

CHICAGO BEARS ANNOUNCE THE SEVENTH 2024 COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STAR AWARD WINNER

Recognizing student-athletes who go above and beyond for their community and school

April 18, 2024 - The Chicago Bears proudly announce David Lyle, a senior student-athlete from St. Rita of Cascia High School in Chicago, Ill., as the seventh recipient of the 2024 Community High School All-Star award. This award, brought to you by Athletico Physical Therapy, recognizes nine high school football players from March through May who make a positive impact in their communities and schools.

David has been an exemplary figure at his school, in his home and within his community. He has demonstrated exceptional leadership by volunteering as a coach for the 6th-grade boys' basketball team at his local middle school. Over the past three seasons, he dedicated himself to teaching young athletes not only the discipline and rules of the game but also how these principles apply to everyday life. His efforts have earned him widespread praise from parents and fellow coaches for his outstanding coaching.

On the football field, David has consistently demonstrated his commitment to excellence, striving to be the best player and teammate possible. He has been a dedicated member of the St. Rita Mustangs varsity football team for the past three years. However, David faced a significant personal challenge when he sustained a severe knee injury that sidelined him for his entire senior year. Despite this heartbreaking setback, David's spirit remained unbroken. He continued to make significant contributions to his team by assisting with practices and supporting his teammates from the sidelines, proving that true leadership transcends physical participation.

"As a member of the Chicago Bears Community High School All-Stars selection committee, it has been a privilege to be part of these presentations, represent Athletico, and witness the joy, excitement, and surprise of the recipients each week," said Claire DePrima, LAT, ATC, Senior Athletic Trainer at Athletico Physical Therapy. "David Lyle's nomination hit a little different for me, as he is one of my student-athletes at St. Rita High School, where he has grown tremendously on and off the football field over the last three years. This year, his senior year, could have been devastating after being sidelined with a season ending injury, but this did not keep him down. David continued to show up to practices and games with a positive attitude and drive to support the football team in any way he could – even becoming Coach Lyle by the end of the season. It has been an honor getting to know him and knowing he will go on to accomplish great things!"

During his period of injury, David selflessly postponed his surgery, which would have facilitated a faster recovery, to provide care for his father, who is currently battling multiple sclerosis, a chronic disease of the central nervous system. This decision underlined his deep commitment to his family, enabling him to take on greater responsibilities at home, away from the field.

Additionally, David approached his rehabilitation with dedication, working closely with Athletico Physical Therapy. He was determined to come back stronger than ever before.

Academically, David maintains a 4.41 GPA, balancing a demanding academic schedule with his extensive community and family commitments. His teachers and peers recognize him as a student who never lets personal challenges overshadow his goals or diminish his positive spirit. Known for always greeting everyone with a smile, David brings light and positivity wherever he goes.

Each Community High School All-Star award recipient will receive a custom hand-painted football, gift bag and an invitation to a future Chicago Bears event. Additionally, the Chicago Bears will make a \$500 donation to the charitable organization of the player's choosing.

About Community High School All-Star Award

The Chicago Bears are proud to partner with Athletico Physical Therapy to present the Chicago Bears Community High School All-Star Award that recognizes high school football and girls flag football players who make a positive impact in their community and school. These student-athletes exemplify service, leadership and character. The Chicago Bears Community High School All-Star is an off-season initiative that encourages student-athletes to be involved in community service during offseason, and take the lessons learned through playing the sport of football and use them to benefit their community.



David shares his recognition with his varsity football coach and his Athletico Physical Therapist at St. Rita of Cascia High School.