



YVHS girl wins full scholarship

Published: Wednesday, May 5, 2010 3:07 AM CDT

JOSHUA TREE — Candace Creps, a senior at Yucca Valley High School, received the annual Greenleaf Scholarship Monday in a ceremony at Copper Mountain College.

As the 2010 Greenleaf Scholar, Creps will receive money for tuition, books and living expenses while she completes an associate's degree at Copper Mountain College. Afterward, her expenses will be paid as she works toward a four-year degree at a California State University or University of California campus.

According to the Copper Mountain College Foundation, Creps has worked for two years while attending school and wants to be a teacher in the Morongo Basin when she finishes her education.

She and her twin sister, Cassandra, have lived with their grandparents for the last eight years, and been active in their church's youth group. The sisters sponsor a child in Ethiopia.

Cassandra, also from Yucca Valley High School, was a finalist in the scholarship award competition.

Other finalists were David Hymas from Yucca Valley High School, Brea Polos from Joshua Springs Christian High School and Ashly Rondeau of Twentynine Palms High School.

Several previous Greenleaf Scholars are using the fund to complete their educations, while the 2002 Greenleaf Scholar, Jillian Harris-Burkett, is a teacher in the San Diego area.

The 2003 scholar, Jennifer Meyers-Giddings, is in her first year of a master's program in education at Cal State Long Beach.

Ryan O'Connell, the 2005 scholar, is completing his first year at the University of Southern California School of Medicine.

Samantha Stephens, the 2006 scholar, is studying psychology at Cal State San Bernardino, while the 2007 scholar, Tollian Waite, is awaiting his transfer to study

astrophysics at a Cal State or University of California campus.

The 2008 scholar, Geanne Weaver, is beginning her first year studying psychology at Cal State Long Beach and the 2009 scholar Rhonda Romberg returns for her second year at CMC in the fall.

The scholarship was established by the trust of the late Roy Greenleaf Jr., a banker and benefactor who bequeathed his estate to the CMC Foundation to help students achieve their educational dreams.

For information about the scholarship, call the foundation at (760) 366-3791, Ext. 5012, or visit www.theCMCF.org.