



PRESS RELEASE

INTERMOUNTAIN'S CHERRIAL ODELL AND NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S STEVIE GOULD NAMED WINNERS OF USTA BILL TALBERT JUNIOR SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y., Sept. 6, 2019 – The USTA today announced that Cherrial Odell of Las Vegas and Stevie Gould of Corte Madera, Calif., were named the winners of the 2019 USTA Bill Talbert Junior Sportsmanship Award. The two were honored at the USTA Semi-Annual Meeting at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City on Sept. 2.

Odell, 17, is an active and dedicated member of the Marty Hennessy Inspiring Children Foundation, a Las Vegas-area NJTL chapter. She has won countless sportsmanship, athletic and humanitarian awards, including the prestigious Horatio Algiers Association Scholarship and was selected to be a Quest Bridge Scholar, and recently was offered a scholarship to attend Stanford University. Odell credits tennis and her NJTL for saving her life after a rough upbringing and has become a public speaker and mental health advocate, using her struggles to inspire others.

Her national tennis results, academic excellence and sportsmanship has earned her the role as captain of Team Bryan, a USTA Foundation NJTL Excellence Team led by the Bryan Brothers, the most decorated doubles team in the history of tennis. To help others, she created the “Little Bryans” tennis and mentoring program through her NJTL where she teaches and mentors close to 45 children weekly. Just recently, Odell created the “No Quit” podcast to help bring the lessons she learned at her NJTL to other teenagers.

Gould, 18, is preparing to begin his freshman year at the University of Washington, where he will play college tennis after captaining his Redwood High School team in 2019. He has earned multiple accolades throughout his junior tennis career, including numerous Sportsmanship Awards at various district-, section-, and national-level tournaments. He was named to the 2018 USTA Junior Leadership Team, which honored one male and one female player from each USTA Section that demonstrated excellence both on and off the court. In the classroom, Gould graduated from high school with a 4.0 cumulative GPA.

“Both of these student-athletes are incredible individuals on and off the tennis court,” said Craig Morris, Chief Executive, Community Tennis, USTA. “They give back to their community, mentor younger athletes and are great role models. Both Cherrial and Stevie epitomize what great sportsmanship is all about and we look forward to seeing what the future holds for both of them.”

Each award winner must be a junior player who exemplifies the finest qualities of sportsmanship in tournament play as well as one who maintains the finest traditions of the great sportsmen/women of tennis, past and present. The award is given in honor of 1967 Hall of Famer Bill Talbert, who was highly regarded for his high standards of sportsmanship.

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The USTA is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the U.S. and the leader in promoting and developing the growth of tennis at every level -- from local communities to the highest level of the professional game. A not-for-profit organization with more than 655,000 members, it invests 100% of its proceeds in growing the game. It owns and operates the US Open, one of the highest-attended annual sporting events in the world, and launched the US Open Series, linking seven summer WTA and ATP World Tour tournaments to the US Open. In addition, it owns approximately 90 Pro Circuit events throughout the U.S. and selects the teams for the Davis Cup, Fed Cup, Olympic and Paralympic Games. The USTA's philanthropic entity, the USTA Foundation, provides grants and scholarships in addition to supporting tennis and education programs nationwide to benefit under-resourced youth through the National

Junior Tennis & Learning (NJTL) network. For more information about the USTA, go to USTA.com or follow the official accounts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat.

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