

Ian Amber Named As Miami Dolphins/ NFL Community Quarterback Award Winner

December 3, 2001

Miami Dolphins Head Coach Dave Wannstedt announced today that 16-year old Ian Amber is the winner of the Miami Dolphins/ NFL Community Quarterback Award. The NFL Community Quarterback Award is a volunteer recognition program that recognizes community and youth volunteers who demonstrate leadership, dedication and commitment to bettering their communities.

Amber was diagnosed with leukemia at the age of ten and underwent three years of chemotherapy. As soon as his health permitted, Ian formed Kids That Care, a student-run organization that helps children suffering from cancer and other life-threatening illnesses, both through fundraising and direct volunteerism. Whether it's coordinating a county-wide sticker sale to raise money for bone marrow transplant patients or giving emotional support to patients who have been newly diagnosed with cancer, Ian works to enhance the quality of life for many sick children. The Jackson Memorial Foundation, thanks to Ian Amber's efforts, will receive a \$10,000 grant from the Miami Dolphins through NFL Charities for being named the Miami Dolphins Community Quarterback.



Coach Wannstedt Congratulates Ian Amber, winner of the Miami Dolphins/ NFL Community

Coach Wannstedt also announced Kristina Liddle, volunteer for the American Red Cross, and David Mitchell, volunteer for the Broward Partnership for the Homeless, are the Miami Dolphins/ NFL Community Quarterback runners-up. Each will receive a donation to their respective charity of \$2,500, once again thanks to their efforts.

Twenty-year-old Kristina Liddle has been an American Red Cross volunteer for the Broward County Chapter for the past two years. Liddle was born with spina bifida and is confined to a wheelchair. This, however, has not stopped her from giving back to her community through the American Red Cross "Candy Stripe" program where she has volunteered more than 1,000 hours. Liddle is known for her big heart and special ability to relate to patients. She plans to become a pediatrician with a specialty in neonatology. Some of the other organizations she volunteers for include: Special Olympics, Children's Home Society, Canines for Independence and Chef David's Kids.

David Mitchell has dedicated his life to helping others through volunteering at the Broward Partnership for the Homeless. A former resident of the Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Mitchell was diagnosed with cancer at the age of 8. As an adult, the illness and resulting disability made it impossible for him to drive or work, and he became homeless. Mitchell did not let these obstacles stand in his way. He pursued an education and became a professional chef. Now he has dedicated his life to helping others in need. While a resident, Mitchell knew the tremendous need for "breathing space", and he worked to establish an on-campus library filled with donated books and games. Twice a week, he can be found in the library straightening and reorganizing books while determining what others are needed. When Mitchell is not in the library, he can be found in the classroom tutoring other residents in Science, Math, English and Spanish in the adult education classroom. In 1990, Mitchell also founded a non-profit charity, Chef David's Kids, and has granted over 7,600 wishes nationwide.

Amber, Liddle and Mitchell were selected from the 10 Miami Dolphins Community Quarterback finalists. Each finalist was invited to the Miami Dolphins/ Carolina Panthers game on November 4 and awarded \$1,000 to the charity that nominated them. The other finalists and the charity that nominated them are: Michael Apelian, Here's Help; Luis Bryce, Miami Jewish Home & Hospital for the Aged; Erin Hantman, Daily Bread Food Bank; Jennifer Lostumbo, Family Central, Inc.; Sarah McFarley, Barton's Boosters; Susan Penrod, Humane Society of Broward County; Steve Shortall, Dan Marino Foundation.

The NFL Community Quarterback program, in only its second year, will donate nearly \$1 million to community organizations served by outstanding volunteers. Amber, along with 31 other local winners from the other NFL markets, will be eligible for the national NFL Community Quarterback Award. In late December, a panel appointed by the NFL will decide the winner of a \$25,000 donation to the organization where the national winner volunteers.

The Miami Dolphins selected a committee made up of team representatives, media and community leaders to review nominations for their local Community Quarterback Award.