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MAIN LINE GIRLS BASKETBALL LEAGUE ANNOUNCES THE 2005 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

MERION, PA.—(June 19, 2005)—Rebecca Maller, a senior at Lower Merion High School, is the winner of the third annual **Main Line Girls Basketball Association** (MLGBA) Scholarship. The MLGBA award was created to recognize and encourage athletic ability, academic performance and community service among those girls, who are now seniors in high school, and who have participated in the league for at least three years.

Maller, an honors student and National Honor Society member at Lower Merion who will attend Bowdoin college in the fall, played in the league for eight years. In addition to two years of varsity high school basketball, Maller played soccer and ran indoor and outdoor track. She would eventually become a captain in all of her scholastic sports. She is an active volunteer in the community and an accomplished musician.

“MLGBA will be one of my fondest memories of growing up on the Main Line,” said Maller. “It’s a wonderfully supportive and participatory league where all young girls who are willing to try get the chance to grow as athletes. I only hope that other young girls from the Main Line will be able to experience the fun and competitiveness that I loved for eight years.”

“I remember looking forward to MLGBA practices even more than school basketball practices because I knew that if I made a mistake, I wouldn’t be yelled at or chastised,” added Maller. “Everyone whom I played with just wanted to have fun and winning was an extra bonus.”

The annual MLGBA Scholarship Award is given to a senior who has participated in the league for at least three years, has demonstrated good sportsmanship, concern for the community around her and has maintained a grade point average over 3.0.

“I am certainly better for knowing her,” said Dermot J. Anderson, Lower Merion High School counselor and Girls’ Track Coach who has known Maller since she was a freshman. “I know that in the years to come I will be hearing of the many wonderful contributions that Becca is making to this world.”

Since its inception in 1993, the MLGBA provides a fun introduction to organized basketball, improves athletic skills and gives older girls a chance to play in league competition. Research shows that playing sports provides girls with physical, mental and emotional benefits that last throughout their lifetimes. To give more girls the chance to play sports and gain those benefits, the MLGBA gives a sound foundation for beginners and a challenge for older players.

Past winners: Justine Malloy, 2004; Kirsten Lawson, 2003.