



4000 La Colina Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
Tel 805.967.1266
Fax 805.964.3178
www.bishopdiego.org

September 29, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Dr. Paul Harrington, Dean of Academics
967-1266, extension 115**

Rev. Thomas J. Elewaut, C.J.
Principal

Paul Harrington, Ed.D.
Vice-Principal
Dean of Studies

Amanda Combs
Dean of Activities

Dan Peeters '87
Dean of Athletics

Ray Vazquez '86
Dean of Students

Board of Trustees
Patricia Aijian
David Borgatello '60
Andrea Carr
Peter DaRos '68
Chris DeVries
Rusty Fairly
Maria Fazio, R.N.
Peter Georgi '72
John Gherini, Esq. '64
Angela Hallahan, C.H.F.
Ralph Iannelli
Msgr. Michael Jennett, S.T.D.
Raymond R. Michaud '66
Carla O'Neill '64
Lynette Patters
Mary Beth Tynan
Nicholas F. Vitalari, Ph.D.
B. Williams

**COMMENDED STUDENTS IN THE 2010 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
SAT SCORES SOAR AT BISHOP GARCIA DIEGO HIGH SCHOOL**

Joseph Hicks, Megan Leicht, and Devon Stein, senior class students at Bishop Garcia Diego High School, are named a Commended Student in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program. Fr. Tom Elewaut, C.J., principal made the announcement today. A Letter of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program, will be presented to Joseph, Megan and Devon at the annual senior awards assembly next June.

Being recognized for their exceptional academic promise are a total of 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than one million students who entered the 2010 competition by taking the 2008 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Additionally, Bishop Garcia Diego High School released its SAT scores for the class of 2009. Bishop Garcia Diego High School tested nearly three quarters of its graduates who achieved higher average scores over countywide public schools. On average, Bishop High students achieved a score of 1563 on the SAT, exceeding both state and national averages.

100% of the Bishop Garcia Diego High School Class of 2009 was admitted to college/university studies with 96% of the graduates admitted to four-year universities/colleges.

Regarding Joseph Hicks, Megan Leicht, and Devon Stein, an NMSC spokesperson commented, "Recognition of high-achieving students is essential to advancing educational excellence in our nation. We sincerely hope this recognition will enhance their educational opportunities and encourage them in their pursuit of academic success."

###



Bishop High Commended Students in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program
(L-R) Devon Stein, Joe Hicks, Megan Leicht