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For Immediate Release
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Peabody Veterans' Memorial High School Student Earns Honors in MIAA Sportsmanship Essay Contest

(Franklin) – Lauren Blodgett, a Junior at Peabody Veterans' Memorial High School in Peabody, MA has earned third place in the Fifth Annual Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association Student Sportsmanship Essay Contest. Ms. Blodgett will present her essay to administrators, coaches and high school captains at the 12th Annual MIAA/MSSADA Sportsmanship Summit to be held November 18, 2005 at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough.

In honor of her achievement, Blodgett will receive \$200 and a recognition plaque. Casey Silver of the Bromfield School in Harvard won first place in the contest while Joshua Stein of the Maimonides School earned second place in the competition.

The MIAA has published a collection of finalist and honorable mention contest entries in an anthology entitled "Sportsmanship: A Game Plan for Life - Volume V" which will be unveiled at the Summit and distributed to each school in the state. The theme of this year's contest was "The Role of the Coach in Promoting Sportsmanship." This annual essay contest originated as a way to help students think about sportsmanship, ethics and integrity and how these values can be better demonstrated in all areas of athletic competition.

In addition to the presentation of the essay contest awards at the Sportsmanship Summit, the MIAA will also make its annual presentation of district sportsmanship awards to eight schools. Speakers and highlights for the event include Ed Berliner, CN8, The Comcast Network; Steve Burton, WBZ-TV4; Daniel Washburn, president of the National Federation of State High School Associations; and participation by members of the New England Patriots.

You are cordially invited to send a reporter to the Summit. If you would like more information, contact Nathan Bonneau or Peter Smith at 508-541-7997.

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