009.....	Brett Garland, Miami Trace
2010.....	Jenna Cobb, Miami Trace
2011.....	Juliane McKay, Miami Trace
2012.....	Landon Gibbs, Miami Trace
2013.....	Judith Straathof, Miami Trace
2014.....	Abby Schwenk, Miami Trace
2015.....	Jeremiah Jones, Miami Trace
2016.....	???

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## BROOKLYN WILSON

**School:** Washington High School

**Parents:** Mark and Jasine Wilson

**Class Rank:** 3rd out of 165

**Athletics:** Softball 4 years, 4 varsity letters; volleyball, 4 years, 2 varsity letter; swimming, 3 years, 3 varsity letters; Cheerleading, 1 year, 0 letter

**Special awards:** Team Player Award for softball, 2013; Leadership Award, for softball, 2014; McDonald's Spring Scholar Athlete (2015); Fast-pitch softball scholar athlete - presented by Ohio High School Fast-pitch Softball Coaches Association for maintaining a 3.5 gpa on a 4.0 scale while participating in fast-pitch; McDonald's Fall Scholar Athlete (2015)

**Statistics:** softball, 21 games played (season still underway at time form was submitted), 86 at bats, 18 hits, 1 double, 1 triple, 7 rbi, 14 runs, hit by pitch, 7

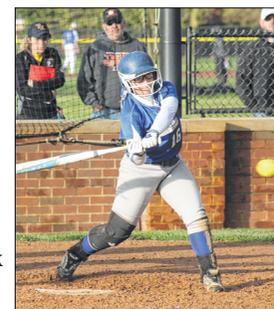
times, batting average, .277; on base percentage, .397; slugging, .323; fielding: 1 assist; 30 put outs, .912 field percentage; volleyball: serving, 83 of 96 for 86 percent; 8 ace serves; receiving: 88 of 125 for 70 percent; passing: 132 of 167 for 79 percent.

**Scholastic:** 3.8 grade point average on a 4.0 scale; Academy of Scholars, for maintaining a 4.0 gpa on a 5.0 scale for year-end grades: 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016; DECA State finalist - hospitality and tourism; Buckeye Girls State - selected by the American Legion Post 25 Ladies' Auxiliary to represent Washington High School at the Buckeye Girls' State convention (2015); DECA State Finalist - Fashion and Merchandising (2015); Teacher's assistant, 11th and 12th grades; Tutor, 1 year of chemistry and algebra (senior year); Rachel's Challenge Group - member 9th and 10th grades

**Leadership:** Student government, 4 years; Class Vice President (9th, 10th, 11th grades); Class President (12th grade); Hi-Y, 4 years (member 9th, 10th, 11th), historian (12th grade); DECA 3 years (member 9th, 10th, 11th); Rachel's Challenge Group (member 9th, 10th grades); Concert band: 2 years, 1st chair (9th and 10th grade); Symphonic band, 2 years, 2nd chair (11th and 12th grades) Marching band, 3 years (member 9th, 10th) squad leader (11th grade); Jazz Band, 4 years; Debate, member, 12th grade; Youth group - A.L.I.V.E., 6 years (church); employment: Dairy Queen and Yeti-Yogurt.

**Coach Ashley DeAtley's comments:** Brooklyn is a team leader, academic leader and a leader among her peers. Upon first meeting Brooklyn, I was amazed by how much she involved herself in school clubs and activities among her sports endeavors. I was able

to see her take charge of the court in volleyball, read about her achievements in swimming and have enjoyed following her stats from softball. Brooke has always been a team player, only wanting to do what is best for everyone. She is a subtle leader that always has a positive attitude. One thing that also amazed me about Brooklyn is that she is a dedicated student-athlete that puts her school work first and still manages to do so well in the classroom. Her peers think very highly of her as she is the Senior Class President and Historian of the Hi-Y Club. She also earned McDonald's Fall Student Female Athlete. Her integrity and class has shown through the sports she has been involved in. She sets a very high standard for all student-athletes and I am glad to have had the chance to know such a persevering student-athlete that represents Washington City Schools on and off the court.



Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Washington High School's Brooklyn Wilson swings at a pitch during the 2016 softball season.

## JAYCIE McROBERTS

**School:** Washington High School

**Parents:** Ric and Janna McRoberts

**Class Rank:** 14th out of 165

**Athletics:** Volleyball, 4 years, 3 varsity letters; basketball, 4 years, 4 varsity letters.

**Special awards:** Honorable mention for varsity volleyball in junior year, first team all SCOL for volleyball this year, district 14 honorable mention for varsity basketball this year, Wendy's High School Heisman school winner this year, Blue Lion Award for varsity volleyball in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades, best hitter for Blue Lion volleyball this year, four year varsity basketball award, three year varsity volleyball award, first year varsity basketball award, second year varsity basketball award, third year varsity basketball award, first year varsity volleyball award, second year

varsity volleyball award.

**Scholastic:** 3.56, Academy of Scholars for 6 years; JFK Award for good grades throughout middle school, intending to graduate with honors diploma.

