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April 10, 2006

**NEWS RELEASE**

## **PNE AWARDS MARCH 2006 MIRACLE MILE BURSARY TO PITT MEADOWS' DYLAN GATNER**

**VANCOUVER, B.C.** - The Pacific National Exhibition's Miracle Mile Athlete Bursary has a March tradition. The Most Inspirational Player at the 2006 Telus 'AAA' Boys Provincial Championships" basketball tournament, held at PNE's Agrodome, has been awarded this month's Bursary. The March winner, awarded the distinction of the Most Inspirational Player at this year's Tournament, is Dylan Gatner. Dylan is regarded as one of the best point guards in the province and was even invited to attend Canada Basketball's exclusive Nike Centre for Performance, an elite training ground for BC's brightest athletes.



*"Hosting the BC Boys Basketball Tournament is one of the highlights of our year," says Michael McDaniel, President and CEO of the Pacific National Exhibition. "It is inspiring to see these young athletes compete. They are under a tremendous amount of pressure and handle themselves with incredible maturity. We are very pleased to award our March Miracle Mile bursary to Dylan, who has dedicated so much time and effort to his sport and improving his skills."*

Dylan was selected as the recipient of the bursary and the Most Inspirational Player at the 2006 Telus 'AAA' Tournament, based on his commitment to the game and his achievements at this year's tournament. In addition to improving his own skills, Dylan works with his teammates to achieve the highest standards of sportsmanship and excellence.

The Pitt Meadows teen has been playing the game for ten years, training every day. Living by the mantra "winners never quit, quitters never win," Dylan describes his game as "quick, smooth, and smart." His "smarts" along with his love of the game have helped him achieve significant accomplishments including finishing second at the National Championships.

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Dylan's goals for the future include qualifying for the U17 Provincial Basketball team, something he has been working towards every since he was a member of the U15 Provincial team in 2004. In the future, Dylan hopes to play ball at a University level and perhaps go on to play for the National team. His dreams include following in the large footsteps of his idols Michael Jordan and Steve Nash and playing in the NBA.

For more information on the PNE's Miracle Mile Bursary please visit [www.pne.ca](http://www.pne.ca) or call 604-251-7708.

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Owned by the City of Vancouver, the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) is a healthy and vibrant non-profit charity organization dedicated to providing over 3 million visitors a year with first-class cultural, sporting and family entertainment events. Founded in 1910, the PNE operates from a 114-acre site at Hastings Park, a multi-facility venue in Vancouver where the organization operates four business streams: an annual 17-day Fair, Playland Amusement Park, maintenance and care of the Hasting Park site and management of the site's year-round facilities. These facilities are utilized to celebrate a variety of hockey, amateur sporting, music, community, social, cultural and commercial events throughout the year.

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