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Nichols Dean, football coach in middle of Marjory Stoneman Douglas school shooting

GOODMAN, TEAM QUARTERBACK, COMMITS TO NICHOLS COLLEGE

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — Valentine's Day 2018 began like every other day Paul Brower has spent on the recruiting trail in the last several years, as the Nichols College men's and women's tennis coach and its dean of admissions. By early afternoon, however, it was a day unlike any other in his life, and one he prays never repeats itself.

After visiting four Florida high schools: Fort Lauderdale High School, Coral Springs Charter School, Coral Springs High School and North Broward Preparatory School, Brower and St. Clair Ryan, the Nichols running backs coach, arrived at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland to discuss the possibility of attending Nichols with four senior members of the Eagles' football team.

Stoneman Douglas was familiar territory for Brower; he had made recruiting visits there many times and considered head coach Willis May and assistant coach Aaron Peis friends.

"We had been talking to the kids for about 10 minutes when we heard a fire alarm go off, but it only went off for about 10 seconds, which is very unusual," said the 40-year-old Brower. "Usually when you hear a fire alarm it usually goes off for about 10 minutes. It was one of those moments where you look around at each other and go, 'OK.'"

Moments later Brower, Ryan, May and the four student-athletes who were meeting in the coach's office inside the boy's locker room found out the school was not holding a fire drill or testing the system.

"The fire alarm was shut off so quickly we thought nothing of it, but about 45 seconds later the words 'Code Red' came over the loudspeaker — twice," Brower recalled.

"Coach May went to the outer locker room doors and locked those and told everybody to get into his office."



Tyler Goodman, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High starting quarterback, committed to Nichols College shortly after he, three other classmates and a pair of Nichols coaches endured the mass school shooting together while locked in a coach's office.

"Shortly thereafter, we heard a popping noise and somebody said over the radio, 'hey, is that a firecracker?' And a voice came back and said, 'that ain't no firecracker!'" Brower said. "A minute or two later we heard 'pop, pop, pop.' One of the guys then opened one of the side doors to the outer office and when he did that you could hear the shots clear as day. They were a lot less muffled. At that point, we knew someone was shooting inside the school."

Brower, who grew up in the Brookfields and now lives in Auburn, and Ryan, a first-year coach at Nichols, had found themselves inside one of the deadliest school shootings in the nation's history; 17 students, teachers and

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Northbridge sergeant completes command training

Sgt. Carmen Borrelli completed a two week command training course at the Justice System Training and Research Institute at Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI, in partnership with the New England Association of Chiefs of Police. The command training course was a two-week comprehensive training program for police supervisory personnel.

Coursework addressed contemporary concepts of management and leadership relevant to the responsibilities of first line supervisors in a modern criminal justice agency. The program discussed topics including operational leadership and management principles, problem-solving, organizational and inter-



Courtesy photo
Det./Sgt. John Oullette, Sgt. Carmen Borrelli, and Lt. Timothy Labrie

personal communications, labor relations, disciplinary issues, and ethical decision-making. Graduates of the session represented police departments from throughout New England and included Sergeant Borrelli.



Courtesy photo

Boy Scouts appreciate the hard work necessary.

Arrow of Light recipients recognized

The Cub Scouts from St. Denis Pack 316 recently held their annual Blue and Gold Ceremony at the Douglas High School.

The Blue and Gold is a celebration of the Anniversary of Scouting. It brings families together for an evening of fun and recognition. Highlights of the evening included skits from each den and awarding the centerpiece contest winner. In addition, all the scouts in the Pack were recognized for their accomplishments and progress toward ranks.

During the event, the Pack was recognized for achieving the Gold Level in the Boys Scouts of America's Journey to Excellence Program. The Journey to Excellence Program is a performance recognition program designed to encourage and reward success and measure the performance of its units. It is also meant to encourage excellence in providing a quality program.

