

Students receive nat'l. scholarships

The Patrick County Education Foundation has been notified that two 2006 graduates of Patrick County High School who were nominated by the foundation have been selected as recipients of this year's National College Access Network's (NCAN) Nelnet scholarships.

Kayla Collins and Ashley Foley are among 40 high school seniors from around the country chosen to receive the \$2,000 NCAN scholarships for 2006. Kayla is enrolling in Campbell University to study pharmacy. Ashley will be attending Virginia Tech to pursue biochemistry.

The NCAN scholarships are awarded to students chosen from among those who have benefited from services such as financial counseling, college visits,

career guidance, tutoring, and test preparation courses provided by National College Access Network member programs. Each member program, including the Patrick County Education Foundation, was invited to nominate students from their high schools. NCAN was founded in 1995 to improve access to and success in post-secondary education for first-generation, underrepresented and disadvantaged students.

The Patrick County Education Foundation joined NCAN in 2002. Since 2001, the foundation has assisted Patrick County students in preparing for and enrolling in higher education. The foundation employs two College Access Advisors who work in the high school to assist students and their parents with a wide range

of tasks from preparing for SATs to locating college financial aid. Annually, the foundation awards a number of Last Dollar Scholarships, each worth up to \$3,750 over four years, to help Patrick County students meet the costs of postsecondary education.

Through the class of 2005, the foundation assisted Patrick County students in securing nearly \$2.7 million in financial aid and awarded 114 Last Dollar Scholarships totaling \$427,500.