



## **ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT 2016-17 WINTER SPORTS AWARDS**

### **Alston “Mac” McGahagin Boys Basketball Award**

***Kevin Knox***

**Tampa Catholic High School**

Kevin set the all-time scoring record for Hillsborough County this season while leading his team to the state basketball finals. He has scored more than 2,562 points during his high school career. Kevin has been selected to play in the McDonald’s All-American game as well as the Jordan Brand Classic All-American game. He has averaged 20 points per game and 11 rebounds per game. ESPN has ranked Kevin as the #7 player in the country and he has also been named the Florida Dairy Farmers’ “Mr. Basketball”. Needless to say, Kevin is a great player, one of and possibly the best to ever come out of Hillsborough County. He currently has narrowed down his decision on schools to North Carolina, Duke, Kentucky, and Florida State.

### **Dottie McGahagin Girls Basketball Award**

***Payton Paro***

**Plant High School**

Payton can play and has played every position on the floor. She handles the ball, has Plant’s best 3-point field goal percentage and leads the team in assists and steals. She has been nominated for the National High School 3-point shooting contest held during the NCAA Women’s Final four. Payton is second on Plant’s all-time career scoring list with 1,347 pints. She has averaged 13.5 pints, 5 rebounds, 3.3 steals and 2.6 assists per game. She is 47% from behind the 3 point line (50-106) and 73% from the free throw line. She has been a 1<sup>st</sup> Team Girls’ Basketball All-Western Conference selection for the past two years and was the MVP of the Academy of Holy Names Holiday Tournament this season. Payton currently has a 6.03 weighted GPA and hopes to attend the Naval Academy and become a Navy Seal.

### **Williamson-Snapp Outstanding Cheerleader Award**

***Shaila Doyle***

**Alonso High School**

Shaila started cheering at the age of five and has been a member of the JV and Varsity cheer teams all four years of attendance at Alonso high school. She was captain of the varsity and competition cheer teams this season. Shaila was part of a Regional Championship, District Championship and three State appearances finishing second and finishing third twice. She is also a member of the Spanish Honor Society and is part of Family Career Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). Shaila also competes on two cheer teams at Tumble Tech All-stars. She volunteers at Tumble Tech by coaching the Special Needs cheer team and also volunteered at events for Cystic Fibrosis and Cardio-Pulmonary Defects. As an athlete, Shaila is focused and determined by putting in many hours to achieve not only her personal goals but also the goals of her team. Not only is she a great cheerleader, but she is an outstanding individual. Shaila will be attending the University of Central Florida after graduation. We look forward to seeing her succeed on her next journey.

## **Joel Medgebow Wrestling Coach of the Year**

***Derrick McCoy***

**Freedom High School**

Coach Derrick McCoy graduated from Freedom High School in 2006 after his family moved to Tampa during his senior year of high school. After becoming the first wrestler from Freedom to win a district title, make a finals appearance at the regional tournament, and qualify for the state tournament, he continued wrestling at the NCWA level in college. After receiving a degree from the University of South Florida, he returned to Freedom high school with a mission to turn his Alma Mater into a respected wrestling program at the state level. Five years ago he took over a team with six wrestlers and in the past five seasons, Freedom wrestling has climbed from the bottom of the county (20<sup>th</sup> out of 26) to their highest finish yet at 4<sup>th</sup> place in the Hillsborough County Tournament this season. Coach McCoy led his team to a 37-5 duel record this season with a top 5 finish at four different IBT Tournaments and a 7<sup>th</sup> place team finish at the prestigious George Jenkins IBT Tournament. This season also marked the first time since 2006 that Freedom Wrestling earned a Team District-Runner up finish at their District Tournament. Last year was the first season in eight years that Freedom sent an athlete to the State Tournament and this year Coach McCoy increased that count to three individual state qualifiers, which is the most the school has ever sent to the State Tournament.

Photos from today's presentation will be available on the Athletics Department website:

<http://athletics.mysdhc.org>