Ferguson's energetic environmental achievers

Earlier this year Steve Ferguson and his family got some presidential news.

His two daughters, Margaux and Isabella, and their two cousins, Millie and Madeleine, received the regional President's Environmental Youth Award for their work to protect the Park Branch, a stream southeast of Fayetteville, Arkansas. Madeleine and Isabella recently completed the sixth grade and Millie and Margaux are two years older.

"These kids are excellent examples of how dedicated individuals can make a difference for the environment," said U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator Richard E. Greene. "Their commitment, enthusiasm and resourcefulness make me proud of today's young people."

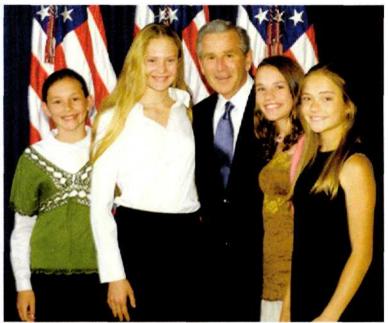
The energetic and environmentally dedicated team worked with county and state officials to design programs to stabilize the stream banks and held a one-day workshop to educate the community on how to protect the stream.

EPA created the recognition program in 1971 to encourage children to become more active in protecting the environment. Annual competitions in each of EPA's 10 regions select winners for national recognition at a ceremony held in Washington, D.C.

For more information on the EPA program, access <u>http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/awards.html</u>

Margaux tapped for prenational youth and junior pentathlon camp

When she's not working to protect the local environment, Ferguson's daughter Margaux participates in one of the most grueling athletic competitions and may be on a path to the Olympics.





Madeline Hogue, Margaux Isaksen, Millie Hogue and Isabella Isaksen received the President's Environmental Youth Award for their work to protect a stream southeast of Fayetteville, Arkansas. In addition to her environmental work, Margaux was tapped to compete in the pre-national youth and junior pentathlon camp at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado.

She recently was one of 22 athletes to compete in the prenational youth and junior pentathlon camp at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, led by Janusz Peciak, head Olympic Coach of US Pentathlon since 1985 and Individual Olympic Gold Medalist. Margaux is now headed to Italy for the World Youth Competition

The modern pentathlon is an Olympic sport consisting of five events—pistol shooting, epee fencing, swimming, riding (equestrian show jumping) and crosscountry running—in one challenging day.