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COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS FOUNDATION AWARDS \$10,000 JOHN H. McCONNELL SCHOLARSHIP TO ZACHARY ZINS OF POWELL

COLUMBUS, OHIO – In keeping with its mission to support the education of local youth and reward those who embrace community service in the spirit of Columbus Blue Jackets late team founder John H. McConnell, the Blue Jackets Foundation announced that Zachary Zins of Powell is the recipient of this year's \$10,000 John H. McConnell Scholarship. Zins is currently a senior at St. Charles Preparatory School.

In addition to his academic achievement of maintaining a cumulative grade point average above 4.0, Zachary's wide-ranging community outreach experiences include volunteering as a puppy raiser for Canine Companions for Independence; assuming leadership roles in a wide variety of 4-H programs; and involvement in his local church youth group. At St. Charles, he is also an active member of the National Honor Society and the Junior Engineering Technical Society. Zachary aspires to be a radiation oncologist.

The Blue Jackets players, in partnership with the team's charitable foundation, established the John H. McConnell Scholarship Fund in 2008 to honor the life and legacy of John H. McConnell, founder of both the team and the Blue Jackets Foundation. The fund, which began with a \$25,000 founding donation by team captain Rick Nash, was created to give fans the opportunity to honor Mr. McConnell and his deeply held belief in the importance of bettering one's own community. Each year, one Ohio high school senior who personifies his character and leadership is awarded the \$10,000 scholarship.

For complete information on how to apply for the 2011-12 scholarship or how to make a contribution in support of the fund, visit www.BlueJacketsFoundation.org.

Since its inception in 2000, the Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation has awarded \$3.5 million in community grants to non-profit organizations that serve the Foundation's main pillars of giving: pediatric cancer; education; children's health and safety; and the development of youth and amateur hockey. For information on the Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation, visit www.BlueJacketsFoundation.org.

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