SMC students receive service awards

NOTRE DAME — The Office for Civic and Social Engagement (OCSE) at Saint Mary’s College has announced that three students from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend were recognized with unique service and volunteer awards. The award winners were recognized at a dinner on April 29.

Alma Bravo of South Bend, whose intended major is nursing, will receive one of five new annual awards. Bravo was honored with the Sister Maria Concepta McDermott Award for service in education. Sister McDermott (1913-1990) was an outspoken voice for the rights of the poor. Bravo is a first-year student who, as a Citizen Scholar, receives financial aid assistance for hours she works in the community. Bravo works at Warren Primary Center in South Bend as a teacher’s aide in two English-as-a-New-Language (ENL) classrooms four days each week.

Brodmerkel is a graduate of Riley High School and a parishioner of St. Adalbert’s Parish in South Bend. She is the daughter of Nicolas Bravo and Rafaela Najar Bravo.

Caitlin Brodmerkel of Fort Wayne, who is majoring in nursing and biology, will receive one of five new annual awards. Brodmerkel was honored with the Sister Olivia Marie Hutcheson Award for service in the health field. Sister Hutcheson (1917–2008) was a compassionate nurse, hospital administrator, builder and spiritual guide. Brodmerkel has worked at the Sister Maura Brannick Health Center in South Bend, which serves those without insurance and provides critical health care to those with few resources, since her freshman year, assisting with intake and patient assessment. She has also worked with the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center Outreach Program since freshman year. Brodmerkel spent 10 weeks in Kyarosuzi, Uganda, during the summer of 2008, where she worked as a nurse at a health clinic started by the congregation. She also taught health science at St. Joseph Hill Secondary School. Since returning, she has raised nearly $10,000 for the clinic in Uganda.

Brodmerkel is a graduate of Bishop Luers High School and a parishioner of St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne. She is the daughter of Myron and Eileen Brodmerkel of Fort Wayne.

Alicia Wilkins of Mishawaka, an elementary education major, will receive the Patricia Arch Green Award for her exemplary service to the community’s children through the College Academy of Tutoring (CAT) program at Saint Mary’s College. Green (1939-2004) graduated from Saint Mary’s in 1961 with an elementary education degree. She lived a life dedicated to serving others and believed in teaching by example.

Wilkins has given over 476 hours of her time to the CAT program over the past two years. She works as a teacher’s assistant at Lincoln Primary Center in South Bend and as a tutor at the St. Joseph County Public Library. Wilkins also participates in the “12 Days of Christmas” initiative, the “Yes, We Can! Walk for the Hungry” and the Pen Pals program. Alicia Wilkins is a graduate of Penn High School and a parishioner of St. Bavo’s Parish in Mishawaka. She is the daughter of Tammy Wilkins.

The Faculty, Staff and Students of Bishop Luers High School congratulate the Class of 2009 who have received acceptances from the following:

- Art Institute in Indianapolis
- Ball State University
- Bluffton University
- Butler University
- Central Michigan University
- DePaul University
- Eastern Illinois University
- Franciscan University
- Indiana Business College
- Indiana Purdue Fort Wayne
- Indiana University
- IPFW
- Ivy Tech
- Loyola University Chicago
- Manchester College
- Miami of Ohio
- Michigan State University
- North Park University
- Purdue University
- St. Joseph’s College Rensselaer
- St. Mary’s College
- Trine University
- University of Illinois
- University of Indianapolis
- University of Notre Dame
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Marines
- U.S. Navy
- Valparaiso University
- Warsaw Wilson University
- Winthrop University
- Xavier University

You are the light of the world… your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father. ~ Matthew 5:14-16

Bishop Luers High School
333 East Paulding Road • Fort Wayne 46816
260-456-1261 • www.bishoplw.org