

Sullivan earns B.S. from CU Boulder

Written by Holyoke Enterprise



In May, Cierra Sullivan graduated from University of Colorado at Boulder with a Bachelor of Science degree in molecular cellular developmental biology. She plans to pursue a master's degree in biomedical science and then continue on to medical school.

Following graduation from Holyoke High School in 2008, Sullivan attended Concordia University in Seward, Neb., on a golf scholarship, finishing the national NAIA conference in a tie for sixth. She also walked on to the basketball team.

She transferred to CU at Boulder in 2009 after receiving a three-year full ride Evans Scholarship in April 2009.

Sullivan was a genetics mentor her sophomore and junior years, and in the summer of 2010, she received an NIDDK Step Up Undergraduate internship through the National Institute of Health where she participated in embryonic stem cell research at the University of California San Francisco, followed by a poster presentation in Atlanta, Ga.

During her junior year, Sullivan was asked to play for the CU women's rugby team, starting every game following their first tournament. They placed eighth at the national tournament.

In the summer of 2011, she received acceptance into the Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences Summer Research Program at Wake Forest Medical School in Greensboro, N.C., where she participated in cardiovascular hypertension research on mice.

The following summer, Sullivan traveled to Quito, Ecuador to set up medical clinics where approximately 730 patients were seen within the five days of brigading. Directly after that, she spent seven weeks in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico volunteering with the Red Cross Ambulance Services as she was trained in CPR/first aid and as an EMT Basic.

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Sullivan is the daughter of Jeff and Olga Sullivan of Holyoke.

Holyoke Enterprise June 27, 2013