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For Immediate Release:

AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVE PHI BETA KAPPA HONORS

CHARLESTON – Six area high school juniors recently were awarded prizes or honorable mentions during the 16th annual spring banquet of the Phi Beta Kappa Association of East Central Illinois.

According to Frank McCormick, association president and professor of English at Eastern Illinois University, "The purpose of our association's annual spring banquet is to identify and to honor some of the most academically talented high school juniors in east central Illinois.

"Each year for the past 16 years, our association has encouraged the principals of 200 area high schools to nominate one or two of their most academically distinguished juniors for our award. Winners are selected on the basis of essays submitted by the nominees."

Winners and honorable mentions in the competition receive cash prizes, books and/or certificates.

Winners of this year's PBK Young Scholar Award Competition are:

★ First Place: **Brenna Henry**, daughter of John and Greta Henry of Oakland. She is a junior at Oakland High School.

★ Second Place: **Jason Norris**, son of Allen and Margaret Norris of Oakwood. He is a junior at Oakwood High School.

★ Third Place: **Jenna Hall**, daughter of Jim and Judy Hall of Decatur. She is a junior at Mt. Zion High School.

Honorable mentions were presented to:

★ **Cole Huber**, son of Ted and Donna Huber of Oakland. He is a junior at Oakland High School.

★ **Hannah E. Burris**, daughter of Roy and Sheila Burris of Robinson. She is a junior at Oblong High School.

★ **Myles A. Womack**, son of Stacy and Ellen Womack of Mattoon. He is a junior at Mattoon High School.