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McKinley High School Student Nets Perfect ACT Score and on Some SAT Subject Tests, too

(Source: East Baton Rouge Parish School System)

Mario Alegre, an incoming senior at McKinley High School, recently earned the highest possible composite score of 36 on the ACT college admission and placement exam. In addition, Alegre received perfect scores of 800 on the Math II and Physics SAT subject tests, as well as a near-perfect score of 790 on the Literature subject test. He also had the highest PSAT score in his school and received a maximum score of 5 on the English Language and Composition, Calculus BC, Physics C: Mechanics and Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism Advanced Placement tests. He received a Magna Cum Laude award for his performance in the National Latin Exam.

With a cumulative GPA of 4.6 points and being ranked fourth in his class, Alegre has made his parents, Fernando Alegre and Juana Moreno, proud. The 17-year-old is a member of the National Honor Society (NHS) and the National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS). He also participates in McKinley's Beta Club, representing his school alone at the nationals in the 2011 Spanish competition. He is a member of the school's Mu Alpha Theta math club, has taken courses in calculus as a dual enrollment student at Louisiana State University (LSU) during the school year and was employed as a student helper for LSU Math Circle, which is an enrichment program that teaches college and graduate level math to high school students from all over the country. In addition, over the summer he was enrolled in the Beowulf Boot Camp, offered by LSU's Center for Computation & Technology. It teaches high school students the basics of supercomputing and programming in parallel.

Among test takers in the high school graduating class of 2011 nationwide, only 704 of more than 1.6 million students taking the test earned such a score. The ACT consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science. Each test is scored on a scale of 1-36, and a student's composite score is the average of the four test scores. Some students also take ACT's optional Writing Test, but the score for that test is reported separately and is not included within the ACT composite score. ACT test scores are accepted by all major U.S. colleges, and exceptional scores of 36 provide colleges with evidence of student readiness for the academic rigors that lie ahead.

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