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## Badin's Tricia McCutchan named National Merit Scholarship finalist



Tricia McCutchan, a senior at Badin High School, has been named a Finalist in the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

“It’s a real honor to be named among these 15,000 students,” said McCutchan. “Academics have always been one of my top priorities, and it’s great to see all of my hard work and effort pay off.”

McCutchan is the daughter of Mike and Marcia McCutchan of Hamilton and a graduate of St. Peter in Chains School. She will attend Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland on a Trustees Scholarship, and will play volleyball there.

“Tricia has been a great representative of Badin High School and has earned every bit of her success,” said Frank Margello, Badin principal. “She is a terrific young woman and will go far in life.”

More than 1.4 million juniors in nearly 21,000 high schools throughout the country entered the 2008 National Merit Program by taking the 2006 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, according to officials of the National

Merit Scholarship Corp., which oversees the program. Of those students, some 15,000 have advanced to the level of National Merit Scholarship Finalist and are in competition for \$34 million in scholarship awards. About half of the Finalists will receive scholarships.

“To be a National Merit Scholarship Finalist is quite an accomplishment,” Margello said. “That’s an honor that goes to less than 1 percent of the high school seniors in the country, so Tricia is really in some great academic company.”

McCutchan is tied for No. 1 in Badin’s Class of 2008. Interestingly, she has certainly lived up to her potential. Coming out of St. Peter in Chains as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, she was the No. 1 scorer on the Badin Placement Test given in December of 2003. She plans to major in Biomedical or Chemical Engineering at Case Western Reserve.

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