

# BOWS Sponsorship Program designates 50% of all of our Tournament profits to local Girls Soccer



**HIGH SCHOOL HEISMAN FINALIST**

South High athlete Julia Aulia throws her fist in the air after the South High School Marching band finished playing the fight song at the surprise assembly where it was announced that she is a finalist for the Wendy's High School Heisman. At right is Gert Antoine, South High athletic director.

WELLSBORO / THE OLYMPIAN

## Being Julia

South High athlete wins California and West region award; is finalist for national honor.

**By STEVE VINCEN**  
DUNSMUIR JOURNAL

**J**ulia Aulia would just hold back the tears Monday when her teachers and classmates at South High surprised her with the news she had been winning.

The tears were from the thoughts of where she has come from to where she is now.

She cried because of all the hard work she had done.

She mostly cried because she was so happy.

Aulia, a three-sport athlete and a four straight A student, was honored as a national finalist for the Wendy's High School Heisman award.



South High athlete Julia Aulia is brought to tears at the surprise assembly. Big brother Juan Pablo Aulia, left, traveled from UC Berkeley to attend.

**Award.**

The team of six girls (two are sponsored athletes representing six different regions), who were selected among 51 state finalists. There are additionally six male finalists for the top honor award.

Next month she will go to New York to attend a grand medal at a ceremony that will be televised 2007 on Dec. 11. The national trophy will be made from metal winners will also be announced by just might to her.

The award given to every high school senior who excels in athletics, academic and community service.

Aulia came to the special.

Please turn to **HEISMAN / A8**

November 2005

# HEISMAN: Star student athlete plans to study chemical engineering at Notre

Continued from A1

assembly unaware the hoopla was all for her. The school's marching band played the Rebels' fight song, the students chanted her name and Aida, amid the tears, smiled and hugged her family members.

"Aida, Aida, Aida," the students chanted.

At South High, nearly everyone knows Aida Aida. She's the girl who speaks her mind and attacks every activity she's involved in with aggression.

She is South's associated student body president. She is also competitive in her forensics team. She won the Central Section title in thematic interpretation.

She carries a 4.2 grade point average, while being involved with athletics and community activities. With the Love Club, she helps special education students at the school.

Through it all she said she has been motivated by stereotypical perceptions.

"I know South High isn't looked at as a very strong school," Aida said. "That bothers me. That motivates me to show them that. There we are and we're not going anywhere."

"I'm a fighter, gray and blue, through and through. I'm going against the grain. I'm showing them that. Your perception of me is not right. I will show you who I am and what I can do. I will do it. But I will do it better than anyone else has. That's my motivation."

That's some evidence of confidence, too. It also comes from her ability to excel despite a humble background.

Aida's mother, Aida, is from Tlaxcala, Mexico, and her stepfather, Reynaldo Ybarra, is from Mexico, too.

Reynaldo is a truck driver and Aida is a stay-at-home mother. Life has been easier for Aida because her children do so well in school, she said.

Aida's older brother, Juan Pablo, is studying to become a doctor at UC Berkeley.

"Today I am the richest woman in the world," Aida said in Spanish. "I give thanks to God for the children he

given me."

The teachers and administration at South High had to be quite thankful as well. For Aida's award, the school received \$1,000.

"Everything is falling into place for her," Aida's brother said.

Juan Pablo, who graduated from South in 2002, drove from Berkeley late Wednesday night so he could be at the ceremony.

He didn't want to miss it. He plans to watch her on television. A crew

from ESPN will follow Aida throughout her day at South Monday.

In addition to her success in the classroom and community, Aida has also done well for herself in athletics.

She is the Rebels' go-to outside hitter in volleyball and leads the team in kills. She consistently has averaged her teammates, as South finished fifth in the Southern Yosemite League with a 2-8 record.

In the winter she plays for the soccer team, and in the spring she com-

petes for her favorite and field sport.

She competes in discus. She won the shot put last year. Second-team All-Area hopes to go to the spring.

"If she didn't have her schedule, I don't think it would be as successful," South athletic director said. "If she had extra

## IT'S THE Nation's Most

Friday, November 11, 2005

### ...ering at Notre Dame

petes for her favorite team: the track and field squad.

She competes in the shot put and discus. She won the SWYL title in the shot put last year. She was also a second-team All-Area athlete. Aida hopes to go to the state meet in the spring.

"If she didn't have that much on her schedule, I don't think she would be as successful as she is," South athletic director Geri Antoine said. "If she had extra time I don't

know what she would do. I think she would be lost."

On the weekends, she works part-time for the Bakersfield College's truck bar. During the weekdays, she begins her days with a workout at the South weight room.

"If any of you have seen me work out I don't take no for an answer," Aida told the students at the assembly. "And, I can't let the guys show me up."

On weekday mornings, she works out with a few football players.

"She's a real competitive person," said William Hurdles, an offensive

guard for the Rebels football team.

"You can just tell when she's in the zone."

After she graduates, Aida plans to go to college. She wants to attend the University of Notre Dame. She plans to study chemical engineering with an emphasis in business.

As a finalist, Aida will travel to New York City Dec. 9 to 11 and will take part in the Heisman weekend festivities. The awards ceremony will be televised on ESPN2 on Dec. 11 and the two overall winners will be presented during the collegiate Heisman trophy presentation on ESPN on Dec. 10.

# 'S THE

verizon wireless

the power of wireless for you