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Two Moreheads

Are Bette
Than One

Maggie Shoobridge IREDELL CITIZEN

McLain Mallory is used to winning. She is the all-time leading scorer for the Statesville High School Lady Greyhounds, won awards for her harp performances, was the Superintendent's choice for Governor's School and has now claimed the highly coveted 2004 Morehead Scholarship.

The scholarship was just as coveted in 1975 when her mom, then Mary Sherrill, was one of the first women to receive it. Until that year the scholarship was awarded only to men. Mary's photograph, which hangs with other Morehead winners in the hall of SHS, will soon be joined by her daughter's.

Although McLain is interested in healthcare and her mother is a pharmacist, she never felt any pressure to follow in her mother's footsteps; they are both leaders, one of the main attributes looked for in an individual when awarding the honor.

The winners for this year were selected through an intensive nomination and interview process that began last fall when more than 1,500 high school seniors nationwide and in Great Britain were nominated.

The 40 selected were chosen for their capacity to lead and motivate fellow students, scholastic ability and extracurricular attainments, moral force of character and physical vigor.

"This was by far the most competitive selection process in the history of the Morehead Program," said Charles E. Lovelace, Jr., executive director of the Morehead Foundation. "This year's finalist group was so accomplished and talented, it was extremely difficult to select only 40."

With this scholarship, McLain will enroll as a freshmen at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill next fall and will have the opportunity for international travel and internships as well as summers full of adventure and learning. It starts this summer when the scholarship pays for McLain's Outward Bound trip, but she is not exactly sure where to as yet.

"I may be snow sledding in Alaska or kayaking at the coast," she said. "I put in for my 10 top Outward Bound choices and should hear this month where I will be for three weeks this summer."

With her attitude, wherever she lands, she is sure to come out on top. She offers the following advice to youngsters hoping to follow in her footsteps.

"Find something you love to do and pursue it fully," she said. " Don't do anything halfway."



MOREHEAD SCHOLAR, McLain Mallory, is shown beneath a photo of her mother, Mary Sherrill Mallory, and other Statesville High School Morehead recipients. She is the daughter of James and Mary Mallory.