

My Life and my accomplishments

About John Dunleavy
presentation by: Laura Dunleavy

My personality

- I am a kind hearted, friendly, talkative and honest young man.
- I am 23 years old and I love everything about my life.



When I was a little boy

- I was born on February 28th, 1991 at Winchester Hospital in Winchester Ma
- When My parents learned that I had Down Syndrome they were not afraid as they knew I would have a life just like all the other kids in the world.



Young Life

- The first school I attended was my mother's Tara Montessori School and I loved it.
- After graduating from there I attended Vinson Owen elementary school.
- All my teachers there were very kind and understanding. They made sure that I was able to understand everything that we were doing in school.



My high school years

- I attended Winchester High School home of the Winchester Sachems.
- For the four years I was there I had the time of my life! All my teachers were really kind and helpful. I enjoyed myself there very much and I never felt left out.



My Graduation

- I graduated from Winchester high in 2011 and it was one of my proudest moments.



My Accomplishments

- Throughout my life I have made many strides in my success but some of my proudest achievements include being able to do my own laundry, making my favorite peanut butter and jelly sandwich and nutella. But most important of all being able to ride the train into Boston by myself to get to work as well as being able to understand and use the T to my advantage.



My first job opportunities

- While I was in the high school my learning center teachers gave me many opportunities to enter the work field.
- One of the first opportunities that I was given was working at Fells hardware store. Following that I worked with the kids in daycare at the Woburn YMCA.
- Along with these jobs I was also involved in some volunteer work around winchester.



Working at the TD Garden

- After graduating from Winchester High School I returned the following year to participate in the fifth year program the school was offering.
- This program taught me life skills and also got me into the TD garden through an internship. After the internship ended the bosses from the garden asked me to come back and work there full time.



Working at the TD Garden

- My job at the Garden is a lot of fun! I do all sorts of things such as working in the lost and found, working in the pro shop, and my favorite working in the mailroom where I get to deliver the Celtics mail. Its so cool!!
- Also many of my friends at work sometimes invite me to go and work at the Bruins and Celtics games.



My outside activities

- After work hours there is plenty of stuff that I enjoy doing. Some of the things are listening to music and watching music videos on my laptop, going to Karate practice 3 nights a week (I am a second degree black belt), working out at Mike Boyle's Gym, And my most favorite thing of all is working on the coaching staff for Winchester High schools football and basketball teams.



My time with EMARC

- In 2008 I joined the EMARC Dolphins Swim team. I love spending time with the swim team, especially when we compete in the Special Olympics.
- Last winter I joined the EMARC basketball team. I couldn't be happier because playing basketball makes me feel like my cousin Conor who is on the varsity basketball team for Bridgewater State University.



My time with Special Olympics

- I first competed in the Special Olympics in the year 2008 with my swim team from EMARC. I competed in the 50 meter Freestyle event and the 50 meter breaststroke. For the new kid I did not do bad at all in Freestyle I beat the two time reigning champion and got to bring home the gold! I have been adding to my medal collection ever since! :)



My time with MDSC

- Even though I have not been with the MDSC for too long. The time I have spent with them has been awesome! I joined in with the MDSC Falmouth Road Race two years ago although I wasn't able to run it then. I am planning on running in the next one!
- I love being one of MDSC's Self-Advocates. I also enjoy being involved in the Annual Buddy Walk that they host. Lastly through the MDSC I'm happy to say that I made many new friends!



My buddies the Boston Bruins

- Since working at the TD Garden with the Boston Bruins I have been given many opportunities to connect with the members of the team. I have met several of the players such as Chara, Tim Thomas, Johnny Boychuk and even the coach Claude Julien. One time Coach Julien actually asked me to give the team a pep talk before the game. I told the team to focus and bring the Stanley Cup back to Boston for the fans. This speech was taped and aired on NESN for a show called Behind the B. This speech is available on youtube.



My buddies the Boston Bruins

- During my time at the TD Garden I have become really good friends with a former Bruins player whom you all might know and remember his name is Bob Sweeney.
- This Year Bob asked me to be the honorary Alumni Coach for the former Bruins players who were having a charity Hockey game vs. The MDSC All stars, as an event to help support MDSC. This event was a BLAST!! I hope to go again next year.



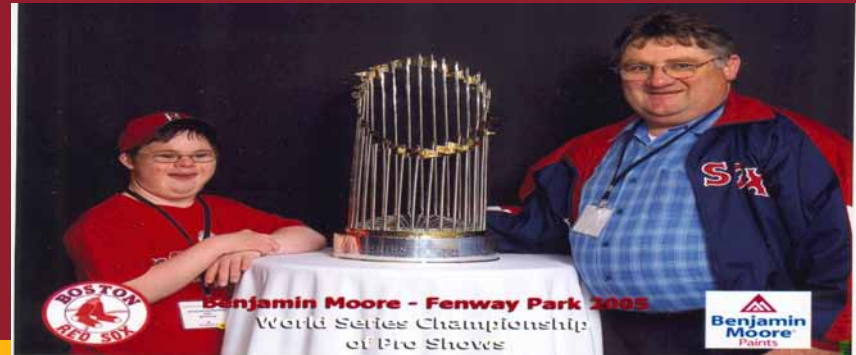
Working for the Celtics

- In addition to working with the Bruins at the Garden I also work with the Celtics. I have been able to work many of their home games. One time at one of the championship games last year I got to go out on the Parquet and high five some of the players, They were REALLY TALL!



My Friends the Boston Red Sox

- Since I was a little boy one of my favorite sports has been and still is Baseball!
- One year my best friend Sir took me to a Red Sox game and surprised me by taking me on to the field and I got to meet Big Papi (David Ortiz) and some of the other players Papi signed my hat which I still have.
- Also in the year 2005 my dad took me to see the World Series trophy my dad and I got our picture taken next to it!



My entire family

- I have a huge family and they are all very supportive of me. My family includes my mom and dad, my younger sister Laura, my younger sister Lucy, my younger brother Brian, and my own special angel, my brother Michael, and last but not least my dog Bailey.



My extended Family

- My family does not just stop there I also have many cousins and good family friends who are there for me when I need them.



Places I have visited

- I have visited many places in my lifetime I've been to Ireland, Maine, Florida, New York, Canada and many other towns in Massachusetts.
- But my favorite place is Maine where I get to spend the summer. While there I enjoy myself and just relax while still having fun!
- This is a picture of my dad and I on the beach in Maine



My second home in Ireland

- Both my parents grew up in Ireland and I am very lucky because I get to go back there every year for my Birthday. My dad takes me down to Doolin (the town he grew up in, which is in County Clare). We get to enjoy a traditional Irish Music festival called the Micho Russell Festival.
- This year the Clare Irish Hurling Team (an Irish sport) came to my house for a celebration on January first because they had won the championship for the first time in years! I met the coach and many of the players.



Hopes for my future



The End and thank you everyone for
listening to my story!