**School-related projects:** Office assistant for one year and teacher assistant for three years.

**Leadership:** Student government for four years - vice president of class of 2016, yearbook staff for two years - sports editor this year, Hi-Y Club two years - involvement in community service, Rachel's Challenge Group Leader for two years - bullying prevention group, Club Volleyball for five years, and concert band for two years, team captain for varsity volleyball, team captain for varsity basketball. For community involvement, she has volunteered with the youth basketball camps for four years. Each year, she has helped

run the Cerebral Palsy Awareness volleyball Tournament and participated in the tournament this year. At the beginning of volleyball season, her fellow teammates, along with her, donated the money they received from the tournament to the Ronald McDonald House. In the Hi-Y Club, they have done "Trick or Can" where the group dresses up in costumes during Beggar's Night and walk around the neighborhoods to collect cans that are donated to the local food shelter. They also have baked cookies to give to the police and fire departments to show our appreciation to them. The last involvement in her community is that she is a local babysitter for multiple families in the town. For the past five years, she has babysat for five different families during the years. She will continue to babysit until she goes to college this fall.

**Coach John Persinger's comments:**

Jaycie McRoberts possesses the characteristics that make her worthy of the Clarence A. Christman award. Her excellence in athletics, excellence in academics and excellence in service to others make me proud to nominate her!

I have been privileged to know Jaycie since her seventh grade year. Over the last six years, I have seen great examples of sportsmanship on the basketball court. She works very well with the younger girls and has been a good role model for them. What I admire most about Jaycie is her fabulous sense of humor. Whether it is in sports, in school, or in life, Jaycie is quick to laugh, have fun and brighten the lives of those around her.

I have sincerely enjoyed watching Jaycie grow into a fun-loving young lady. She is admired and respected by her coaches and her peers and is deserving of the honor of the Christman Award.



Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Washington High School's Jaycie McRoberts is double-teamed during an SCOL game against McClain during the 2015-16 season.

## KATHRYN ZEIGLER

**School:** Miami Trace High School

**Parents:** Jim and Anita Zeigler

**Class Rank:** 26th out of 160

**Athletics:** Bowling: 3 years, 3 varsity letters; Soccer: 2 years, 2 varsity letters; Golf: 1 year, 1 varsity letter

**Special awards: Bowling:** 1st Team SCOL (2 years); SCOL Champions (1 year); Sectional Champions (2 years); District Champions (1 year); State Qualifier (1 year).

**Statistics:** Bowling: Sophomore year average: 153. Junior year average: 166. Senior year average: 177. Golf: Senior year average

58.6 (for 9 holes)

**Scholastic:** 3.35 grade point average; National Honor Society; National Honors Society Secretary; Scholar Athlete; Honor Roll; Honorable Mention.

**School-related projects:** Envirothon; Prom Set-up.

**Leadership:** Art Club; Key Club; Science Club; Spanish Club; Prom Committee; Student Government.

**Coach Chris Miller's comments:** This year was Katie's first year golfing. From day one, she was very dedicated to getting better and working hard. Katie wanted to learn and improve her score throughout the year. She

had the best round of any girl on our team at Buckeye Hills, a 49, and had the second best scoring average of 58. Katie was a great asset for us this year because of her consistency and positive attitude. She was always encouraging others to have fun and work hard. Golf can be frustrating at times, and Katie's personality and attitude always kept our team, and sometimes even other teams, calm and focused. She always had a smile and was enjoying the opportunity to meet new people and compete on the golf course. I enjoyed getting to know Katie and appreciate the hard work and leadership that she displayed throughout the year.



Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Miami Trace High School's Katie Zeigler releases the ball during the State Bowling Tournament in 2015.

**MADISYN CALLAHAN****School:** Miami Trace High School**Parents:** Mike and Mindy Callahan**Class Rank:** 21st out of 160**Athletics:**

Girls Golf: 4 years, 4 varsity letters; Girls Swim Team: 2 years, 2 varsity letters

**Special awards:** Golf (2015) Scholar Athlete Award; 4-year Letterman Award and 2nd Team ALL-S.C.O.L. Qualifier; Golf (2014) Scholar Athlete Award; Golf (2013) Scholar Athlete Award; Golf (2012) Scholar Athlete Award; Swim (2016) Scholar Athlete Award; Swim (2015) Scholar Athlete Award and Most Improved Swimmer Award.**Statistics:** Golf: average strokes per game: (2015) - 58.9 strokes; (2014) - 59.8 strokes; (2013) - 65.5 strokes; (2012) - 70.3 strokes.

Swim: Teams per year: (2016) - Member of the 200 free relay, 400 free relay and also swam the 50 free. Participated in S.C.O.L. and Sectionals meets. (2015) - Swam in the 50 freestyle and was an alternate for the 200 free relay; partici-

pated in the sectional meet.

My time also improved in the 50 freestyle by over 12 seconds from my start in swim.

**Scholastic:** 3.47 grade point average; 2016 - ABC Scholarship Winner, Scholar Athlete, 4.0 Honor Roll, Americanism Test Winner. 2015 - Scholar Athlete, National Honor Society, and Buckeye Girls State Delegate for Miami Trace. 2014 - Scholar Athlete Award and Americanism Test Winner. 2012-2013 - Scholar Athlete.**School-related projects:** Miami Trace Marching Band (5 years); Symphonic Band (3 years); Jazz Band (1 year); Concert Band (1 year); Soundsations Show Choir (2 years); Pink Panthers Show Choir (1 year); Symphonic Choir (2 years); Women's Choir (1 year); Concert Choir (1 year); Musical Cast Member (4 years); Key Club (1 year); Spanish Club (1 year).**Leadership:** Member of the following: Junior Fairboard (2012-present); Teen Leadership Council, Camp Counselor (2013-present); Family Consumer Sciences Board (2011-present); Charm-N-Farm 4-H Club (2007-present); State

Fashion Board (2013-2014); Saint Colman of Cloyne Church of Choir (2011-present); Saint Colman of Cloyne Youth Group (2014-present); Saint Colman of Cloyne Church Bible Study (2014-present).

