



Bishop Garcia Diego High School

Ready for College, Ready for Life...



Semifinalists Named in the National Merit® Scholarship Program



SANTA BARBARA, CALIF. – September 10, 2008 – Nicole Kohansamad, a senior at Bishop García Diego High School is among the approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 53rd annual National Merit Scholarship Program announced by Fr. Tom Elewaut, principal, and by officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,200 Merit Scholarship® awards, worth \$34 million, that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must advance to the Finalist level of the competition

by fulfilling several requirements. About 90 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and approximately half of the Finalists will be selected as Merit Scholarship winners, earning the Merit Scholar® title.

Nicole's personal achievements include an active role in student government at Bishop Garcia Diego High School; sophomore class treasurer, junior class president and currently she is a senior class officer and this year's president of Bishop High's National Honor Society. Additionally she is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, the National High School and Two-Year College Mathematics Honor Society. As an athlete, Nicole captained the JV tennis team in 07 and Co-Captained of the Varsity tennis team in 08. She is a Bishop Ambassador, representing BGDHS in public relations and community outreach. In her community, Nicole served as treasurer of SBORTY Jewish youth group. In 2007 she attended Yale summer school and in 2008 joined her peers at the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Program. Nicole hopes to attend Stanford in the fall.



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