

**The Crystal Lake Strikers Drumline
Crystal Lake, Illinois**

April 7, 2011

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CRYSTAL LAKE, IL/April 7, 2011 – The Crystal Lake Strikers Drumline recently announced the High School students chosen as the recipients of the Second Annual Tim Althoff Memorial Scholarship. Mr. Timothy Mulhern, Senior at Crystal Lake South High School and Mr. James Pinkl, Senior at Prairie Ridge High School were each awarded a \$1,500 scholarship. Mr. Mulhern will study Computer Science at Georgia Institute of Technology and Mr. Pinkl plans to attend the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The scholarship is named for Tim Althoff, a very active life-long member of the community who died unexpectedly from a heart attack at a young age. Mr. Althoff was generous with his time and energy and never hesitated to help those in need. He served for years as a volunteer firefighter in the City of McHenry was deeply devoted to his family and the community and as a younger man was a drummer. Members of his family commented that Tim would almost surely have been among the founding members of the Crystal Lake Strikers adult drumline. Given his many contributions to the community, the Strikers named this annual scholarship in his honor.

Mr. Mulhern and Mr. Pinkl were awarded their scholarships during the “Evening of Percussion” performance at the Raue Center for the Arts on February 18, and were chosen for the scholarship from a strong group of applicants. All applicants were members of the Strikers All-Star Drumline, a group made up of 18 percussion students from the four District 155 schools: Crystal Lake Central, Crystal Lake South, Prairie, Ridge, and Cary Grove High Schools. The All-Star Drumline was formed in December 2009 and has performed at basketball halftimes at each high school, the Team Dance Illinois Regional competition and the Raue Center Evening of Percussion each of the last two winters. The All-Star drumline wrapped up its season at the Team Dance Illinois State Championships in Peoria on March 6th.

Messrs. Mulhern and Pinkl have both demonstrated commitment to music throughout their lives. They are leaders within the band programs at their respective schools and work with younger musicians to help them develop as percussionists.

Sandy Pierce, owner of Phoenix woodworking was impressed with the Strikers All-Stars. "So much talent from such young artists. I was very impressed and walked away with a great feeling for today's youth," Mrs. Pierce said after the 2011 Evening of Percussion.

The Tim Althoff Scholarship was developed by The Crystal Lake Strikers Drumline, a group of adult drummers who play fun beats and cadences along to popular music in parades and shows throughout the area. The Strikers were founded by Crystal Lake Mayor Aaron Shepley, City Councilman Brett Hopkins, and Prairie Ridge drumline instructor Thomas Kundmann in 2008, and have appeared in the Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade for the past three years. The founding sponsors of the Strikers are: Georgio's Pizza, Home State Bank, Althoff Industries and Phoenix Woodworking.

Dan Chamberlain, scholarship committee head for The Strikers, said, "The Tim Althoff Scholarship is another way for the Strikers to celebrate music and demonstrate our desire to develop young musicians. We are thrilled with the way the All-Stars have grown and look forward to continuing for years to come."

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