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HELTEN RECEIVES DICK PETRIK AWARD

(WATERLOO, Iowa)—Nick Helten of Loras College has been chosen as the recipient of the 2009 Dick Petrik Outstanding Student Award by the Iowa Broadcast News Association. The award was presented at the IBNA annual convention Saturday, May 2, in Ames.

The IBNA Dick Petrik Outstanding Student Award is given annually to a college student whose work shows outstanding potential for a career in electronic media journalism. The award is named for the late Dick Petrik, longtime news director at KOEL Radio in Oelwein. This honor carries with it a monetary award of \$500.00.

Helten is a senior media studies major from Garwin, Iowa. He has reported news and sports for Loras College Television and is now executive producer of SportsZONE, named the top collegiate sports shows in Iowa by the IBNA.

“There’s probably no better way to measure Nick’s talent than by the accolades he has received over his career. Time and time again, broadcast professionals have judged his work to be the very best amongst his peers,” Craig Schaefer, professor of media studies, said.

Jill Specht, coordinator of media operations at Loras College, said of Helton, “He’s an award-winning reporter, anchor and producer, an outstanding leader and director, a documentary film maker, an honor student and a mentor. I couldn’t be more proud of the person Nickolas Helten has become.”

Helten has produced two documentaries, one in China and the award-winning *Iowa’s Hometown Heroes*. Helten works as a crew member for Mediacom’s broadcast of local high school football games and previously was in charge of media relations for the Waterloo Bucks as part of a summer internship.

IBNA is a nonprofit organization of radio-TV news directors, reporters, producers, public relations professionals and others from Iowa and its adjacent states, working together to improve electronic media news for stations and the public.

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