



Ali Thurman, left, is introduced by USCHI Scholarship Committee Chairperson Carlene Schemper. 3-DEERPHOTOS.COM

## Ali Thurman

**Burlington, Okla.**

**Parents: Greg and Cheryl Thurman**

**Recipient of \$2,000 USCHI Memorial Scholarship**

Ali has been on harvest for 19 years. She is a fourth-generation harvester. She learned to operate a combine when she was 12. At age 17, she took over the cooking, and she runs a combine while the crew eats the meals she brings to the field. She also helps with paperwork and other jobs.

Ali said harvesting is an amazing way of life and there are countless opportunities to meet new people, experience new things, and learn a few things along the way. She has developed lasting friendships with many crew members from other countries. Ali says harvest and her dad have taught her how to work hard and to be extremely flexible.

In high school, Ali was student council president, a member of National Honor Society, was on volleyball, basketball, and track teams, was a cheerleader, and was active in FFA. She graduated salutatorian of her class and is currently a sophomore at Oklahoma State University with a major in apparel merchandising and a double minor in marketing and management. She is active in her sorority, is president of the Leadership Council and is involved in an honor society and Marketing Club. She also is a volunteer at the Humane Society.

Ali hopes to have a career in the fashion industry and own a boutique.