



Cody Markel

Cody Markel is a senior on the Vanderbilt University football team. Markel is an outstanding student-athlete, but, to date, his most successful accomplishment has been honoring a teammate and friend, Turner Cockrell, who lost his battle to cancer. During his senior year, Markel founded a non-profit foundation, "Turner Heroes," that has raised \$69,000 to fund research for pediatric cancer.

Turner Heroes Vision: "At Turner's Heroes, we are strong believers that every patient is a Superhero; all we do is provide the capes! Through our connections with children's hospitals around the country, and with your support, we are able to make sure that patients are supported. This is done through superhero-themed events at the hospital and facilitating engagement between patients and their communities. We support these patients while also working towards a cure for pediatric cancer through the funding of Discovery Grants. With your support, we hope that pediatric cancer will be no more.

<https://www.turnersheroes.org/>

Markel is also an excellent student leader at Vanderbilt. He has been on the Dean's list for multiple semesters (Fall 2016-18 and Spring 2017-19), SEC Academic Honor Roll (Fall 2017-18), and the National Political Science Honor Society 2019. Markel's leadership and service honors include Vanderbilt Top 10 Outstanding Senior 2019, William V. Campbell Trophy Semi-Finalist 2019, Allstate AFCA Good Works Team Nominee 2019, Vanderbilt Student-Athlete Advisory Committee member, SEC Football Leadership Council Representative (Fall 2019), and Team Captain.

Markel is expected to graduate this Fall 2019 with a double major in Medicine, Health, and Society and Political Science. He has a 3.933 GPA and plans to attend law school.



Mikayla Pivec

Mikayla Pivec is a graduate student on the Oregon State University Women's Basketball Team. Pivec has displayed a passion for community service, especially finding efficient ways to get the homeless access to resources. She is the co-founder of Beavs CARE (Corvallis Athletes Reaching Everyone) that aims to bring Oregon State student-athletes together for service initiatives. These initiatives have included baking cookies for local homeless shelters, cooking pizzas with local youth, and putting on a carnival at the Boys and Girls Club of Corvallis. Pivec has travelled to the Dominican Republic (DR) for a service trip as part of Beavers Without Borders to help build structures and plant nutritional gardens. Pivec has also volunteered numerous hours to IMPACT for Life (advocacy program for young adults with disabilities), Community Outreach Incorporated (housing/medical services for the homeless), the Corvallis Women's Shelter, and the DAM Worth It Campaign (suicide awareness initiative). She has also earned the Glenn Klein Community Service Award for 2017-18 and 2018-19 (recognizing the Oregon State student-athlete who is most active in the community).

Pivec focused her Honors College thesis project on highlighting the challenges that the homeless face and understanding how to best use resources to assist them. Pivec was awarded a SURE Science Award and a \$5,000 stipend to advance the scope of her thesis. She donated \$1,000 of the stipend to local homeless shelters. Pivec's thesis project was

also awarded a President's Commission on the Status of Women scholarship towards funding her research.

Pivec, a two-time team captain, has also excelled academically. She completed her undergraduate degree in three years, majoring in BioHealth Sciences with a 3.93 GPA. Pivec is currently a graduate student, majoring in Biochemistry and Biophysics. She is a two-time Pac-12 All-Academic First Team honoree, Academic All-American Second Team as a junior, and an Academic All-District in her sophomore year. "She is as selfless as any human I've ever been around . . . Her leadership is at another level, and we are in good hands with her as a leader." – Oregon State Head Coach, Scott Rueck.

