

## **2005 GULF GUARDIAN AWARD WINNERS**

April 23, 2006

Mobile Press Register

Margaret Sedlecky, educational coordinator at Weeks Bay National Estuarine Reserve, and Megan Anderton, Fairhope High School aquascience teacher, recently accepted the 2005 Gulf Guardian Award in the Youth/Education category for the Baldwin County Grasses in Classes program. BCGIC is a program for the restoration of critical habitat in the area by students growing beach dune plants, wetland grasses and submergible aquatic grasses. Students at Baldwin County High School, Gulf Shores High School and Fairhope High School have been involved in the program. The Gulf Guardian Awards were selected from entries from five states. The award was presented to them by Bryon Griffith, director of Gulf of Mexico Program, and David Yeager, director of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, during the State of the Gulf Summit, which was held in Corpus Christi, Texas. The State of the Gulf Summit was a three-day conference designed to bring together leaders, educators, scientists and others who are involved with assessing the current status of the Gulf of Mexico. The conference was sponsored by the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.