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JEFFERSON, Pa. (May 19) – After spending four years competing in three sports for Jefferson-Morgan High School, Morgan Simkovic was rewarded for her excellence in both athletics and academics with the second annual \$1,000 GreeneSports.net Student-Athlete of the Year Scholarship. Simkovic was selected from a pool of seniors attending the five Greene County high schools who had been named a GreeneSports.net Athlete of the Week at least once during the current school year.

Morgan was a five-time GreeneSports.net Athlete of the Week, which is second all-time to only last year's scholarship recipient, A.C. Headlee, a 2015 graduate of Waynesburg Central High School, who was an eight-time award-winner. She was also a member of seven J-M teams that made the postseason and was mentioned in a total of 44 GreeneSports.net webcasts.

While there were many candidates, Simkovic's long list of accomplishments was more than worthy of the accolade. She received a combined 10 varsity letters (volleyball 4, softball 4, basketball 2) as a Rocket and was part of some of the school's most accomplished teams, including the memorable 2015 softball squad that captured J-M's first WPIAL title in the sport. She was honored as a team captain with the Rocket softball team this past spring, a two-time second-team all-conference honoree and a one-time first-team all-conference selection. Simkovic was also a part of two softball section champions and this past winter's basketball section championship squad.

When it comes to volleyball, which Simkovic said was her "all-time favorite sport," she was a four-year, first-team all-conference pick, as well as a third-team all-district honoree. Simkovic was also recognized by the Uniontown Herald-Standard as a Top-15 Fall Athlete and a Centennial Chevrolet Scholar-Athlete for her work on the volleyball court.

"Few if any student-athletes better exemplify what this scholarship is about than Morgan Simkovic," said Jason Tennant, co-owner and co-founder of GreeneSports.net. "Her accomplishments throughout her four years at Jefferson-Morgan more than qualify her for our scholarship, which we know will be put to good use."

As accomplished as she was as an athlete, Simkovic was just as impressive in the classroom. She will graduate with a 4.08 cumulative GPA, which ranks third in the 2016 graduating class. Morgan has also been recognized as a Tri-County Athletic Directors' Association Scholar-Athlete, one of the April Lions' Club Students of the Month, the Clarksville Lions' Club Student of the Year, an American Legion Essay Winner, a Student Forum Scholar Leader and a United States Army Reserve National Scholar-Athlete.

To further aid in her collegiate education, Simkovic has also received the Chris A. Dugan Memorial Scholarship, the Challenge Program Community Service Award, the Russell A. Guthrie Memorial Scholarship and the Chapman Family Scholarship.

Morgan also served as Student Council President, Leo Club Vice President and Interact Club President. She was active with the National Honor Society, SADD, the Envirothon, Big Brothers & Big Sisters, the school yearbook and was an athletic director aide. She is a member of Calvary Baptist Church and a proud member of Colby's Stars Foundation, Inc.

Morgan will attend Slippery Rock University, where she plans on studying Exercise Science as a Pre-Physical Therapy student. She plans on completing her undergraduate work in three years, before hopefully enrolling and completing a doctorate program at Slippery Rock. Her future academic home has already recognized Simkovic with the SRU Achievement Award and the SRU Opportunity Award.

"Morgan's achievements in sports and in the classroom are outstanding," said Lanfer Simpson, co-owner and co-founder of GreeneSports.net. "But, more importantly, she's a good person from a great family. You can tell that when you put all that together, the sky is the limit as far as wherever she ends up. I'm sure she'll be successful in whatever avenue she chooses in her future."

When approached for comment after receiving the GreeneSports.net Student-Athlete of the Year Scholarship, a modest Simkovic was quick to deflect the credit for four years of excellence to those who supported her over her time at Jefferson-Morgan.

"I want to thank all of my teammates and coaches for pushing me and enabling me to do all that I was able to do in athletics," Simkovic said. "I am so honored to receive this scholarship. I love sports more than anything. They are my outlet for everything in life and I've put so much time and effort into them. Seeing all that time and effort lead to this is very rewarding."

Simkovic added that Slippery Rock approached her about joining the volleyball next year, but she has decided to put all of her energy into her academic pursuits.

Founded in 2009, GreeneSports.net is an online audio streaming service that provides the most thorough coverage of local high school and collegiate sports. It features both live and archived webcasts of football, volleyball, boys soccer, girls soccer, boys golf, girls golf, boys basketball, girls basketball, wrestling, baseball and softball to countless fans and supporters of local athletes throughout the world.

To find out more, go to www.greensports.net.