

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

February 24, 2010

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CRYSTAL LAKE, IL/February 24, 2010 – The Crystal Lake Strikers Drumline announced the High School student chosen as the recipient of the Tim Althoff Scholarship for 2010. Mr. Carl Wesa, Senior at Prairie Ridge High School was awarded the \$1,500 scholarship. Mr. Wesa plans to study Music Education at either Northern Illinois University or Millikin University. This is the first Strikers scholarship to be awarded.

The scholarship has been named in honor of Tim Althoff, a devoted member of the community who died unexpectedly from a heart attack at a young age. Tim Althoff loved life and was always smiling and upbeat. He was devoted to his family and to his community and he loved drumming. Given Tim Althoff's many contributions to the community the The Strikers have recognized these contributions by naming this annual scholarship in his honor.

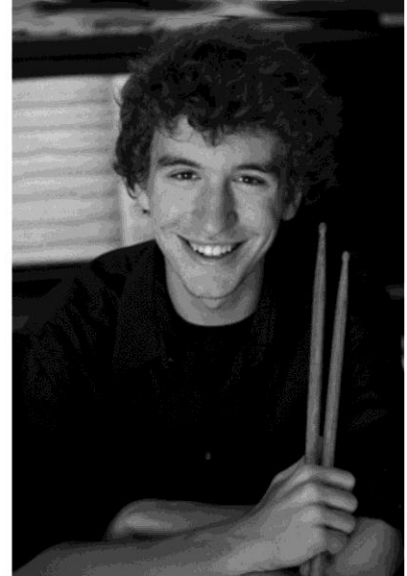
Carl Wesa was chosen for the Tim Althoff Scholarship from a strong group of applicants. All applicants were members of the Strikers All-Star Drumline, a group made up of 15 percussion students from the four District 155 schools: Crystal Lake Central, Crystal Lake South, Prairie, Ridge, and Cary Grove High Schools. The All-Star Drumline was formed in December 2009 and performed at basketball halftimes at each high school, as well as the Team Dance Illinois Regional competition and at the Raue Center Evening of Percussion. Local drum set master Nick Hawkins, who also performed at the Raue Center Evening of Percussion, said "The Strikers were awesome to watch! I had my son there, he's 3 and he loved it too!"

Mr. Wesa was especially lauded for his volunteer help in teaching Middle School percussionists at Hannah Beardsley School, along with many other music activities.

The Tim Althoff Scholarship was developed and funded 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 twice in the Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade. The Strikers took first place at the McHenry Small Drum Corps Association contest in July of 2009. They are sponsored by Georgio's Pizza, Home State Bank, and Althoff Industries.

Dale Hallerberg, scholarship committee head for The Strikers, called The Strikers Scholarship, "...a great way for the Strikers organization to support students in our community who are excited about music, and especially for percussion and drumming. These students represent the very best of our community – passionate and fun, dedicated and hardworking kids who are learning a lot while rockin' the house!"

For more information contact Dale Hallerberg at 847-975-0563, hallerberg@gmail.com



**Scholarship Recipient Carl Wesa,
Senior at Prairie Ridge High School**