**Aaron Hammond's comments:** Madisyn Callahan possesses the many qualities one imagines when they think of the term student athlete. Madisyn is successful in the classroom where she maintains a 3.47 grade point average achieved while taking a challenging college level and advanced curriculum. With her success in the classroom, Madisyn earned the distinction of being a scholar athlete for all four years of high school. Madisyn is a member of the National Honor Society and was a Buckeye Girls State delegate in 2015. She was active in the fine arts while at Miami Trace. She was a five-year member of the Marching Panther Pride, a participant in Soundsations and the Pink Panthers, as well as a four-year member of the musical cast. Outside of school, Madisyn is active in 4-H serving on the Jr. Fair Board and as a camp counselor. As a participant in both golf

and swim, Madisyn emerged as a leader within both programs. Her golf average declined each season. As a member of the swim team Madisyn participated in the 200 freestyle, the 400 free relay, and the 50 freestyle. She saw her times drop in each of those events. Madisyn Callahan is an excellent candidate for the Christman Award and will be successful in whatever her future holds.

**Coach Chris Miller's comments:** Madisyn earned Second Team All-SCOL this year with her consistent play. She worked extremely hard during the fall while competing in golf and participating in the Miami Trace High School Marching Band. Madisyn is very team oriented and always enjoyed seeing her teammates score well. Madisyn earned four varsity letters in golf and has been an essential part of the girls golf program. The positive attitude and work ethic that Madisyn demonstrated during our season was integral to the improvement of other golfers. Madisyn always upheld the integrity of the game and was extremely deserving of her second team all-league honors.Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
**Miami Trace High School's Madisyn Callahan chips onto the green during a 2015 match at the Club at Quail Run.****HANNAH CASTO****School:** Miami Trace High School**Parents:** Mark and Regina Casto**Class Rank:** 17th out of 160**Athletics:**

Volleyball: 4 years, 1 varsity letter; Girls Swim Team: 2 years, 1 varsity letter

**Scholastic:** 3.5 grade point average, National Honor Society, Honorable Mention, and Perfect Attendance.**School-related projects:** Teacher Assistant; FFA; Concert Choir; Symphonic Choir; Women's Choir; Agronomy judging team; Meats judging team; Greenhand quiz; Creed speaking; Fall Harvest Days.**Leadership:** 4-H; 4-H Club Officer; Junior

Fairboard officer; 4-H Camp Counselor; Ohio 4-H Teen Advisory Council; Operation Christmas Child; Ronald McDonald House Volunteer; The Well Volunteer; Paint the Town Pink; Project Linus; Teen Leadership Council; Jingle Bell Jog 5k; wrote letters to military persons; caroled at nursing homes; cleaned up and put flags on cemeteries; Adopt-A-Highway; Ohio 4-H Cares for Kids; Served at the Hospital Gala; Concession stand worker at an auction house; 2015 Prom Princess; and 2016 Fayette County Pork Queen.

**Coach Mary Miller's comments:** Hannah Casto is an excellent candidate for the Clarence A. Christman Jr. Award. During her high school career, Hannah participated in the volleyball and swim programs. As a member of the swim

team, was an outstanding teammate encouraging others in their events and doing her best in her own events to help her team. The swim team was young this year and the leadership shown by Hannah and her fellow swim seniors was beneficial in helping to bring the younger members along as the season progressed and their impact will continue to be felt as these younger student athletes continue in the swim program and mentor younger swimmers themselves. In addition to her athletic activities, Hannah was also very active in our school. Hannah was very active in the FFA program as well as in the music program. Outside of school, Hannah is active in the Fayette County 4-H program and has served on the Ohio 4-H Teen Advisory Council.

Photo by Downtown Photo  
**Miami Trace's Hannah Casto at the 2015 fall sports photo day.**

# Congratulations Athletes!

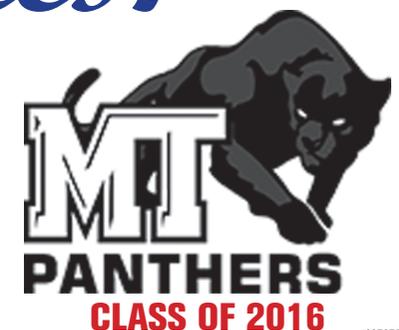
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**WENDY HAWK****School:** Washington High School**Parents:** Don and Holly Hawk**Class Rank:** 23rd out of 165**Athletics:** Softball, 4 years, 4 varsity letters; soccer, 4 years, 4 varsity letters; basketball, 4 years, 4 varsity letters; football, 2 years, 1 varsity letter**Special awards:****Freshman year:** Second Team, All-SCOL and All-District; slugger award for 2013 softball**Sophomore year:** First Team, All-SCOL and First Team, All-District, played on District all-star team; broke 4 school records: Most Home Runs in a season, home runs overall, RBI's and doubles**Junior year:** First Team, All-SCOL, First Team, All-District, played on and with District all-star team; maintained and added to school records, softball; Second Team, All-District and Second Team, All-SCOL for soccer, started kicking for the football team.**Senior year:** First Team, All-SCOL, First Team, All-District for soccer and

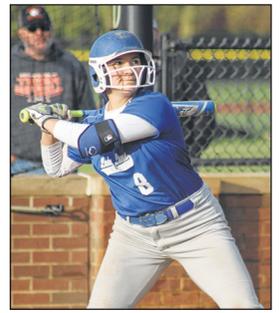
softball; played in District all-star game, maintained broken records and added to them; voted team captain for soccer, football, basketball and softball.

