

# ***NDHSCA-Gelaine Orvik Scholarship Recipients Selected***

The annual NDHSCA-Gelaine Orvik \$1,000 Scholarship recipients have been selected and notified. The presentations will be made at the Annual NDHSCA Coaches Awards Ceremony to be held at the Fargo Ramada Inn on Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. The selection committee evaluate and assess applicants before determining the beneficiaries. After careful consideration of all the criteria, the recipients will be **Bryce Philpot** from Grand Forks Central High School and **Amya Gourneau** from Turtle Mountain Community High School.

The Scholarship was established in 2008 when the Late Joe Howell, Lisbon High School Track & Field Coach made a motion to establish the scholarship to honor Gelaine Orvik. Coach Orvik is a 35-year veteran coach who also served the North Dakota High School Coaches Association from 1974-2015. The requirements for the Scholarship Recipient are that he or she will be a student-athlete graduate from a North Dakota High School and will attend a North Dakota College or University. The final requisite is that he/she intends to pursue the profession of interscholastic coaching.

The nomination form identifies the criteria used for selection consideration: GPA, class rank percentile, athletic awards, activity awards, ACT test scores, captains' and leadership roles, a personal application letter, and recommendation letters from faculty, coach and administration. The recipients also best exemplify the values and ideals modeled by Coach Orvik, as teacher and coach; those values, ideals and principles he expected from his athletes and students; those same values, ideals and principles he urges all coaches to portray.

## ***Bryce Philpot***

**Bryce** is ranked first in his class of 218 at Grand Forks Central High School. He will have earned 26.0 credits when he graduates; he earned a 4.00 GPA (4.333 Weighted GPA) through seven semesters. Bryce has earned credits in Advanced and Enriched classes that includes Advanced Placement Calculus, DC English, Advanced Placement Biology, DC Speech, Enriched Pre-Calculus, Enriched Algebra II, Enriched Chemistry, and Enriched Geometry. He has also earned credits German I and II, Microsoft Power-Point, and graphic arts.

**Bryce** participated in three sports (football, hockey and Lacrosse) all four years at Central HS. He earned a letter in for football and hockey for his 10<sup>th</sup> grade, 11<sup>th</sup> grade, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade for a total of 9 letters during his Central High School attendance. Bryce also captained the Central Knights' football team and hockey team as a senior. He earned the Arnie Bakke Award in football and the Unsung Hero Award in hockey.

**Bryce** participated in the following non-athletic activities at Grand Forks Central HS: Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Technical Honor Society and National Honor Society. He also was involved in Grand Forks Youth Hockey Association and Grand Cities Lacrosse Association (2022 Academic Honors and All-State Midfielder-Honorable Mention).



**BRYCE PHILPOT**

**Bryce** explains his desire to become a high school coach is to leave his fingerprint on players' lives in a positive way that shapes student-athletes to become productive people. He continues that his aim is to encourage student-athletes to grow as humans and become more accountable, respectful, responsible, coachable and safe. Bryce knows understands that coaching is more than the competition.

**Bryce** identifies successful coaches really care about their athletes and those athletes trust their coaches. This relationship is built off trust and from that trust other factors that make teams successful are developed: those factors of accountability, respectfulness, responsibility, coachability and safety. He continues with “. . . being coachable is not a one-way street.”

**Bryce** notes that besides his parents, his coaches have had the strongest influence on his life. This fact has become his motivation as a way to give back to those who had influenced me. High school coaches are probably the major influence on teenagers' lives and those young people probably have not had a good role model.

**Bryce** had three outstanding people praise him as “an excellent young man with a very bright future.” One letter of recommendation notes that “Whether on the field, ice, or classroom, Bryce is a leader and does the right things.”

**Bryce** is praised by his football coach for being “. . . a relentless competitor with unmatched practice habits.” His coach points out that “Bryce has a willingness to do whatever it takes to put the team first.” Finally, he adds that “Bryce has a remarkable respect towards opponents, officials, and the game itself.” In addition, “Bryce is extremely likeable and polite. He is quick to greet people with a smile and has an uncanny organizational skill to gather all teammates together to enhance a powerful bonding experience.”

**Bryce Philpot** is the son of Len and Heidi Philpot; he will attend the University of North Dakota this fall.

## **Amya Gourneau**

**Amya Gourneau** is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in her class of 129 at Turtle Mountain Community High School. She has never had a grade other than an “A” as a semester grade. That has been accomplished while earning 21.00 credits in seven semesters. She has also earned college credits in college algebra, pre-calculus, psychology, composition and computer literacy.

**Amya** has participated in volleyball, basketball, and softball during her four years in high school. She has earned a letter in volleyball and softball for three seasons, and basketball for four seasons at Turtle Mountain Community High School. Amya has been a leader and captain for one year in volleyball, for three years in softball and for four years in basketball. She was also active in non-school activities and services that included Gifted and Talented Program, National Honor Society, FBLA, FBLS, Student Council, and senior class leader.

**Amya's** response to why she wants to be a coach always begins with her family background. Her father, grandfather, stepdad, and uncle have been athletes and coaches. She would hang around her paternal leadership and go to practice whenever they were coaching. Amya has always wanted to be an athlete since childhood. As she grew older, she just wanted to compete, but an injury this past season sidelined her and she found that she could offer her team advice and clarification. She discovered that she was still valued as a captain and a senior. She found that she took great pride in “giving back”. As the year moved on, she realized that coaching was a part of her makeup. Amya wants to learn and absorb as much knowledge as possible about coaching.



**AMYA GOURNEAU**

**Amya** has received great support and commendation from her high school coaches, her school administration and faculty members. From an academic side, Ms. Boswell praised Amya for acceptance of challenges. She contributes to the toughest discussions and volunteers her opinions to develop ideas. Ms. Boswell admires her enthusiasm, inspiration and acceptance of challenges. “Amya has persevered in balancing schoolwork with co-curricular activities; she has a strength in organization, discipline and time management.

**Amya** is additionally praised by David Azure, assistant basketball coach, for her “love of learning and for her commitment to succeed.” Amya additionally inspires others with her volunteerism with children, sports, leadership, elderly assistance and coat and food drives.” Coach Azure also notes “Amya’s character and serving as an excellent role model for our youth.”

**Amya** receives great admiration from her high school’s administration. Mr. Shane Martin accepts her being an amazing athlete in basketball, volleyball and softball. However, Dr. Martin also praises her for volunteerism and being a mento for the schools’ programs. Amya is also involved in Tribal Leadership Forums, coat drives, retirement home volunteers and Youth Scholar Mentor.

**Amya** is the daughter of David Gourneau Jr. and Anna Ross; she plans to attend Minot State University this fall.

# **Congratulations**

## **Bryce Philpot and**

## **Amya Gourneau**