



PHOTO / CALVIN FERGUSON

Senior of year balances books, activities

By Aisha Lide
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One word describes Nicole Beach from Harding University High School. Outstanding.

Beach, The Post's Senior of the Year, has a 5.10 grade point average, which makes her one of the best in Mecklenburg County.

"There are so many pressures that a young adult faces going through high school," she said. "There were times when I wanted to give into temptation and to give up. However, with the lessons I learned from my parents and with the guidance of many of my teachers I overcame those temptations," Beach wrote in her winning essay.

Her first accomplishment at Harding was to get through the International Baccalaureate Program (IB). The IB program is very strenuous and students are advised that there are many sacrifices that need to be met when entering this program. Beach succeeded leading to many academic accomplishments. Just to name a few she is an AP Scholar, NCHSAA Scholar Athlete, Assistant Chief Jr. Marshall, National Honor Society, National Honor Roll, and National Forensic League Member.

From the very start of her high school journey Beach has been a student leader in her school and in her community.

Nicole Beach is a Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership World Ambassador, Sophomore Class Officer, International Club Secretary, Key Club Board of Directors, Diversity Club Treasurer, Alchemy Club Council, Assistant Chief Jr. Marshall, YMCA Youth Leadership Group, Tolerance Day Facilitator, Imperators Co-Chair, Order of the Ram President, and National Honor Society Board of Governors.

Nicole is also athletically inclined. She is a member of the Harding soccer team and YMCA swim team.

Beach, 17, is very involved in her community. She has participated in Race for the Cure, National Park Service, ROBC Summer Camp Volunteer Program, Crop Walk, Canned Food Drive, Salvation Army Toy Drive, Salvation Army Clothes Drive, United Way Season of Caring, Multiple Sclerosis Walk, and Toys for Tots, Crisis Center Ministry, and Muscular Dystrophy Fund.

She also enjoys dancing, and traveling.