



For immediate release: Jan. 20, 2011

**Exemplary High School Student Athletes Receive Scholarships from Reliant Energy  
Company Has Awarded More than \$100,000 in Scholarships to Houston-area  
Students Since 2006**

HOUSTON – The future looks brighter for eight Houston-area high school student-athletes thanks to Reliant Energy and the Houston Texans. Reliant awarded each student a \$5,000 scholarship for academic and athletic achievement through its Scholarship for Champions - Powering Strong Minds and Bodies program, a partnership between Reliant and the Texans to encourage youth education through sports.

Since the program's inception in 2006, Reliant has awarded 40 Houston-area high school student athletes \$104,000 in scholarships.

"We're proud to help these deserving students reach their educational goals," said Jason Few, Reliant Energy President. "We're deeply committed to supporting youth education through sports, after-school programs and educational activities that inspire, enrich and make a positive difference in the lives of our youth."

"I'm proud of what we've accomplished through our partnership with Reliant Energy. We've recognized 40 students with scholarships to help them excel in higher education," said Houston Texans President Jamey Rootes. "Supporting and encouraging youth to be the best they can be inside and outside of the classroom is a win for us."

The Scholarship for Champions program reflects the values of Reliant's parent company, NRG Energy. "Supporting schools, students and education is one of the most important ways that we contribute to the communities we serve," said John Ragan, NRG Regional President, Texas.

**The 2010 Reliant Energy Scholarship for Champions Recipients are:**

**Andrew Coker, Katy  
Haley Hoffman, Deer Park  
Tarun Jain, Goose Creek  
Galen Nailor, Aldine**

**Clara Snelson, Pasadena Memorial  
Emily Tapia, Spring  
Lidia Trejo, Alief Elsik  
Tiffany Walker, Lamar Consolidated**

Students were nominated by their coaches and teachers and the scholarship recipients were selected by Reliant Energy based on academics, athletics, leadership, ethics and extra-curricular activities.

Each recipient received a surprise visit from Houston Texans Ambassador J.J. Moses at their school and was presented with a \$5,000 check in front of their peers. In addition, scholarship recipients were given the opportunity to participate in a pre-game, on-field recognition ceremony at a Texans home game.

### **2010 Reliant Energy Scholarship for Champions Recipients' Bios:**

#### **Andrew Coker**

Coker is on the Katy High School baseball team and a National Honor Society and leadership team member. Coker was recently chosen to participate in PALS (Peer Action Leadership Success) where high school students mentor and tutor elementary students. Coker volunteers with Katy's Challenger Baseball Program to help kids with special needs learn to play baseball.

#### **Haley Hoffman**

Hoffman is a volleyball player at Deer Park High School. She made second team All-District in 2008 and first team All-District and All-District academic team in 2009. She is in the top six percent of her class, volunteers for the annual Pumpkin Patch at Deer Park, Houston Christmas Feast, American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Big House Mission and Deer Park Methodist Church's Vacation Bible School.

#### **Tarun Jain**

Jain is on Goose Creek Memorial High School's tennis team where he was Most Valuable Player in 2008 and Doubles Player of the Year in 2009. Jain and his tennis partner were undefeated in mixed doubles in the 2008-09 season. Jain is treasurer and president of the Key Club and National Honor Society treasurer. He volunteers for American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Feed the Vets, Wreaths Across America and Trash-Off to help keep the city of Baytown clean.

#### **Galen Nailor**

Nailor is captain of the Aldine High School football team and has received All-District academic honors. He has proven himself a leader in the classroom by attaining valedictorian status at his high school. Nailor volunteers with his youth group at church and mentors young athletes.

#### **Clara Snelson**

Snelson is on the track and field and basketball teams at Pasadena Memorial High School. She has received All-District honorable mention for basketball. She is a member of the National Honor Society and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She volunteers for the Walk for Autism and Walk for Sight and works with football coaches during annual

youth football camp. Snelson volunteers at a nursing home and helps serve meals to the homeless.

### **Emily Tapia**

Tapia is captain of the Lady Lion basketball team at Spring High School and won the "Lion Pride" award for exemplifying academic excellence, discipline and leadership. She is a mentor for freshman students, a member of the Distinguished Service Graduate (DSG) program, where she volunteers to serve her school and community at least 30 hours per year. She has also volunteered at a nursing home and basketball camps.

### **Lidia Trejo**

Trejo is on the soccer team at Alief Elsik High School. She has served as team captain and was awarded Rookie of the Year in 2008. Trejo was selected as a PAL (Peer Assistance Leadership) to mentor at-risk elementary and middle school students. She helps serve meals to the homeless and has participated in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer and March of Dimes. Trejo was nominated for Empowering Teen Leaders - a class for students with exemplary leadership skills.

### **Tiffany Walker**

Walker is on Lamar Consolidated High School's volleyball team. She was selected to first-team All District as Newcomer of the Year and to the district's All-Academic team. She is a National Honor Society officer and choir president and secretary. Walker is youth volleyball and basketball head coach at the YMCA. She has volunteered for Special Olympics and is a member of PALs (Peers Assistance and Leadership).

### **About the Houston Texans Foundation:**

The Houston Texans Foundation was established in November 2001 as an integral part of the Houston Texans' vision to be the most community-connected professional sports team in the world. It is committed to improving the lives of the next generation of Texans by utilizing strategic resources in order to make a measurable community impact among Houston's youth. The Houston Texans Foundation has partnered with the YMCA to build the Houston Texans YMCA, the first ever YMCA center named after a professional sports team, and with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston and the Houston Food Bank. Through these exciting new partnerships, the Houston Texans Foundation will be able to continue to administer programs that promote leadership, integrity and character.

### **About Reliant Energy:**

Reliant Energy provides electricity and energy services to more than 1.5 million retail customers—including homes, small and large businesses, manufacturing facilities, government entities and institutions across Texas. As part of NRG Energy (NYSE: NRG), Reliant Energy is backed by one of the nation's largest power producers. NRG owns and operates nearly 26,000 megawatts of generation capacity, including more than

11,000 megawatts of capacity in Texas. For more information about Reliant Energy products and services, visit [www.reliant.com](http://www.reliant.com).

###

For more information: Pat Hammond, Reliant Energy, 713-537-2157