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For Immediate Release:

HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS RECEIVE YOUNG SCHOLAR AWARDS AT EIU

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

The awards are designed to identify and honor some of the most academically talented high school students in east central Illinois.

"Each year for the past 17 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 awards," said Frank McCormick, association president and professor of English at Eastern Illinois University.

This year's winners received their honors and awards, including cash prizes, books and certificates, from McCormick during the organization's annual spring banquet, held on Eastern's campus in Charleston. Parents and mentors also were invited, as was Bonnie Irwin, dean of EIU's

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Honors College, who delivered a brief after-dinner address.

This year's winners were:

- **First Prize** – Hannah L. Shaner, daughter of Jeff and Deedra Shaner of Palestine; Palestine High School, Palestine.
- **Second Prize** – Brittany Crawford, daughter of Floyd and Cary Crawford of Oakland; Oakland High School, Oakland.
- **Third Prize** – Matthew Shafer, son of Randy and Cindy Shafer of Oakland; Oakland High School.

Honorable mentions went to:

Jared Evans, son of Tollie and Debra Evans of Roodhouse; Winchester High School, Winchester.

Claire Joseph, daughter of Michael and Janet Joseph of Olney; East Richland High School, Olney.

Matt Tedford, son of Larry and Lori Tedford of Palestine; Palestine High School, Palestine.