

And the winner is...

MTM Recognition creates most coveted awards in sports and corporate world

BY JEFF HARRISON
Managing Editor

Whether celebrating an NCAA national championship, a Special Olympics gold medal, or a career milestone in the corporate world – MTM Recognition is there.

The business that has called Del City home for 47 years has been producing awards and recognition programs for customers around the globe.

If you watched any recent college bowl games, odds are you saw their work on your television screen. The talented team at MTM Recognitions designs and creates trophies for many of the bowl games, including the

Orange Bowl, Fiesta Bowl, Peach Bowl and Cotton Bowl.

MTM Recognition has developed a close partnership with collegiate athletics. The company produces the NCAA national championship and several conference championship trophies, many premier awards such as the Jim Thorpe Award, and statues of football and coaching legends at the University of Oklahoma and University of Alabama. MTM Recognition, working through partner Jostens, also produces the Heisman Trophy given annually to the top college football player.

"We have been manufacturing all of the NCAA national championship trophies for the past 10 years and it is a coveted account for (founder) Dave Smith," said Donna Lamprecht,

company spokesperson. "They asked us to redesign the trophies with a more contemporary feel, but to keep the integrity and her-



MTM Recognition, working through partner Jostens, produces the Heisman Trophy given annually to the top college football player.

-Photo by Jeff Harrison

itage. The combination of design work, technology and a tour of our facility, won the business."

The company also created awards for the X-Games, PGA of America, NASCAR, Special Olympics, Bassmaster Classic World Championship and many amateur athletic programs.

Many of the beautiful trophies are on display in the company's main office and showroom, 3201 SE 29th Street.

"MTM truly is a sports museum with many of the most notable sports trophies in the country on display," said Lamprecht.

But MTM Recognition's efforts are not reserved for star athletes. They help companies across the country celebrate workforce longevity and

achievement through a host of products and rewards programs. One of their more popular programs is Carousel, an online social recognition program that engages and encourages employees in today's workforce.

"Engaging employees and keeping them engaged is very important to the bottom line of a company," Lamprecht said. Employee turnover can be costly.

MTM Recognition has seen growth in this market since a 2001 acquisition of the Corporate Recognition division of Jostens, a Fortune 500 company headquartered in Minneapolis. The company also acquired a plant in Princeton, Illinois with about 170 employees.

An employee at MTM Recognition sculpts an elephant out of clay. The design will be used for a larger sculpture.

-Staff photo by
Jeff Harrison

