

Photos



Goldwater Scholarship winner Paul Smith.

Editors Paul's local phone number is 407-645-0404.

April 5, 2000

UCF COMPUTER WHIZ WINS GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP

Dean McFall, UCF News and Information, 407 823-2947

A former high-school track star and current computer whiz at the University of Central Florida is one of 309 college students from across the country to win a 2000-2001 Goldwater Scholarship, the nation's premier award to undergraduates concentrating in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering.

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation today announced that Raymond (Paul) Smith, 20, a junior majoring in computer science and a member of UCF's Honors College, has been tapped as a Goldwater Scholar in competition among 1,176 applicants who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide. Smith's one-year scholarship will cover the cost of tuition, fees, books and room and board up to a maximum of \$7,500 in his senior year.

Smith is the first UCF recipient of the Goldwater Scholarship.

One of 12 Goldwater Scholarship winners from Florida this year, Smith, who sports a perfect 4.0 grade point average, intends to eventually earn a Ph.D. in computer science and pursue research. He is a 1997 graduate of Titusville High School and the son of Titusville residents Bill and Linda Smith. While in secondary school, Smith represented his high school in the 400-meter dash at the Florida State High School track meet.

Last summer, Smith participated in the "Research Experience for Undergraduates" program of the National Science. In the field of computer science, his interests span language theory, system software and artificial intelligence. When he's not involved in campus community service and volunteer activities, Smith trains for the marathon.

The Goldwater Foundation, named in honor of the late Arizona senator, is supported by an U.S. Treasury trust fund, which provides funding for awards and administrative expenses.