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Nazareth Area High School's Erika Livermore and Chuck Dibilio and Liberty High School's Darrun Hilliard honored at Via All-Star basketball banquet

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By **JOSH FOLCK**

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BETHLEHEM TWP., Pa. | Nazareth Area High School's Erika Livermore and Chuck Dibilio and Liberty's Darrun Hilliard capped their stellar high school athletic careers with another award Wednesday night.

Livermore and Hilliard were named the Via All-Star basketball players of the year at the annual banquet at Freedom High School.

Dibilio won the boys' \$2,000 scholarship award for all-around excellence on the court as well as in the classroom and the community.

"It's really nice to be honored for something like this because I put just as much work in at home studying as I do on the field," said Dibilio, who also was the 2010 Express-Times Football Player of the Year and is headed to Princeton University.

Hilliard and Livermore, who both were recently named The Express-Times Basketball Players of the Year, were excited to receive yet another honor.

"It just shows all the hard work pays off," said the Villanova-bound Hilliard. "Work hard and you want big things. I worked hard and I got the big things that I wanted. It feels real good to be on top and to cap off my senior year great."

"It feels really good," said Livermore, who will play at Fairleigh Dickinson University. "There's a lot of good girls here and it means a lot to win it for Via. It's not just about basketball; it's about helping the community so it's really a big honor to win an award like this."

Via of the Lehigh Valley, which provides opportunities for people with disabilities throughout the region, receives the funds raised from Wednesday's banquet and Saturday's four all-star games at Northampton Community College. The games will feature all-star girls and boys teams from the Lehigh Valley Conference, Colonial League and Mountain Valley Conference and will tip off at 10:30 a.m.

Hannah Doell of Southern Lehigh received the girls scholarship award, and Northampton's Jackie O'Connell was recognized as the top fundraiser.

Joining Livermore on the Via all-star girls team were Northampton's Kara Bonenberger, Saucon Valley's Danielle Van Buren, Northern Lehigh's Sonya Josephson and Lehigh's Jordyn Homyak.

In addition to Hilliard and Dibilio, the boys team featured Jalen Cannon of Allen, Tynell Fortune of Pocono Mountain West and Lamont Tillery of Pocono Mountain East.

Former Notre Dame player and coach Rich Baksa and former Liberty player Charles Marcon were inducted

into the Lehigh Valley Basketball Hall of Fame.

Al Senavitis, a former Liberty and Seton Hall basketball player and longtime Special Olympics' contributor who died last November, also was honored.

Napoleon McCallum, who set 26 school rushing and return records at Navy and is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame, was the banquet's keynote speaker.

"The only difference between being extraordinary and ordinary is doing the little extra in the beginning," McCallum said. "In everything I do, doing the extra is just a choice. If you want to be extraordinary, you just have to go do it."

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