



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two Receive Student of the Year Awards

Greensboro, NC. May 17, 2009--- Two local students have been honored as recipients of the 50th annual Student of the Year Award. They are **Tara Foster**, a student at Eastern Guilford High School and daughter of **Gloria Foster** of Greensboro, and **Michael Raymond Blische, Jr.** of Jackson Middle School, son of **Michael and Anna Blische** of Greensboro. Foster was nominated by **Mary Townson**, and Blische was nominated by **Keith G. Pemberton**.

Each month throughout the academic year, middle and high school students in Guilford County who have shown substantial personal and academic growth and responsibility are tapped to receive the Student Improvement Award. Monthly award winners are then candidates for the Student of the Year Award, which includes a \$2500 savings bond. Foster and Blische were selected from among sixteen monthly winners in the 2008-2009 academic year.

All winners were honored at a Sunday banquet held at the Koury Convention Center, where keynote speaker **C. E. McCary III** addressed the students and guests. Dr. McCary is the Instructional Improvement Officer for Educational Alliances with Guilford County Schools. Former Student of the Year winner **Mustaffa Stinson** also spoke to the group. **Kristen Barbee**, Assistant Youth First Coordinator for Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department, was recognized for outstanding service to the program and the selection committee.

The program is sponsored and administered by Youth First (a program of Greensboro Parks and Recreation) and Summit Rotary Club, and also sponsored by Awards of Excellence, the Guilford Education Alliance, Guilford County Schools, Greensboro Merchants Association, and the Greensboro Optimist Club.

Photo caption sia annual.jpg: 2009 Student of the Year Award winners (l-r) are **Michael Raymond Blische, Jr.** and **Tara Foster**.

Photo caption sia monthly.jpg: 2009 Student of the Month Award winners are (l to r) **James Rogers, Braxton Thompson, Hannah Black, Darren Wimbish, Shequita Whitfield, Michael Raymond Blische, Jr., Devonte Alston, Jackie Storholt, Tyheem Cooper, and Laura Bradshaw**. Not pictured are **Martika Pate, Charnikqa Melton, Olga Salinas, Jonathan Marion, Tanashia Singleton, and Tara Foster**.