

Welcome to “Charger Chatter!”

While we thought all of the good news on Duchesne Sports was captured for the year, there is a very nice “epilogue” that begs to be shared. This is a great honor for these athletes, their teammates, their classmates and our school. Please enjoy.

Charger Junior Voted TAPPS 6A Female Athlete of the Year – Multi-sport athlete **Shannon Klenke**, a junior at Duchesne Academy, was notified Monday that she was selected as the Most Outstanding Female Athlete in the Largest Division (5A) of the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools. She is being honored for her achievements on the athletic fields and in the classroom. As previously noted, Shannon had an exceptional year. She finished 1st in the State Cross Country Meet leading her team to a 4th place finish, was selected 2nd Team All-District as a Mid-Fielder, won State in the 1600M Run, runner-up at State in the 3200 M Run and anchored the 4 x 400M Relay to a 2nd place finish (and our team to an overall 3rd place finish at the State Track Meet). She also carries an excellent GPA in the classroom, as she earned Academic All State in both Cross Country and Track & Field. Of note was at the finish of this year’s 5A Cross Country event, Shannon collected herself after her run and went back to the finish line and congratulated every runner who finished and waited until they all came in.

Shannon will be honored June 11th at the TAPPS All-Star Banquet to be held at the San Antonio Omni Hotel, beginning at 7PM. If you happen to be in the vicinity, please join Shannon and her family at this celebration. Dress will be jackets for men; dresses/skirts or dress pants suits for the ladies. We would love to see you there. This is the second time Shannon has earned this outstanding Athlete Award; the first was in 2008. Lena Lorenzo won the District 3-6A Athlete of the Year award five years ago and was in the running for this Top State Honor. Like Shannon, Lena was a 3 sport athlete excelling in volleyball, basketball and track.

Please join me in congratulating Shannon on this outstanding honor recognizing her athletic and academic achievements. This is a terrific honor for our school, Shannon’s family and Shannon’s teammates and classmates. This has been a very Good, Good year for Duchesne Athletics, and Shannon’s Award is well deserved. If you see Shannon give her a “High Five” and try to make her smile.

Three Chargers land on All-State Softball Team – Duchesne’s outstanding Softball Team, after making it to the “Elite Eight” at the TAPPS 5A Softball Tournament, received some additional honors for three of our players. **Lauren Mercado** was honored as a **1st Team All-State Player**. This was in addition to her selection in **District 3-5A as the Top Player in the District**. Both honors may be firsts for Duchesne’s Softball Team. In addition, **two other players were selected to 2nd Team All-State status**, and they are sisters! Senior Captain **Cat Liles** and her sophomore sister **Michelle Liles** were selected for their fielding and batting prowess. Congratulations to all three players and to all of your teammates and coaches who helped you earn these honors with a terrific season. I cannot wait until next year! Can you?

Four Chargers Earn Academic All-State Honors - If a Junior or Senior athlete qualifies for State (or is selected 1st Team All-District) plus also maintains a 90+ average (3.60 GPA) over her tenure at Duchesne, then she earns the right to be considered for Academic All-State honors. It is our pleasure to announce that four outstanding Spring Athletes have made Academic All-State during their spring seasons. In Tennis, both members of our State Runner-up Doubles Team, **Clothilde Thirouin and Jenna Dodge**, made it. State Champion in Track and Cross Country **Shannon Klenke** earned it in Track & Field. And finally, our All-State Pitcher **Lauren Mercado** earned this honor of distinction for her grades and terrific arm in Softball. **Congratulations to all of our athletes in 2009-2010 who excelled in the classroom and on the athletic fields, courts, pools and diamonds.** We are Charger Proud of you and your accomplishments!

Keep smiling and as always ... Go Chargers!