

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars special report to be published on April 5 — Semifinalists Announced

FAIRFAX, VA (February 28, 2018) — On April 5, 2018, *Diverse: Issues In Higher Education* will publish its annual [*Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars*](#) special report edition.

As the name denotes, this edition is a part of our quarter-century legacy of recognizing outstanding minority young men and women who have distinguished themselves in their academic and athletic pursuits.

In addition to their athletic ability, students named Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars must maintain a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.2, be at least a sophomore academically, and be active on their campuses or in their communities. Of the over 1,000 scholar athletes, one male and one female athlete will be selected as *Sports Scholars of the Year*.

The female semifinalists are:

Danielle Bordes, University of Connecticut, Swimming & Diving
Diana Carballo, Marist College, Water Polo
Simone Charley, Vanderbilt University, Track/Cross Country
Haley Clark, University of Georgia, Basketball
Marina Doi, King University, Wrestling
Regina Doi, King University, Wrestling
Nicole Greene, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Track/Cross Country
Kennedi Harris, University of Missouri, Gymnastics
Madeline Herrera, University of Houston-Victoria, Softball
Tola Itiola, Baylor University, Volleyball
Samantha Kokoska, University of Washington, Soccer
Bria Matthews, Georgia Institute of Technology, Track/Cross Country
Shaelynn Moore, Dillard University, Basketball
Hanna Netisingha, University Honors Program, Golf

Nina Radulovic, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Rifle
Jessica Shalongo, Delaware State University, Softball
Michelle Staggers, Duke University, Lacrosse
Sessen Stevens, University of Memphis, Soccer
Paula Abellan-Garcia, Water Polo, California State University Northridge
Yanes Garcia, Austin Peay State University, Tennis

The male semifinalists are:

Chase Almendarez, University of Houston-Victoria, Baseball
Cameron Batson, Texas Tech University, Football
Ross Brown, Washington University in St. Louis, Swimming & Diving
Leroy (Jevon) Carter, West Virginia University, Basketball
Mariano Cepeda, Holy Family University, Soccer
Stanley Davis, Hampton University, Track/Cross Country
Chandler Eggleston, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Gymnastics
Uriel Garcia, University of Houston-Victoria, Soccer
Tyriq Harris, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Football
Ray Littles, Washington State University, Track/Cross Country
Taylor Osborne, Hampton University, Golf
Donovan Phanor, Stonehill College, Football
Luis Ramos, College of St. Joseph, Baseball
Taron Slone, University of Akron, Track/Cross Country
Blaise Taylor, Arkansas State University, Football
Brindley Theisen, St. Cloud State, Basketball
Gerdarius Troutman, Florida Atlantic University, Football
Jorge Utrilla, Iowa State University, Golf
Amilcar Yanez, Saint Augustine's University, Baseball
Justin Zhang, University of California, San Diego, Tennis

Past Ashe scholars include: Baylor University's Robert Griffin III (2011); the University of Tennessee's Kara Lawson (2003); San Diego State University's Marshall Faulk (1993); and Stanford University's Simone Manuel (2017) — a four-time Olympic medalist, just to name a few who have gone on to achieve great success.

Published since 1984, *Diverse: Issues In Higher Education* is the nation's only newsmagazine dedicated exclusively to diversity issues in higher education. Visit online at www.diverseeducation.com.