

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information:

Bethany Meisinger-Reiff
Public Relations Coordinator
(937) 415-6414
Bethany.reiff@vandalia-butler.k12.oh.us

**Butler High School's AJ Pacher and Brianna Innocent nominated to play at 2010
McDonald's All American® High School Basketball Games**

Vandalia, Ohio (February 3, 2010)—Butler High School seniors A.J. Pacher and Brianna Innocent have joined an elite group of only nine Miami Valley students to be nominated for the McDonald's All-American® High School Basketball Teams.

The students will be honored during a special presentation before the February 6 varsity game against Shawnee, at the Butler High School SAC. The game is set to start at 6 p.m.

The nomination distinguishes Innocent and Pacher as two of the top prep standouts in the nation. Only 68 boys and girls in Ohio, northern Kentucky and eastern Indiana qualified.

“This is a tremendous honor for both our boy's and girl's basketball programs to each have a nominee for the very prestigious McDonald's All-American Team. Both Pacher and Brianna are very worthy of this nomination,” said Athletic Director Roger Bowen.

The 6-foot-1 Innocent, who plays power forward, has signed a letter of intent to play Division I for Western Michigan next year. She is 6th in the GWOC in rebounding with 7 per game, 19th in the GWOC in scoring with 10.5 per game, and 2nd in the GWOC in field goal percentage at 59.8. She is coached by John Schmidt.

(continued)

“Brianna has a lot of potential to develop into a good college player. She brings quite a few different strengths to each game,” Schmidt said.

At 6-foot-9, Pacher, who plays center, has signed a letter of intent for Wright State University. He averages 17 points per game, 11 rebounds per game, and two block shots per game. He shoots 40 percent for 3 point shots, 57 percent for two-point field goals, and 70 percent for free throws. He is coached by Jeff Kreill.

“He is a leader on and off the floor,” Kreill said. “His ability to play inside and outside is one of his special qualities.”

Pacher and Innocent were nominated by the McDonald’s All American Basketball Team Boys and Girls Selection Committees. The committees are composed of prominent basketball experts, including nationally-renowned coaches and top high school sports journalists.

The nominees are competing nationwide to fill one of 24 positions each on the boys and girls teams. Proceeds from ticket sales of the games will benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio. To date, millions of dollars have been donated to RMHC Chapters from proceeds generated at the McDonald’s All American Games.

The games will take place on March 31, 2010, at Value City Arena in Columbus, Ohio. The final team roster will be announced on ESPNU on February 11 at 5:30 p.m. ET.

###