17-year-old aspiring Paralympic athlete receives custom-designed running prosthesis

December 22, 2011

Houston, Texas, December 22, 2011 –17-year-old Alan Sanchez, an aspiring Paralympic athlete, has won his share of track meet medals, but he is not your usual track star. The teen, an above-the-knee amputee, has been borrowing his coach's artificial leg to run high school races in his hometown. However, Sanchez, a Shriners Hospitals for Children-Houston patient, recently received his very own running prosthesis, thanks in part to a donation from Dynamic Orthotics and Prosthetics, a Hanger Prosthetics and Orthotics company.

Several Houston-area media outlets were present when Sanchez was fit with his new custom-designed prosthesis made specifically for running by Hanger prosthetist Jason Jennings, CPO. Following are some of the resulting news stories:

-KRIV-TV (FOX): Greatest gift for teen amputee runner
-*Houston Chronicle*: Prosthesis lets teen amputee run again

After receiving his new running leg, Sanchez and a fellow group of amputee patients went to the Rice University track to participate in a running clinic. The clinic was hosted by Paralympic athlete and fellow Hanger patient John Siciliano who broke a national record for the 200-meter race at the 1996 Paralympic trials in Atlanta.

About Shriners Hospitals for Children® – Shriners Hospitals for Children® is a health care system of 22 hospitals dedicated to improving the lives of children by providing pediatric specialty care, innovative research, and outstanding teaching programs for medical professionals. Children up to age 18 with orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate are eligible for care and receive all services in a family-centered environment, regardless of the patients' ability to pay. If you know a child the Shriners might be able to help, call 1-800-853-1240. If you'd like to be part of this amazing mission, call 1-800-241-GIFT. Visit www.shrinershospitals.org for more information.

About Dynamic / Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics – Dynamic Orthotics and Prosthetics is a Hanger company. With 39 patient care centers in Texas and 670+ nationwide, the certified clinicians of Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics provide patients with the latest in orthotic and prosthetic solutions, including microprocessor devices for those with limb loss and neuromuscular technologies for those with paralysis due to stroke, MS and other debilitating conditions. For more information, visit www.hanger.com.

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