2021 Vantage Student Athlete Scholarship Winner – **Tyler Rhode**

Submitted by Sharie Sinson

antage Financial is pleased to announce, Tyler Rhode, Brookfield East High School 2021 graduate, as this year's winner of the \$1,500 Vantage Student Athlete Scholarship. Partner and Senior Wealth Advisor Jesse Niederbaumer attended Brookfield East's Senior Recognition Night in May to present the fifth annual Vantage scholarship.

Tyler Rhode will be playing DII football at the University of Indianapolis while pursing a business degree with a minor in political science. During Tyler's high school football career, he was a 3X varsity starter, recipient of the Team Captain award and the Jim Jacobson Team MVP award, a Greater Metro Conference student scholar, named 1st Team All-Conference and contributed to the Spartan's 2019 WIAA D2 State Championship win at Camp Randall. He was also a four-year varsity member of the track and field team. Equally impressive is Tyler's leadership in the school and greater community: President of Key Club, VP of Junior Class, student council representative, Vacation Bible School counselor the past six summers, and an Eagle Scout and Senior Patrol leader for the Boy Scouts of America. Coaches and teammates speak of Tyler's unselfish nature, his unwavering commitment to his teammates, and leadership by example. Even when faced with adversity, Tyler remains focused and determined to give his best effort.

Tyler expressed his excitement and gratitude for the opportunity to continue to play football at the collegiate level. Before heading to Indiana this summer for training, he played left tackle for the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association (WFCA) All-Star game in July at UW-Oshkosh Titan stadium.

Although the pandemic created many unique challenges for students, teachers and coaches, this year's student athletes were not deterred. Vantage's Jesse Niederbaumer commented on "how competitive the selection process was this year with such an impressive group of young men and women. These students demonstrated not only exceptional academics, athletic achievements and talents, but a strong passion for giving back to the community, which is commendable."

The South Dakota Vantage office was excited to award its first annual student athlete scholarship to a graduating senior in the Huron area. Elm Grove partner, Andy Meyer, shared, "We plan to continue to expand this scholarship opportunity to other regional offices as our practice continues to grow across the Midwest."

Congratulations and best wishes to 2021 scholarship winner, Tyler Rhode, and all the Vantage Student Athletes of the Month!





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2020 – 2021 Vantage Student Athletes of the Month



September – Lauren Chapin Brookfield East Cross Country University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, DIII Cross Country Major: Spanish and English



October - Tyler Rhode Brookfield East Football University of Indianapolis, DII Football Major: Business and Political Science



November – Tyler Niederbaumer Brookfield East Baseball Concordia University Wisconsin Major: Business and Science



December – Grace Schaetz Brookfield East swimming University of Arizona Major: Dietetics



January – Jacob Archibold Brookfield East Baseball University of Northwestern – St. Paul, DIII Baseball Major: Business and Finance



February – Samantha Rifelj Brookfield East Tennis University of Wisconsin – Madison Major: Actuarial Science



March – Ben Kujawa MUHS Football Drake University, DI Football Major: Environmental Science



April – Erin Rosencrantz Brookfield Central Golf University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, DIII Golf Major: Exercise & Sports Management





May - Connor Thorpe Brookfield East Wrestling University of Northern Iowa, DI Wrestling Major: Human Mechanics or Athletic Training



June – Luke Pluemer Brookfield East Basketball University of Wisconsin – Madison Major: Mechanical Engineering



July – Taylor Crnkovich Brookfield East Figure Skating University of Wisconsin-Madison, Figure Skating Team Major: Pre-med

Seeking Applicants for 2021-2022

Elm Grove and Brookfield senior student athletes eligible

antage Financial is accepting applications from July 10, 2021 through May 10, 2022 for its annual Student Athlete Scholarship program. Each month Vantage's team of advisors will select a senior student athlete who resides in Brookfield or Elm Grove and attends a WI high school to be highlighted in *Elm Leaves*. Student athletes may apply anytime throughout the year but are encouraged to do so during or at the conclusion of their designated season. The \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded to one of the selected Athletes of the Month in late May 2022.

To obtain an application and learn more about the details of the Vantage Student Athlete Scholarship program: visit VFPlanning.com, click on the Scholarship tab and then the Elm Grove office. Call or email Vantage Financial with any questions: 262-439-8587 or info@ vfplanning.com. Or, ask your high school guidance department.