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## **St. Mary's Ryken Senior Awarded \$20,000 Horatio Alger National Scholarship**

**January 18, 2011**

Emily Simmons, a senior at St. Mary's Ryken High School, has been awarded a \$20,000 Horatio Alger Scholarship and will participate in the National Scholars Conference in Washington, D.C., this April.

Ms. Simmons, from Hollywood, Md., is one of only 104 students to receive the national scholarship awarded through the Horatio Alger Association, which gives the awards based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular and community service activities.

Ms. Simmons plans to major in molecular biology with the hopes of becoming a DNA researcher one day. She is currently deciding among four colleges: North Carolina State University; the University of Maryland; the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and the University of Florida

She is a member of the Theodore Ryken chapter of the National Honor Society and a captain of the varsity field hockey team. She also was chosen to be one of the Xaverian Brothers Sponsored School (XBSS) Stewards at St. Mary's Ryken. This group works through Campus Ministry to carry out Christian service opportunities in both the school and the local communities.

"We are so proud of Emily. She is a shining example of what it means to be a student at St. Mary's Ryken," said Deacon Bert L'Homme, superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese of Washington. "Emily is scholar, athlete and campus minister. She is well prepared to be successful in college and career."

St. Mary's Ryken is a private, coeducational, Catholic secondary school sponsored by the Xaverian Brothers. Students come from many different counties across the region including Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, King George, Prince George's and St. Mary's counties. St. Mary's Ryken offers a rigorous and challenging college preparatory curriculum. Although the majority of students are Catholic, a variety of religions are represented and all denominations are welcome.