

4-15-1999

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "04/15/1999 - Six High School Juniors Receive Young Scholar Awards at EIU" (1999). 1999. 103.

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99-109

April 15, 1999

For Immediate Release:

SIX HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS RECEIVE YOUNG SCHOLAR AWARDS AT EIU

CHARLESTON -- The Phi Beta Kappa Association of East Central Illinois recently honored six area high school juniors who were awarded prizes or honorable mention in the association's Phi Beta Kappa Young Scholar Award competition.

The youths received their honors from Frank McCormick, association president and professor of English at Eastern Illinois University, during the organization's 12th annual spring banquet, held on Eastern's campus in Charleston. Parents and mentors also were invited, as was Eastern President Carol D. Surles who presented the after-dinner talk, "Delivering on the Promise of Leadership."

"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," McCormick said.

"Each year for the past 12 years, our association has encouraged the principals of 200 area high schools to nominate one or two of their most academically

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distinguished juniors for our award. Winners were selected on the basis of essays submitted by the nominees. The culminating event of the association's banquet was the awarding of cash prizes, books, and certificates to this year's Young Scholar Award winners."

This year's winners were:

First Prize -- **Brian Herring**, son of Sam and Pat Herring of Olney, junior at East Richland High School, Olney;

Second Prize -- **Becca Woodard**, daughter of Bill and Pam Woodard of Fithian and Greg and Beth Woodard-Wolfe of Oakwood, junior at Oakwood High School, Fithian; and

Third Prize -- **Kristin Light**, daughter of Ron and Ann Wagle of Bismarck, junior at Bismarck-Henning High School, Bismarck.

Honorable mentions went to: **Jennifer Busing**, daughter of Robert and Judy Busing of Decatur, junior at Warrensburg-Latham High School, Warrensburg; **Joel Cheatham**, son of Paul and Ruth Cheatham of Kansas, junior at Oakland High School; and **Krista Fleming**, daughter of Ken and Terry Fleming of Olney, junior at East Richland High School, Olney.