The evening concluded with a special Pack 316 Arrow of Light Ceremony. Pack 316 had eight Arrow of Light recipients this year; they are: Tyler Beck, David Berchen, Dale Boudreau, Matthew Dean, Justin Dooner, Logan England, Liam Peach, and Evan Pomfret. Receiving the Arrow of Light is the culmination of a Cub Scout's career. It is the highest award that a Cub Scout can earn and is the only Cub Scout emblem that

can be worn on a Boy Scout uniform. During the ceremony, the scouts received their emblems. They also presented a special Arrow of Light pin to a parent as a way of thanking them for the support they received throughout their Cub Scouting years. Before crossing the bridge to Boy Scouts, the Arrow of Light recipients were honored with a special slide show highlighting their Cub Scout journey. Representative Joseph McKeena and Senator Ryan Fatman addressed the families and scouts and recognized the Pack's Arrow of Light recipients for their accomplishments with their congratulatory letters from the House and Senate.

Pack 316 would like to congratulate all of its scouts and with the Arrow of Light recipients the best as they start their Boy Scouting journey with Troop 218! The Pack would like to thank Beth Boudreau, the leader of our Arrow of Lighters, for her time spent volunteering with the Pack and the leadership she provided to her den throughout the years. The Pack would also like to extend a special thank you to Troop 316 Boy Scouts Noah and Seth Boudreau, who were den chiefs for our Arrow of Light den.

For information about Douglas Cub Scout Pack 316, please visit www.douglaspack316.com or find us on Facebook.

Watershed gets lots of attention from willing volunteers



Courtesy photos
One young volunteer gets his hands dirty at the edge of the pond.

On Saturday, April 14th, you may have noticed individuals or groups of volunteers walking along the banks of the nearby streams and rivers with garbage bags in their hands. This dedicated group of volunteers were participating in the annual Earth Day Cleanup of local waterways organized by the Blackstone River Watershed Association.

For the last three years this cleanup has been sponsored by Savers Bank and Control Point

Mechanical, Inc. demonstrating their unwavering dedication to the environment and a cleaner, healthier Blackstone Valley! This year we also received the support of Tom Berkowitz Mechanical, Inc. who provided trash removal services in the towns of Northbridge and Uxbridge.

Over 130 volunteers cleared 6 sites in 11 nearby towns: Auburn, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Mendon, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. An incredible amount of trash was pulled from wetlands, streams, rivers, ponds, and shorelines amounting to 146 trash bags, that's almost four tons of trash. Some of the items retrieved from the banks of rivers and streams included car parts, a bicycle, two mattresses, three box springs, 13 tires and a truck load of construction debris, including a toilet.

Dumping can ruin the beauty of our natural landscape, and can also be a harmful pollutant that negatively impacts our rivers. Some of those impacts can be seen in declining water quality, reduced water flow, decreased accessibility for wildlife to access water bodies, and harmful ingestion of items mis-

taken for food.

Our champion volunteers included many individuals, families, student groups, organizations, and groups like the Girl Scouts, church groups, concerned citizens, National Honor Societies, trail ambassadors, businesses, garden clubs and Events Gone Wild who worked tirelessly to clean up these areas.

As a small token of appreciation, all volunteers were given a reusable water bottle with the BRWA logo printed on the side. The BRWA would also like to express their sincere appreciation to Blackstone Valley Technical High School for allowing us to use the school grounds as a meeting point and a place to distribute supplies. An additional thank you to the town DPWs who provided invaluable support for our cleanup by hauling the trash away and to cable access and local media who helped spread the word for the event.

The BRWA's mission is to engage, educate and advocate for improved water quality in the Blackstone River watershed. Please visit our website at www.thebrwa.org for more information.

Moore awarded for work with challenged individuals

BOSTON — Senator Michael Moore (D-Millbury) was awarded the Distinguished Legislator of the Year Award for his efforts on behalf of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The award was presented to Senator Moore by the organization Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts (AFAM).

"It is an honor to accept this award, and to represent people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families," said Senator Moore. "I won't take a back seat when it comes to advocating for the rights of the disability community and will continue to support legislative initiatives that help to improve the lives of thou-

sands of residents across our Commonwealth."

In particular, Senator Moore received this recognition for his support of legislation including a bill known as "Nicky's Law" that would direct the Department of Developmental Services to establish a registry that identifies individuals who have been found to have com-

mitted abuse against persons with disabilities.

Senator Moore was presented with the award during the annual "Autism Spectrum Awareness and Acceptance Day" held at the State House. The program included a series of address by heard from speakers, legislators, self-advocates and autism-related stakeholders.



Courtesy photos
Pictured (L-R): Michael Borr, AFAM chairman, Maura Sullivan, director of government affairs, The Arc of Massachusetts and Senator Michael Moore.