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For the St. Paul Rodeo

HIGH GRADES

St. Paul Rodeo awards annual scholarships

St. Paul, Ore. (May 22, 2023) – The St. Paul Rodeo Association has awarded its 2023 scholarships.

Clancy Koch and Michael Hiller, both of St. Paul, each will receive \$5000 towards their higher education plans.

Koch, the son of Todd and Jennifer Koch, is a first-year student at Oregon State University-Cascades, majoring in business administration.

While at St. Paul High, he played football and baseball for four years and basketball for two years. He was a member of the FFA and St. Paul Business Leaders.

He's helped with the St. Paul Rodeo since he was ten years old, in a variety of ways: the St. Paul Catholic Church's barbecue chicken stand, which serves at the rodeo; the parochial schools' ice cream stand, strawberry shortcake stand, and concession stand, and helping to park rodeo-goers' cars.

He even got to compete in the St. Paul Rodeo arena, as one of the mini bull riders.

As a college freshman, Koch made sure to point out his hometown's crowning glory, the rodeo. "When I make a new friend at college, I always tell him, you need to come to the rodeo. It's the most fun."

Hiller, the son of Steve Hiller and Lesli Hiller, is a soon-to-be St. Paul High School graduate.

Throughout his high school career, he was heavily involved in FFA, serving as the chapter's reporter, vice-president and president. He was a member of the St. Paul Business Leaders and the National Honor Society. He was involved in football, basketball and track and field.

This fall, he will attend Oregon State University Honors College, working towards a degree in construction and engineering management.

Hiller also volunteered at the rodeo by working in the barbecue chicken stand, the strawberry shortcake stand and parking cars. Last year, he spent an afternoon helping to sell rodeo merchandise and is the proud owner of past St. Paul Rodeo posters, which decorate his room.

He loves volunteering and has given over 150 hours to the parish throughout his high school career.

Hiller is one of five 2023 St. Paul High senior students with 4.0 GPAs.

The St. Paul Rodeo Foundation awards two scholarships each year; one to a graduating senior of St. Paul High School and one to a child of a St. Paul Rodeo Association member. Hiller is the graduating senior; Koch's father is a rodeo association member.

The St. Paul Rodeo runs June 30-July 4, with performances nightly at 7:30 pm and a 1:30 pm matinee on July 4.

Tickets are available online at StPaulRodeo.com. They range in price from \$20 to \$60.

For more information, visit the website or call 800.237.5920.



Clancy Koch is one of two recipients of scholarships given by the St. Paul Rodeo. He is in his first year of studies at Oregon State University-Cascades. Photo by Laney Brentano.



Michael Hiller is the recipient of a 2023 St. Paul Rodeo scholarship. The 2023 St. Paul High School graduate will attend Oregon State University Honors College. Photo by Emily Haven Photography.