

## Weston student wins \$1K in 'Why My City is Special' essay contest



City Attorney Jamie Cole listens as Jesse Mutschler reads his winning essay at a recent Weston City Commission meeting. (Submitted photo)

Cypress Bay High School graduate Jesse Mutschler will have an extra \$1,000 in his pocket when he starts at the University of Florida in the fall.

The Weston resident won an essay contest with the topic "Why My City is Special." Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Cole & Boniske, P.L. sponsored the competition as part of the law firm's 20th anniversary celebration.

In his 500-word submission, Mutschler wrote about how his experiences in Weston shaped his morals and values.

"My essay was honest," he said. "I'm lucky to have been brought up in a place with a strong sense of community and family values. This provided me with the perfect learning environment to complement Weston's excellent schools. Weston has set me up to be successful."

The 18-year-old read his work during a recent City Commission meeting.

"It's exciting to win something that is meaningful to you," he said. "Weston is a great city, and to be recognized by it is an honor."

Jamie Cole, the firm's managing director and city attorney for Weston and Miramar, narrowed down about 25 entries to three. Weston City Commissioner Toby Feuer then reviewed the finalists and picked the winner.

Cole said the firm wanted to do something to give back to the community it serves.

"We did it special for this year," he said. "It was a hard decision to make, but Mutschler's essay was well written and portrayed the city very well. It kind of showed his values and the values of the city."

*Scott Fishman can be reached at [smfishman@tribune.com](mailto:smfishman@tribune.com).*