

## 2015 Specialized Student-Athlete Leadership Award

*The Specialized Student Athlete Leadership Award honors a male and female student-athlete annually who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, sportsmanship, academic performance and volunteerism in their team, school and community.*

### **Preston Bagley-Gurtner, Moab Red Devil Mountain High School, Utah Interscholastic Cycling League**



Preston has a strong work ethic, both on and off the bike. His accomplishments as a mountain bike racer include two Utah State Championships as a freshman and sophomore, victories on the junior enduro race circuit, and his development into a team leader for the Moab Red Devil High School Mountain Bike Team in the Utah League. Beyond his successes as an individual racer, it's Preston's leadership skills that have stood out. He looks out for all of his teammates, encouraging and mentoring them. He genuinely cheers them on and applauds their efforts — all while maintaining a true sense of humility and modesty about his own accomplishments. Off the bike, Preston has maintained a 3.7 GPA, is a member of the National Honor Society, and has been the recipient of numerous prestigious academic awards. He is musically talented, playing the saxophone and participating in marching

band during the same season as mountain biking. He also plays the guitar and keyboards, is the lead singer in another band and composes music! Preston spends his spare time — is there any left? — volunteering with the National Honor Society as well as at bike events for elementary school-aged kids. These include setting up local kids with their first bikes and helmets, promoting trail riding and stewardship, and leading bike maintenance training sessions. As you can see, Preston is an all-around, well-rounded, hardworking young man — and one who is respectful, mature and humble beyond his years.



*“I found that I wanted to share my experience, my knowledge and my adventures with my peers...I worried less about my personal performance and started becoming involved with my teammates challenges and goals... This evolution became my new NICA experience.”*