

Shopper Scholarship Winner Heads to Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

River Valley High School Valedictorian and top graduating student-athlete Lauren Kroeger is the first Shopper Scholarship winner to enroll as a freshman at an out-of-state university.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Track and Field Team recruited her to run middle-distance on their Conference Champion Women's Track Team. "We had a signing party on my birthday in May," Lauren said. She'll start training at MIT in August.

The Shopper Editorial Board chose Lauren for achievement in academics and sports. She is this year's valedictorian, and she can run 800 meters (half mile) in 2-minutes-19 seconds.

But we have to mention she's a great volunteer. Recently, she has served as president of The Rotary Interact Club, as a volunteer coach for the Yuba City Parks and Recreation Department Track and Field and Basketball programs, as a volunteer at Shady Creek Outdoor Education School, and as a volunteer with iCan Bike, teaching disabled kids how to ride bikes.

"But academics has definitely been my priority," she said. Her report card shows straight-A's in all the hard classes, including Honors Chemistry, AP Calculus, AP History, English.

"I chose MIT because of the opportunities available to the students as well as the outstanding academics and faculty," she said. Everyone enters MIT without declaring a major. But she says she's interested in bioscience and business. Lauren's freshman class schedule will include physics, biology, chemistry, calculus, English and one humanities course.

The MIT Women's Track Team will give Lauren a head start in school. She'll be rooming with another member of the team this fall. She also plans join a sorority during her first year.

The Shopper Scholarship was the first scholarship offered to the first graduating class of River Valley High School eight years ago. Every year it has honored a student for outstanding achievement in two distinct areas. Of the previous Shopper Scholarship winners, two went to UC Davis, two to UC Berkeley, one to Stanford and one to Cal State Stanislaus. Lauren is the first to leave the state, and she has promised to send us a photo of herself reading The Shopper at MIT in September.



Mens et manus
"Mind and Hand"

