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### **Indiana State announces next class of Networks Financial Scholars**

Indiana State University and Networks Financial Institute have announced the new class of 17 Networks Scholars for the 2005-06 academic year. Fifteen high school students and two students from the Indianapolis Center for Leadership Development were among this year's class of scholars.

This year marks the third year for this elite scholarship program, which is available to incoming freshmen who will be pursuing a major and eventual career in the financial services industry.

"The Networks Scholars program is a wonderful opportunity for career-minded students with an interest in the financial services industry," said Ron Green, dean of ISU's College of Business. "It is anticipated that this program will 'jump-start' the scholars' careers and provide them with real advantages over others entering the field."

This year's Networks Scholars are: Betsy Charlene Bender, business administration, Marshall, Ill.; Lacy Rachelle Betz, accounting, Shelburn; Robin Denise Bishop, accounting, Petersburg; Alana Marie Bradford, business administration, Sullivan; Christina Jahnee Cole, marketing, Indianapolis (CLD Scholar); Kelly Kay Fortner, finance, Coatesville; Zachary Alan Goodman, accounting, Linton; Kenneth Alan Gootee, insurance and risk management, Indianapolis; Scott Andrew Koressel, management, Evansville; Katie Renee Ladson, accounting, Linton; Casey Mae Lock, accounting, Chrisman, Ill.; Karrie Christina Pratt, business, Lawrenceburg; Andrew Kent Pyle, business administration, Vallonia; Bartholomew James Robertson, management, Depauw; Lashelle Lynn Stewart, marketing, Indianapolis (CLD Scholar); Racheal Nicole Titus, accounting, Toledo, Ill.; Kelsey Brooke Wilson, accounting, Marshall, Ill.

The Center for Leadership Development partnership is new this year. Jahnee Cole, of Pike High School, and Lashelle Stewart, of Arlington High School, make up the first class of Networks CLD scholars.

Dennis Bland, president of the Center for Leadership Development in Indianapolis, commended NFI and Indiana State for creating such an exceptional educational opportunity for its students. "These scholarships provide students with a learning experience unlike that of any other financial services collegiate program in the state," he said.

NFI, an outreach initiative of ISU's College of Business, provides a \$20,000 four-year scholarship for qualified freshmen accepted into the College of Business who choose to pursue a career in the financial services industry (i.e. accounting, banking, insurance, law, marketing, information systems, etc).

In addition to tuition, scholars are exposed to professional development opportunities, matched with faculty and professional mentors, participate in a paid internship opportunity and gain international experience. Each scholar also is supplied with a personal computer.

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