



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF SARASOTA COUNTY**

## **News Release**

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### **For the Twelfth Year, Dick Vitale Presents \$1,000 each to Five Deserving Boys & Girls Club Members**

SARASOTA, FLA. (July 27, 2009) ESPN Television sports analyst, writer, philanthropist and long-time supporter of The Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County (BGCSC), Dick Vitale, will visit the Lee Wetherington Boys & Girls Club on August 5<sup>th</sup> at 11 A.M. As many as 500 young members will be on hand to see Vitale with his wife Lorraine and family members present a total of \$5,000 in college scholarships— \$1,000 each to five outstanding Club members bound for college. The Vitale family has generously donated a total of \$60,000 for scholarships in the last 12 years. In addition to personal contributions, Vitale has helped raise more than \$1,000,000 in support of the BGCSC.

The Dick Vitale Scholarship recipients were chosen by BGCSC staff for outstanding leadership qualities. Their names, college choices, and Club affiliation follow:

- Kristopher Powell, Miami Dade College, Lee Wetherington Club in Sarasota
- Shane Sethi, Florida Southern College, Robert and Joan Lee Club in Venice
- Brittney Cannon, Valencia Community College, Lee Wetherington Club in Sarasota
- Sharod Campbell, Alabama State University, Lee Wetherington in Sarasota
- Markus Black, Florida A&M University, Lee Wetherington Club in Sarasota

J. Mack Reid, president/CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County, praises the Vitale family for their generosity and commitment to youth. “For many years, Dick and Lorraine have encouraged young people to succeed. They have made a major impact on each child whose life they have touched.”

Dick Vitale and his family not only give monetarily, they give their time and energy in many respects. “The kids at the Boys & Girls Clubs work hard to be champions, and I’m happy to have the opportunity to work with them and to help them continue on this path to success,” says Vitale. Members of the BGCs know how much Dick Vitale cares about kids and their education and this is why they strive to do their very best.

#### **About the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County:**

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County have played an integral role in the Sarasota County community for more than 39 years, providing daily programs and services to more than 8,000 young people. The Mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County is to enable all young people, especially those that need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.