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Alan Hedrick Receives Honorary Charles Bland Award

NOVEMBER 20TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Alan Hedrick Receives Honorary Charles Bland Award

Dexter, Missouri - There is one award that is only given to one Bearcat Football athlete each year. A bronze trophy, similar in appearance to the Heisman Memorial Trophy and that's the Charles Bland Award. It was first awarded in 1994, 25 years ago. This year's award went to the 25th recipient Nate Gargas; however one more trophy was created and given this year to a man who gives to the community, loves his Bearcats, and was one of the creators of the Bland Award, Mr. Alan Hedrick.

Hedrick was not only instrumental in creating the coveted trophy, but also the Dexter Bearcat Booster Club. He has a passion for football and also his fellow Bearcats! He has been serving the Dexter community and the Dexter schools for a many years through various projects. He is one of those men who enjoys working behind the scenes and not out in the limelight. His compassion and generosity can not be matched. He loves his family, friends, and community.

Here is a little background on the Charles Bland Award. The selected Bearcat must meet very strict criteria in many areas of the scholar-athlete life, including: Scholastic Ability, School Participation & Attendance, Community Involvement, Leadership Qualities, Personal & Team Attitude, and Athletic Performance.

A Bland Award recipient should reflect the qualities that interscholastic sports programs have to offer. In no way should this award be seen as a trophy strictly for athleticism; rather, it is to celebrate the most outstanding, well-rounded student-athlete from the senior class.

The late Charles 'Seed' Bland - the man that the stadium these athletes battled in during their high school careers - was a very active supporter of the Dexter School System for many years. The most amazing gift 'Seed' gave was his pride in the Bearcats, as well as the young people of Dexter High School.

Known only to a few, the late Ruth Bland was the 'athlete of the family' and was a standout for both the DHS basketball and track teams. It has been written that she was 'the best female athlete in Southeast Missouri' during her time.

Together, the Bland family has been there to support Dexter Schools and Bearcat Athletics for over 60 years.

Past Winners of the Bland Award

1994 - Kevin Young

1995 - Jason Comfort

1996 - Kent Essner

1997 - Mike Guethle

1998 - Justin Kelley

1999 - David Howard

2000 - Jason mayer

2001 - Nathan McKay

2002 - Drew Wethington

2003 Marc Thrower

2004 - Derek Clark

2005 - Andrew Stuever

2006 - Drew Pixley

2007 - Eric Windham

2008 - Nick Hessling

2009 - Gary Summers

2010 - Taylor Jarrell

2011 - Tyler Miller

2012 - Ryan Joiner

2013 - Holden Bruce

2014 - Noah Kronk

2015 - Tyler Stevenson

2016 - Jason Jarrell

2017 - Ben Sindle

2018 - Nate Gargas

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Nate Gargas Receives 2018 Charles Bland Award

NOVEMBER 20TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Nate Gargas Receives 2018 Charles Bland Award

Dexter, Missouri - Brett Dorton announced the 25th recipient of the 2018 Charles Bland Award at the annual fall sports recognition program at the Dexter High School on Tuesday. Senior athlete Nate Gargas was quite surprised to hear his name and once at the podium thanked everyone.

Award winners are judged on several criteria, including community activities, school participation, attendance, attitude, leadership qualities, grade point average and athletic ability.

Gargas exceeds in all of these categories. He plays football, basketball and tennis. He is a member of the Sr. Beta Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Future Business Leaders of America, and the National Honor Society.

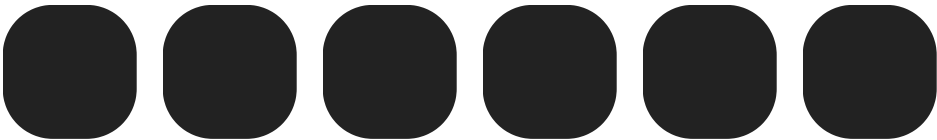
He is the son of Ed and Tina Gargas. His future plans are to attend a 4-year university and major in either financial management or sports marketing.

Pictured from left to right: Brett Dorton, Bland Award Committee Member, Ed Gargas, Nate Gargas and Tina Gargas.

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Registration Set for Dexter Elks Wrestling

NOVEMBER 06TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Registration Set for Dexter Elks Wrestling

Dexter, Missouri - While high school wrestling is beginning to heat up, elementary students can also have a chance to practice their wrestling skills. Registration is from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Dexter Elks Lodge on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 and Tuesday, November 27th.

Each year the Elks Lodge sponsors grades Kindergarten - 6th boys and girls wrestling and any child in those grades in Stoddard County are encouraged to participate.

Payment is required at time of registration. The cost to participate is \$20 per child and parents may also order a t-shirt as well.

In February duels will begin every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. at the Dexter High School and will go until the second Saturday in March.

Practices will begin soon. These youngsters will wrestle with athletes from other towns in their weight class. Some towns that have chosen to participate are Kennett, New Madrid County Central, Sikeston, and Notre Dame.

Wrestlers will be educated in the basic skills necessary to succeed in the sport of wrestling through a safe and structured practice schedule.

Coaches will encourage the athletes to reach their highest potential through hard work on the mat and in school while keeping a positive attitude and having good sportsmanship.

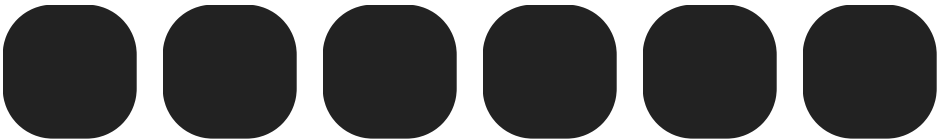
If you are interested in being a referee contact Justin McCollough (573) 614-0315.

Let’s support these youngsters and get them started in a great sport!

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2018 DHS Fall Senior Night Featuring Abby Dorton

OCTOBER 30TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

2018 DHS Fall Senior Night Featuring Abby Dorton

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter High School celebrated Fall Sports Senior Night on Friday, October 12, 2018 at Charles Bland Stadium. There were 32 seniors featured on the field prior to the start of the Dexter Bearcats/Park Hills football game. Dexter defeated Park Hills 13-7!

Abby Dorton is the daughter of Brett and Christy Dorton.

She is a member of the Dexter High School Lady Cats Tennis Team.

Her future plans are to attend college and major in Psychology.

Her most memorable moment was beating Notre Dame her junior and senior season and finishing 2nd place in Districts.

Good luck Abby on your future endeavors!

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Jadyn Northcutt is the daughter of Ken and Billie Stratton.

She is a member of the Dexter High School Lady Cats Tennis Team.

Her future plans are attend the University of Missouri - Columbia and major in Biology.

Her most memorable moment is getting 2nd place in singles at the Kennett Invitational Tennis Tournament her senior year.

Good luck Jadyn on your future endeavors!

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