**Statistics:** soccer, 12 goals, 5 assists; football, 2 field goals; basketball, 115 points, points per game, 4.8, offensive rebounds per game, 1.3; defensive rebounds, 2 per game; overall 3.3 rebounds per game average; assists: 22 (.9 per game); steals: 18; blocks: 5; softball, games played, 21; batting average, .438; home runs, 2; RBI, 21; slugging percentage, .672; doubles, 7; triples, 1; finished career (still tournament game(s) to go); with 288 at bats, .397 batting average, .683 slugging percentage, .483 on base percentage, runs, 90; hits, 114; doubles, 28; triples, 2; home runs, 17; RBI, 105.**Scholastic:** 3.420; Academy of Scholars, 3 years; American Legion and American Auxiliary Award, 2 years (best grade out of the entire class); McDonald's Student Athlete 2016 basketball; receiving choir scholarship for singing.**School-related projects:** Teacher's assistant for freshman choir; one of the

section leaders for choir that went to State and received the highest rating; 4th chair trumpet in band that received the highest rating (1) at State; AP Government exam, choir and band State; singing and helping in freshman chorus.

**Leadership:** Team captain for soccer, basketball, football and softball; led prayer at school for National Day of Prayer; giving invocation prayer at graduation; voted Most Talented and voted Class Prayer by class; singing at church for graduation; only girl on the football team and was one of the captains; teacher's assistant for the freshman choir; youth group senior at Crossroads and Heritage Memorial Church; sing for church graduation; was an umpire for the younger ball teams in town (middle school, travel team, rec-ball for elementary, middle school and high school); helped run middle school camps for younger athletes; led events for Blue Heritage Day; senior in singing and band groups; vocal ensemble, sang anthem for ball games; singing at nursing homes; singing for military retirements; singing and playing in band for

Memorial Day; going on missions trip to my grandfather's house in Honduras.

**Coach Randy Elzey's comments:** Wendy has been a relentless competitor on the softball diamond her entire career. She is one of those athletes who is compelled to win and willing to do whatever it takes, within ethical bounds, to make it happen. Her dedication and high character were evident when Wendy was chosen to participate in the elite ASA/USA Ohio All-Star game in 2015. As a team captain, Wendy influenced team members to work hard towards, and be committed to, team goals. She currently holds nine season or career records in softball. It has been a pleasure coaching this young lady the past three years while watching her develop into an outstanding student-athlete and a community role model for all young female athletes in Fayette County. Wendy is a leader on and off the playing field, serving her classmates, teammates, community and church in many ways. It is both an honor and privilege to nominate Wendy Hawk for the 2016 Clarence A. Christman Award.Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Washington High School's Wendy Hawk at the plate during the 2016 season. Hawk holds many school records including most home runs in a career with 17.**MEGAN SELF****School:** Miami Trace High School**Parents:** Douglas Self**Class Rank:** 18th out of 160**Athletics:**

Volleyball: 4 years, 4 varsity letters; Softball: 4 years, 4 varsity letters.

**Special awards:** Volleyball: Team Captain, 2nd Team All-League Junior Year, 2nd Team All-League Senior Year.

Softball: League Title Freshman Year, 2nd Team All-League Junior Year, 2nd Team All-League Senior Year, Honorable Mention All-District Junior Year.

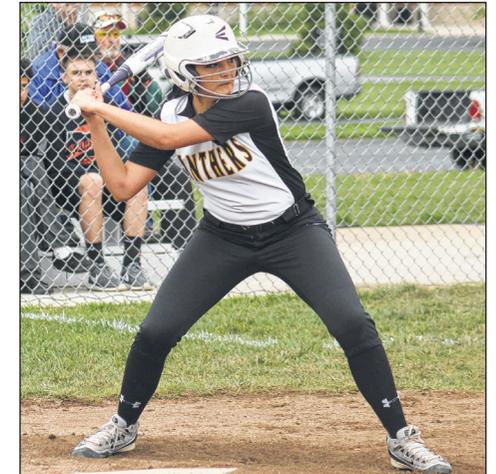
**Statistics:** Freshman: .250; Sophomore: .180; Junior: .386; Senior: .328; Senior

Year: Runs: 13; Hits: 21; RBI: 15; Walks: 7; Doubles: 5.

**Scholastic:** 3.3 grade point average, National Honor Society, Four year Scholar Athlete, Honor Roll, Honorable Mention.**School-related projects:** Office assistant; teacher assistant.**Leadership:** Spanish Club; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Volunteer at the Well; Singing to members at rest home; Cemetery clean-up.**Coach Doug Mace and Terry Smith's comments:** Megan was invaluable in helping establish our volleyball program. She embraced the changes made in the program and led her teammates with a positive and selfless manner. Always encouraging the

younger players and cheering on her teammates when they had success, Megan embodies all the characteristics that are needed by a leader.

