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03/23/1994 - Recipient of Special Ed Award Cooper, Fleming, Sidenstricker, Smock, Stewart, and Vail

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

RECIPIENTS OF SPECIAL ED AWARD

CHARLESTON -- Six area residents are the recipients of Special Education Recognition Awards from Eastern Illinois University, given for scholarship, leadership and service.

They are Rex Cooper of Charleston; Rhonda Fleming of Mattoon; Michelle Sidenstricker, daughter of John Sidenstricker and Sandra Harwood of Charleston; Betty Smock of Ashmore; John Stewart, son of Carol Stewart of Charleston; and Laura Vail, daughter of Richard and Lula Vail of Charleston.

A junior special education major at Eastern, Cooper is a 1971 graduate of Charleston High School. He is a member of the Student Council for Exceptional Children and is a volunteer for Special Olympics and the YMCA.

He is the son of Carl and Helen Cooper of Charleston.

Fleming is a graduate student in a grant program in special education and teaches students with learning disabilities in the Resource Program at Hawthorne School in Mattoon.

She and her husband, Wayne, have two sons, Scott, 16, and Michael, 9.

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Sidenstricker, Stewart and Vail are all 1990 Charleston High School graduates and are senior special education majors.

Sidenstricker is a member of Sigma Rho Epsilon honor society in special education and has been on the Dean's List. She also has been a volunteer for Special Olympics and Camp New Hope.

A senior special education major, Smock is a 1975 graduate of Windsor High School. She is a member of Sigma Rho Epsilon and Kappa Delta Pi international honor society in education. She also is a 4-H leader.

She and her husband, Robert, have three children: Jeremy, 15; Ryan, 13; and Sarah, 7.

Stewart has been an officer in Kappa Delta Pi for two years and is a member of Phi Alpha Theta honorary history fraternity.

Vail is a member of Sigma Rho Epsilon and the Association of Honor Students. She also is involved in Coles County Big Brothers/Big Sisters.