

## **Garrett named Lilly Scholar**

Samantha **Garrett**, daughter of Rodney and Heida **Garrett** of North Vernon, was named the Jennings County Community Foundation Lilly Endowment Community Scholar for 2011.

As such, she will receive full tuition for four years to the Indiana college of her choice as well as an \$800 yearly stipend for required books and equipment.

The scholarship program is made possible through the Lilly Endowment, which debuted the scholarship in 1998. She joins a select group of 30 Jennings County High School graduates also named as Lilly Endowment Community Scholars.

The program is now managed by Independent Colleges of Indiana Inc. and locally by the Jennings County Community Foundation.

Garrett has been active in the National Honor Society, Peers Educating Peers and the Academic Team (science) at JCHS. In addition, she has been a member of the swim team for four years and has also run cross country.

"I feel extremely honored to be chosen as the recipient of the Lilly Scholarship for Jennings County," **Garrett** said. "I still can't believe it and I plan on working hard and making the most of it."

This senior says she plans to attend either Ball State University or Valparaiso University to pursue studies in the field of meteorology.

Community Scholar runner-up Bryce Daugherty will receive a scholarship award of \$1,000. He is the son of Gerry and Dorothy Daugherty and is president of the JCHS Student Council this year.

Thirty-nine students competed for the prestigious scholarship. The selection process is done using a blind shield so applicants' identities remain unknown and a point system for anonymous evaluation of each applicant.

The criteria is based on academic performance, leadership and school activities, community involvement and volunteer service, employment, short essay, special circumstances and the interview.

Once the winner(s) are chosen locally, the Independent Colleges of Indiana certify the results.

The scholarships are the result of a state Lilly Endowment initiative to help Hoosier students attain higher education. Indiana ranks among the lowest states in the percentage of residents over the age of 25 with a bachelor's degree. This year 142 scholarships were awarded statewide.