Megan has played in the softball program for four years during which time she has played center field and shortstop. She has played anywhere she has asked to play. Megan works hard and is focused in practice and during games to make herself and her team better. Megan is currently hitting .328 and made Second Team All-SCOL this season. Megan emerged as a leader on the softball team this year. She has been a pleasure to coach and I am glad to nominate her for the Clarence A. Christman Jr. Award.

Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Miami Trace High School's Megan Self at bat during the 2016 softball season.

# Congratulations

## Christman Award Nominees

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## WHITNEY COCKERILL

**School:** Miami Trace High School  
**Parents:** Melanie and Bryan Cockerill  
**Class Rank:** 17th out of 160

### Athletics:

Softball: 4 years, 4 varsity letters; Tennis: 2 years, 2 varsity letters; Basketball: 2 years, 1 varsity letter

**Special awards:** 2013 Basketball, Sectionals 1st place SCOL; 2013 Softball, Sectionals 1st place SCOL; 2014 Softball 2nd Team All-SCOL; 2015 Softball 1st Team All-SCOL, 2nd Team All-Districts; 2015 Softball Runner-Up SCOL; 2015 Tennis Runner-up SCOL; 2016 Softball Runner-up SCOL; Four year Scholar Athlete.

**Statistics:** Softball: 2013 Junior Varsity Batting Average: .727; At Bats: 22; Runs: 16. 2014 Varsity Batting Average: .360. 2015 Varsity Batting Average: .406; At Bats: 69; Runs: 20; Hits: 28; Runs Batted-In: 14. 2016 Varsity Batting Average: .274; Runs: 12; Hits: 11; Runners Batted-In: 3.

Tennis: 2015 (with injury): 5:10, 4:7 in the SCOL.

Basketball: 2012 Junior Varsity Total F/G: 20/80; Free Throws: 6/11; Total Points: 46. 2013 Junior Varsity Total F/G: 15/56; Free Throws 16/31; Total Rebounds: 25; Total

Points: 48.

**Scholastic:** 3.66 grade point average, National Honor Society, National Social Studies Award, Four year FFA Scholar, Four year Scholar Athlete, 4 year Honor Roll, Top 10 in class Senior year.

**School-related projects:** Two year office assistant; two year teacher assistant; Disaster Trials at the Fayette County Memorial Hospital; Six year member at Farmer's Pantry through Amanda Ivey; Assisted youth basketball camps and tournaments; Volunteer to middle school softball games; Highway trash pick-up; Paint the Town Pink (breast cancer); Operation Christmas Child; Attended National FFA Convention; Greenhand Degree; Farm Science Review; The Well at Sunnyside (Food Pantry); Miami Trace School peer tutor; Cemetery clean-up; Fayette County Pork Producers food booth; Miami Trace Athletic Booster Club food booth; Swine Barn clean-up.

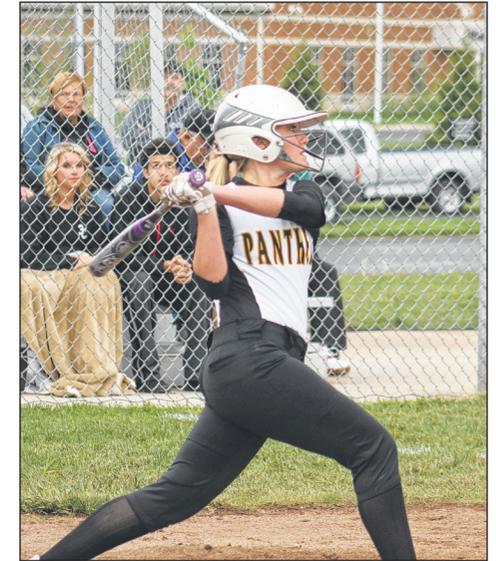
**Leadership:** Sugar Grove United Methodist Church Member; Bible Study and Nursery Helper; Two year National Honor Society Member; Two year Spanish Club member; One year Student Tutor; Choir participation: One year A Cappella; One year Symphonic Choir; One year Pink Panthers Choir; One year Women's Choir; One year Concert Choir; One year Science Club Member; Four year

Softball member; 2016 Team Leader; Two year Tennis member; Two year Basketball member; 2014 Junior Varsity Team Leader; Two year Red Cross Donor; Four year American Heart Association member and volunteer; Four year National FFA Organization member; Four year Fellowship of Christian Athletes member; 2015 Secretary.

### Coach Kim Schirtzinger's comments:

Over the last two years, Whitney Cockerill has had a great attitude on the girls tennis team. She is the most respectful person to the coaching staff never complaining about anything she was ever asked to do. Her determination to be better at whatever it was that we were working on, with any drill, was outstanding. She was very respectful to her teammates as well. Keeping the morale of the team up was her specialty. She is one of those student athletes who can do any sport she tries and do it well. I feel very honored to have been her coach for the two years she was with me and wish we could have had the previous two years to perfect her technique even more.

Whitney continued to have a strong determination to play despite injuries that she endured during the 2015 season. She worked her way back into playing third singles where she started out the year. Her record ended up being 5-10 for the season and 4-7 in the league.



Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
 Miami Trace High School's Whitney Cockerill watches the flight of the ball during the 2016 softball season.

As she healed she won four out of six league matches in the second half of the season losing only to the top two teams in the SCOL. Whitney is an excellent candidate for this award.

