

MVTHS student receives French award

By VANESSA WELCH

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MT. VERNON — Surrounded in a classroom filled with maps, scenic pictures of France and a model of the Eiffel Tower, Leamber Broady of Mt. Vernon Township High School is dedicated to learning the French language as she gains appreciation for its culture.

This month, the American Association of Teachers of French awarded the MVTHS senior with a 2008-09 AATF Outstanding Senior in French Award.

"I've learned a lot about the culture of France," Broady said regarding the past four years of tak-



Leamber Broady, a senior at Mt. Vernon Township High School, recently received a 2008-09 American Association of Teachers of French Outstanding Senior in French Award. VANESSA WELCH/REGISTER-NEWS

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ing high school classes. "I've learned about the language, where all it's spoken and how to speak some French."

According to information from the AATF, the award is presented annually to a graduating senior "who has demonstrated excellence in the study of French as well as exceptional commitment to the French language and the many cultures where it is spoken." Recipients also must have

completed at least three years of French study and be non-native speakers.

During the past four years, Broady has maintained a 4.0 GPA and served as a member of the French Club.

"I'm very honored," French teacher Rebekah Reyling said regarding Broady's accomplishment. "As far as I know, this is the first time someone from Mt. Vernon Township High School has won this award. It's one of the only awards for French."

Broady said she enjoys how the language sounds spoken and that learning a foreign lan-

guage will assist her when she travels abroad or starts her own business.

"Everybody kind of hassled me about taking it and many take Spanish, but I decided to take French instead," Broady said. "It sounds pretty and it reminds me of romance. I've always wanted to go to

Europe."

Founded in 1927, the AATF promotes the study of French language and French-speaking literature and cultures at all levels, according to information from the organization.

"We are proud to recognize the achievements of outstanding students and their teach-

ers," a press release from the AATF states. "We hope that this award will motivate students to continue their study

of French either through a career in teaching or as a complement to any other profession."