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## Scholar/athletes get grants from PIT; Deloatch also cited

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The Portsmouth Invitational Tournament has awarded five scholarships totaling \$20,000 to area high school scholar/ athletes.

The grants were presented Friday at the PIT's Celebrity Luncheon. The 61st annual PIT concluded Saturday night at Churchland High School.

"These awards are given to athletes and they are based upon scholastic achievement, leadership ability and for dedicated service to their school and community," said Mahlon Parker, chairman of the PIT.

One recipient from each of the five area cities was recognized.

The honorees were Portsmouth's Nick Sarandria of Churchland High School, Chesapeake's Zach Sprinkle of Indian River High School, Suffolk's Shelbi Holloman of Nansemond River High School, Nor-folk's Mari Green of Maury High School and Virginia Beach's Chris Cooper of Ocean Lakes High School.

Sarandria, a four-year member of the Church-land swimming team, has a grade point average of 3.82 and ranks 12th in a class of 375. He expects to attend the University of Pittsburgh.

Sprinkle, a four-sport athlete at Indian River, played volleyball and tennis, ran track and was on the swimming team. He ranks sixth in a class of 380 and plans to attend Virginia Military Institute.

Holloman participated in field hockey, softball and track at Nansemond River and won all-district honors in field hockey and softball. She ranks in the top five percent of her class of 312. She has been accepted to attend Roanoke College.

Green, a three sport athlete (soccer, field hockey, and cross country) at Maury, ranks 11th in a class of 315. She has been accepted to attend the University of Virginia.

Cooper, who played tennis, ran cross country and was captain of the swimming team at Ocean Lakes, has a GPA of 4.39 and ranks sixth in a class of 498.

He would like to attend Stanford University.

Also honored at the luncheon was Juan Deloatch, who received the Harry "Hook" Hillman Award.

This award is given to someone who possesses a deep commitment to youth basketball in the local community.

Bobby Cremins suggested the PIT give this award in memory of Hillman for his long service to local youth basketball programs. Cremins played basketball at Frederick Military Academy and went on to become an outstanding college basketball coach.

Deloatch, a Portsmouth native, is a graduate of Wilson High School and played football at Norfolk State University.

He has coached a boys' team (ages 9-12) in the Manor Basketball League for seven years. For four years he has coached this league's all-star team.

An equipment operator for the city of Portsmouth, Deloatch also coached Little League baseball in the Charles Peete League for 10 years and football in the Cavalier Manor Youth Football Association for 16 years. He also helped coach the Wilson High School junior varsity football team.

"Deloatch and the scholastic winners are very worthy additions to the long list of those receiving PIT awards," said Parker. "We started the Hill-man Award in 1978. We began our scholarship grants with a single award of \$600 in 1986. In 27 years, we have been able to give over \$600,000 in college grants."

Each award this year was for \$4,000.