## CAMERON ECKLES

**School:** Washington High School  
**Parents:** Keith and Susan Eckles  
**Class Rank:** 1st out of 165

**Athletics:** Basketball, 4 years, 2 varsity letters; soccer, 4 years, 4 varsity letters

**Special awards:** Soccer, First year varsity award, 2012; soccer, Second year varsity award, 2013; Third year varsity award, 2014, Fourth year varsity award, 2015; soccer Academic award, 2015; soccer, Second Team, All-District, 2015; Basketball, First year varsity award, 2014-15; Second year varsity award, 2015-16; First Team, All-District 14, 2015-16; First Team, All-SCOL, 2015; Winter Sports Student Athlete, 2015-16; Basketball Tip-off Classic MVP 2015-16; basketball Breakout Performer; Attitude and Effort Award, 2015; District all-star game, 2016; soccer, District all-star game, 2015; basketball, Honorable Mention, All-Ohio, 2015-16

**Statistics:** Basketball, 2015-16, 13.8 points per game; 55% field goal shooting; 6.2 rebounds per game; 2.7 assists per game

**Scholastic:** 3.89, Academy of Scholars for 6 years in a row; soccer academic award

**School-related projects:** Yearbook Club; traveled to France and Italy with European History Class.

**Leadership:** Grace Community Church

Youth Group; missions trip to Colorado; missions trip to surrounding cities, including Cincinnati, Dayton and Wilmington; Student government; captain of the basketball team (2015-16); Kiwanis Key Leader Retreat; Invocation at Academy of Scholars; volunteer at toddler soccer camp; volunteer at middle school basketball camp; volunteer at the Well at Sunnyside.

**Coach Shannon Bartruff's comments:** Cameron has come such a long way from his freshman year to now. He's grown as a leader and a student-athlete. As a coach you see these young men go through the cycle over and over again as each new class comes along. It is always interesting to me to see the progression of their classes as a whole and also the individuals.

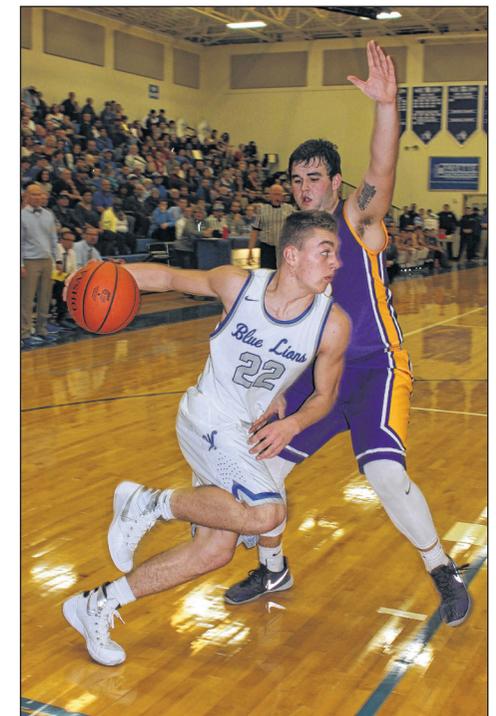
Some young men figure out early what it will take to be an exceptional student-athlete; however, most don't until they are seniors. Cameron is one of the few exceptions. His effort and attitude have been exemplary for what we as a program hope for our student-athletes. He was a vocal leader at times, but, more so he led by example.

If I had to rate his daily effort, regardless of how he felt or how long our practices were, I'd give him a 10/10. We often ask our guys to rate their effort at the end of practice and very few can say that they gave their max

on a daily basis; in my opinion, Cameron excelled in this area. With the great work ethic that he displayed came much improvement over the past couple of seasons. Almost every coach in our league and non-league coaches that knew of him last year were impressed when they saw how much bigger, stronger and improved he was this season.

In my mind, this is a great compliment when the opposing coaches noticed how improved you were from one year to the next. Cameron also displayed great integrity and commitment to our program over the past summer as he continued to lift and work on his game with a broken wrist. This sent a clear message to our younger players of the importance of off-season workouts. Cameron's accolades speak volumes. Not only is he a great athlete, he takes a rigorous course load here at Washington High School and is No. 1 in his class.

There is no doubt in my mind that Cameron is going to excel in Engineering at The Ohio State University. Cameron is blessed with two amazing parents and they, like all the other student-athletes up for this award, should be commended and recognized for all their love, support and leadership in the journeys of these young men and women. Congratulations and good luck, Cam.



Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
 Washington High School's Cameron Eckles drives around a player from Unioto during the 2015-16 season.

## MIRANDA WHEELER

**School:** Miami Trace High School

**Parents:** Jay and Jodi Wheeler

**Class Rank:** 8th out of 160

**Athletics:**

Golf: 4 years, 4 varsity letters; bowling: 4 years, 4 varsity letters; Marching Band 2 years.

**Special awards:** Scholar athlete for golf and bowling all four years, second team SCOL for golf one year, first team SCOL for bowling four years, state qualifier for bowling as an individual one year, team one year, first at SCOL for bowling two years, first at sectionals for bowling two years, first at districts for bowling one year, four year Letterman in golf and bowling and district qualifier one year for golf.

**Statistics:** Golf season averages: 61, 59, 56 and 57.6; bowling season averages 150, 165, 160, 175.

**Scholastic:** 3.68 GPA/3.0 college, top 10 GPA in class for four years, National Honor Society for one year, top GPA for FFA, appli-

cant for Phi Theta Cappa for two years, scholar athlete four years for both sports and a member of the superintendent's advisory council two years.

