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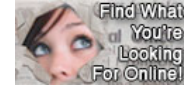


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April 25, 2001

Section: Community

Galen receives EPA award at White House

Bryce Galen of Oak Ridge was one of the 19 students whom President George W. Bush welcomed to the White House on Tuesday.

Bryce was in Washington to receive the 2001 President's Environmental Youth Award from Bush and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christie Whitman. The afternoon ceremony was held in the State Dining Room.

Click Here to watch video or listen to audio of President George Bush's presentation to Galen and other environmental award.

Video provided by EPA Web site

The awards have been presented annually since 1971 to honor students in kindergarten through 12th grade who develop projects that help protect their communities and address local environmental concerns. This was the first time in eight years that the awards were presented personally by the president at the White House. Winners were selected from among applicants in the EPA's 10 regions.

Bryce is Region 4's winner and the only recipient from Tennessee to receive the honor. Region 4 includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

His winning project was the Big Turtle Greenways Nature Trail. Bryce planned, cleared, constructed and mapped the trail during his junior year as an Eagle Scout project with other Scouts from Troop 220.

The trail includes an educational guide on the ecological features of several different habitats around the trails.

In a previous interview, Bryce said he hopes the trail will be enjoyed by school classes as well as the general public. He said he had always enjoyed hiking and wanted to reflect that in his project.

"I wanted to do something that would really have a lasting impact on the community. ... There weren't many trails in western Oak Ridge ... the North Boundary Trail hadn't opened up."

All the trail signs were handmade and painted by Bryce and a few other Scouts, with local sign expert Bob Yarber assisting.

The EPA award reads: "His diligence and dedication embodies the spirit of volunteerism and resulted in the official adoption of the nature trail as part of the Greenways system."

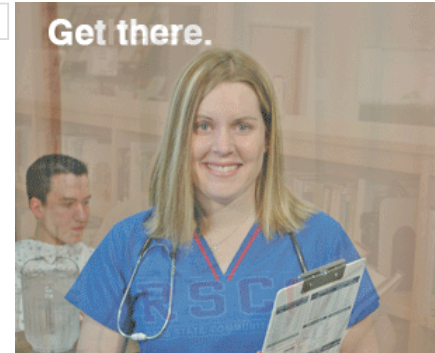
A senior at Oak Ridge High School, Bryce is a Jefferson Scholar and will attend the University of Virginia this fall.

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Oak Ridger Bryce Galen, shown in back row, far left, was one of the 19 students whom President George W. Bush, center, welcomed to the White House on Tuesday.

-- Photo Paul Morse/White House

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