


Patterson earns perfect AP exam score

Created on Thursday, 13 December 2012 08:00 | Written by [Jordy Byrd](#) | 

The WLHS senior is also a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist



by: SUBMITTED PHOTO - Pascale Patterson

West Linn High School senior Pascale Patterson earned a perfect score on her spring 2012 Advanced Placement exam. This year Patterson was also named a semifinalist for the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Advanced Placement exams are based on a composite score of 1 to 5, where a 5 is equivalent to a grade of A in the corresponding college course. Patterson not only received the top score of 5 — ranking among 15.5 percent of students to fall within this top score category in 2012 — in doing so, she was one of only six students in the world to earn every point possible on the calculus AB exam.

A total of 266,994 students took the Advanced Placement calculus AB exam in 2012. Patterson answered every multiple-choice question correctly and earned full points on each of the essays in the free-response section of the exam, earning 108 out of 108 total points.

“This is an amazing academic accomplishment, but no one is surprised that Patterson performed to perfection,” said West Linn High School Principal Lou Bailey. “She is an amazing young lady and scholar at West Linn High School.”

The Advanced Placement exams are written and scored by college professors from around the world, and are typically designed to cover a full year of intensive college-level knowledge and skills.

It is rare for a high school student to earn every point possible on the exam. Of the 3.7 million Advanced Placement exams that were taken by 2.1 million students in 2012, only 88 students out of 18,000 high schools earned every point possible on an exam.

Bailey said West Linn High School applauds Patterson for her hard work and outstanding accomplishment. He also recognized her Advanced Placement teacher, Tina LaFerriere, for her “ability to engage students and enable them to excel in college-level courses.”