**School-related projects:** Spanish Club for one year, Science Club for one year, Drama Club for one year, musical stage crew for two years, book club for one year, assistant principal office assistant for one year, FFA for one year, college credit plus for three years, jazz band for two years, choir for two years, Symphonic Band for two years, Envirothon for one year and Mock Trial for three years.

**Leadership:** Secretary for science club, treasurer for 4-H, community service officer for 4-H as well as environmental officer for 4-H, work for two years at three different places, National Honor Society catered FFA banquet, leadership award through FFA.

**Coach Ron Amore Jr's comments:** Miranda Wheeler has been an active participant in the programs offered by Miami Trace. She is a member of the Superintendent's Advisory

Council, has participated in the college credit plus program for three years, and has been a participant in our instrumental music program. Athletically, Miranda has been involved in the golf and bowling programs. As a golfer, Miranda was a four year Letterman and a second team all SCOL selection. Through her involvement in the bowling program, Miranda helped to lead the team to considerable success. Individually, Miranda saw her bowling averages increase each year, she qualified to the State Bowling Tournament as an individual as a sophomore, and was named first team all SCOL in bowling for four year. As a team member, Miranda helped to lead the team to a district championship and MT's first ever team qualification to the State Bowling Tournament. Miranda has also excelled in the classroom being named a scholar athlete for both golf and bowling each year of her participation. It is my pleasure to recommend Miranda Wheeler for the Clarence A. Christman Jr. Award.



Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Miami Trace's Miranda Wheeler watches the flight of her ball during the SCOL golf match in 2015.

## BRODY MORRIS

**School:** Washington High School

**Parents:** Byran and Susan Morris

**Class Rank:** 34th out of 165

**Athletics:** Swimming 4 years, 4 varsity letters; Soccer, 2 years, 2 varsity letters; Tennis, 2 years, 1 varsity letter

**Special awards:** Two-time SCOL recipient for the 200-medley relay and 100 breaststroke; two-time Second Team, All-SCOL recipient for 200 freestyle and 100 breaststroke; District qualifier four years in four events; Sectional champion breaststroke, 2 years; medley relay, 1 year; Individual medley, 1 year; Freestyle relay, 1 year; Sectional runner-up, breaststroke, 1 year; individual medley, 1 year; accepted as an NCAA Division III athlete at Wilmington College, men's swimming.

Team representative at the 2016 Washington H.S. Hall of Fame ceremony

**Statistics:** swimming, 4 school records:

100 freestyle (55.38); 100 breaststroke (1:07.43); 200 IM (2:16.87); 200 medley relay (1:57); 2016 tennis record is 9-2 prior to the Sectional tournament; Soccer, one goal in 2015.

**Scholastic:** 3.396 grade point average; Buckeye Boys State delegate; Academy of Scholars, 9th grade honor roll; Wilmington College Academic Achievement Award; Wilmington College Quaker Leader Scholarship Award; Wilmington College Institute for Stewardship and Engagement (WISE)

**School-related projects:** Two-time DECA State-qualifier, 2nd and 3rd in the Districts for DECA, Buckeye Boys State; worked in the Secretary of State's office as Legislative Director and Press Secretary; Buckeye Boys State band member.

**Leadership:** Marching band squad leader; swim team captain; tennis co-captain, member Hardin's Creek Friends Church.; accepted in Wilmington College Institute for Stewardship and Engagement cohort, 2016-17;

Received Quaker Leader Award; 4 years Blue Lion marching band member - represented the State of Ohio at the Independence Day Parade in 2015 in Washington D.C.; 4 years concert/symphonic band; selected as the senior speaker at Rotary Club.

**Coach Katie Kasberg's comments:** Brody is not only a hard-working athlete, but, also a team leader. His efforts in the pool show in constant improvement of his skills and faster times throughout the season. This past season, he set school records in the 200 IM, 100 breaststroke and 100 freestyle. Working with a small team this season, Brody's team leadership skills helped to bring the group together. He encouraged his teammates and offered constructive feedback to help them improve, as well. Together, they qualified a relay team to the District swim meet. Brody also competed at the District meet in individual events.

He's committed to swim at Wilmington College next year.



Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Washington High School's Brody Morris on the tennis court playing second doubles in 2016.



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**COLE MASSIE****School:** Washington High School**Parents:** Mary and Brad Massie**Class Rank:** 5th out of 165**Athletics:** Football, 2 years, 2 varsity letters; baseball, 4 years, 4 varsity letters; golf, 1 years, 1 varsity letter; basketball, 1 year.**Special awards:** Baseball, first team all SCOL and second team all district, SCOL champion in his junior year, MVP of the Bloom Carroll Invitational, summer baseball, 2013 district runner ups, won sectional; golf, won sectionals;

tournaments won: Great Lakes Ultimate World Series, Wolves Tournament, USSSA Capital Cup, NCS Firecracker and Upper Arlington NIT.

**Statistics:** Played in 310 total baseball games since 2012 both high school and travel; 766 at bats, 245 hits, average .308, total of 314 Innings pitched; junior year (2015) lead team with 28 hits, 39 RBI; senior year lead team with 19 RBI.**Scholastic:** 3.882 grade point average; Academy of Scholars, 7 years, nominated for Buckeye Boys State, Honda- Ohio State University Partnership Program math medal award, Wendy's High School

Heisman, homecoming and prom court, JFK award and student of the week.

