

Phelan, Ca. **Sara's Hope "It's A Wonderful World" Charitable Foundation**, was honored to recognize Emily Johnson and Chris Kilmer as the 2010 recipients of the Pay it Forward scholarships, during Serrano's Senior Awards Night, Tuesday May 18th. . Emily Johnson, a frequent visitor to the scholarship podium throughout the night, received \$1,000 towards her college education, as Chris Kilmer received \$500.00 to help with costs at Azusa Pacific University, where he will be playing fullback for the Cougars. Embracing the motto, "God gives more through us, than to us", Sara's Hope encourages students through their scholarship process, to come to the understanding that the more we give, the more we receive. In its eighth year, Sara's Hope has awarded \$150,000.00 to students pursuing their college education. To apply, students are asked to perform a random act of kindness for anyone not previously known to them before performing the kind deed. The students are then asked to write a 500 word essay as to the meaning and significance the kind act had, not only on the recipient, but on themselves as well. Not surprisingly and universally, the applicants say that what they got most out of the process, was the fact they themselves received greater satisfaction from the interaction than the person they volunteered their service to. "It was an awakening to the reality that I can



Chris Kilmer with Patti Tate of Sara's Hope "It's a Wonderful Life"



Emily Johnson, recipient of \$1,000 scholarship

be that difference" said first years recipient, 2003 Serrano High graduate, Paul Verduzco. Emily's teachers described her as "Always willing to serve others, a young woman of exemplary character". Donating over 2,000 hours to community and charitable organizations throughout her high school tenure, "Emily's consistent display of character and compassion go far to offer evidence that this generation of graduates is as capable as any before them", offered Sara's Hope president, W Daniel Tate. We knew that when Sara, a Serrano High senior, died in December of 2003, we needed to carry on her vivacious spirit and ability to touch others with compassion and kindness. Emily certainly embodies everything we look for in recognizing our youth. To learn more about Sara's Hope "It's a Wonderful World, you can visit the web site at www.saras-hope.com