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### **Freeman Fund Helps Dreams Come True for Local Students to Enter College**

Office of University Communications

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# Freeman Fund Helps Dreams Come True for Local Students to Enter College

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Office of University Communications

June 15, 2011

## *Fund Celebrates 20 Years of Offering Educational Assistance*

BOILING SPRINGS, NC – The dream of leaving high school and entering college came true for nine local students thanks to the Joseph B. Freeman Jr. Educational Fund. The Freeman Fund is a scholarship fund formed by area business leaders 20 years ago to provide financial assistance to high school students from Cleveland County schools. The fund is designed for students who qualify academically for college but whose unique situations might otherwise prevent them from attending.

During a presentation at the Cleveland County Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, June 15, recipients received financial awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500 from the Freeman Fund. Since the scholarship's inception, at least one Freeman Fund recipient has enrolled each year at Gardner-Webb University. This year six of the recipients plan to attend Gardner-Webb.

Established in 1991, the scholarship was named for the late Joseph B. Freeman, who for many years was head of the Interstate Johnson Lane office in Shelby, N.C. Throughout his life, Freeman was a visible supporter of educational pursuits in Cleveland County. Each recipient of the Freeman Fund was evaluated by his or her academics, extracurricular activities, personal influences, motivation, and financial need. A committee of local business leaders with Gardner-Webb officials awards the scholarships after an evaluation process examines all candidates. The scholarship fund was established when several local business leaders saw the need to recognize students who excelled in these areas.

Senior Vice-President for Community Relations at Gardner-Webb, Scoot Dixon, who introduced this year's recipients, sees the continuation of the scholarship as a great honor to Freeman. "Mr. Freeman would be so proud to know that his scholarship fund had assisted so many deserving young people during these twenty years. The Scholarship Committee looks forward to continuing this fine tradition for many years to come," said Dixon.

### **2011 Joseph B. Freeman Scholarship Recipients:**

Recipient	High School	University Attending	Anticipated Major

Dylan Beaver	Burns	Garnder-Webb	Spanish
Brett Ciaschini	Crest	Gardner-Webb	Business
Ashley Cash	Kings Mountain	Gardner-Webb	Psychology
Logan Costner	Crest	Western Carolina	Math Education
Taylor Edwards	Burns	Gardner-Webb	Psychology
Emily Gates	Kings Mountain	East Carolina	Accounting
Emily Greene	Shelby	Gardner-Webb	Nursing
Jessica Hamrick	Crest	NC State	Animal Science
Zach Smith	Kings Mountain	Gardner-Webb	Religious Studies