**School-related projects:** Yearbook staff junior year, yearbook editor senior year, teacher assistant and band.**Leadership:** Representative for Make-a-Wish foundation tournament 2 years, volunteer at local food pantry at local church, presentation for Veterans Day, school newspaper, and Southern Ohio Bike Rally volunteer.**Coach Tyler Rhodus' comments:** I have had the honor and privilege to coach Cole over the past three years. Cole has been an outstanding leader in

the classroom and on the baseball field. Cole's attitude and effort is second to no one. Cole has put many hours of hard work towards baseball during the season and in the off-season. His work ethic is a testament to his determination to be the best he can be. Cole has excelled in teamwork, handling adversity, being mentally strong, working with others and being goal oriented. I have complete confidence in Cole and believe he is a great example of the type of person we want to represent our community.

Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Washington High School's Cole Massie slides safely into home during the 2016 baseball season.**JAKOB SNYDER****School:** Washington High School**Parents:** Beth and Scott Snyder**Class Rank:** 37th out of 165**Athletics:**

Swimming, 3 years, 3 varsity letters; tennis 2 years, 2 varsity letters; soccer, 2 years, 1 varsity letter; track, 1 year, 1 varsity letter

**Special awards:** Jakob was the utility player for the tennis team in 2015. He received the medal for playing in 42 halves during the soccer season, the most by any player in the past.**Statistics:** freestyle time average, 1:05; backstroke time average, 2:30; 9

wins and 2 losses in tennis (doubles); 42 halves played during 2015 soccer season.

**Scholastic:** 3.476 grade point average; Academy of Scholars, 4 years**School-related projects:** Jakob was an office worker for one year. This school year, he participated in DECA and placed third in the District, advancing to the State contest; marching band for 2 years and concert/symphonic band for 4 years; this year, the symphonic band received a superior rating of 1 at the State contest.**Leadership:** Jakob has been a member of Saint Colman Catholic Church his entire life; has been a server since 4th grade; has earned Serra International

Alter Server award by Bishop Campbell; has worked at the local Kroger stor for 3 years as a courtesy clerk; has been on the election night team for 4 years at the Board of Elections; was selected last year to attend Buckeye Boys State. While there, he was elected a city council member and helped his city achieve the Best City award; also at Buckeye Boys State, was a part of the Boys State band.

**Coach Aaron Teter's comments:** Jakob Snyder joined our team his junior season. He was new to the sport, but, with his intelligence and athleticism, he quickly became a utility defender.

Entering his senior season, Jakob was a team leader and as our most aggressive

tackler, an easy choice to be a starter. He played in every half of every varsity game and set a school record with 42 halves this season (j-v and varsity combined).

Jakob was a key player for us in just two years because of his character. He is confident, yet humble, willing to work, eager to learn and open for challenges. He only speaks positively of his teammates, and they respect and appreciate him for that.

Jakob's ability to excel through his character is evidenced not only on the pitch, but in the swimming pool, on the tennis court and in the classroom.

I'm proud to have coached him.

Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Washington High School's Jakob Snyder returns the volley during a 2016 tennis match.**KODY SCOTT****School:** Miami Trace High School**Parents:** Doug Scott and Kandi

Kegg

**Class Rank:** 13th out of 160**Athletics:**

Football: four years, two varsity letters; baseball: three years, two varsity letters; track: one year; basketball: two years.

**Special awards:** Scholar Athlete Award 4-years in every sport and the highest graduating GPA award in football for the 2015 season.**Statistics:** basketball: 12 points in two years; baseball: career .222 batting

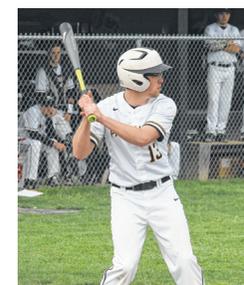
average; football: 10.3 yards per catch and 1.5 tackles per game.

**Scholastic:** 3.59 GPA. National Honor Society Scholar Athlete, top 10 in class freshman year, honor roll all four years, Ohio achievement scholarship, Ohio distinction scholarship, Ohio Pathway Scholarship, Parrett Endowed Scholarship and Ohio College Opportunity Grant.**School-related projects:** Main office assistant in 2013-14, athletic office assistant 2015-16, teacher assistant 2015 work with the pre-school for Spanish 4, Symphonic Choir and Show Choir, selected for committee to make decisions for new high school, selected

as school representative to speak to Rotary and Kiwanis.

**Leadership:** Delegate to 2015 Buckeye Boys' State where he was the city's director of law, member of Spanish Club (2012-2016), involved in Fayette County 4-H where he participates as a camp counselor and a member of the Fayette County Jr. Fair Board.**Coach Steve Bartlett's comments:** I have had the honor of coaching Kody Scott in football the last four years. Kody was an important part of our program at Miami Trace. His commitment to our program became quite evident when he was unable to compete because of an injury. He never missed

a practice and performed many duties for us as a helper of the program. He did a fine job in the weight room in the off season and in the summer. Kody was extremely helpful and showed great leadership in our youth program working at camps and attempting to help the Younger Panthers. This past season Kody got his chance to shine as a senior wide receiver and defensive back and was our long snapper on kicks. He once again suffered an injury, but continued to work and battle until he returned and had a great last five games. I am proud to nominate Kody Scott for the 2016 Christman Award.

Chris Hoppes | Record-Herald  
Miami Trace High School's Kody Scott in the batter's box during the 2016 baseball season.

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