

Grand Canyon State Games
Essay Contest
Sponsored by Southwestern College

Medal Awarded
(circle one)

Gold

Silver

Bronze

Honorable Mention

Student's Name: MARISA MEIER

Student's Grade: 8

Student's School: Bios CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

** Note: Please paper clip this form to the top of the winning Essay

“Dreaming of Education”

Gasping, thrashing, drowning in.... my homework. This is what I faced Tuesday night, with my Algebra book open on my bed. Finally, two hours later, I was ready to get on with the rest of my chores. I know school's important and everything, but why must I ponder over $3(12x-4)^2+8^{2x^3}$? Later, I climbed in bed for my too-short allotment of sleep. Sometimes, I wish I could skip school and college and be an adult. I know it's impossible, but a girl can wish.

Prying open my eyes, I kicked my blanket off and stood up. Whoa!! I'm a lot taller than I was last night! Confused, I walked to the nearest IHOP for some breakfast. Looking at the menu, I was startled to find that I couldn't read... anything! Managing to order some food, I stuffed myself with pancakes until the waitress brought the bill. Bringing my handful of cash out from my pocket, I was frightened to find that I couldn't count it! Angrily, the waitress grabbed the cash and told me it wasn't enough. Petrified, I ran out of the restaurant with the flustered cook and the irate waitress chasing me. Oh no, running too slowly. No. No...

Gasping, I jerked awake. That was a crazy dream. Not being able to read or count? I couldn't imagine it. Shamefully, I remembered that just last night I had wished for that. Although I hadn't meant it exactly, I had wished to skip school, which means I'd be unable to function in everyday activities, like reading a magazine, or ordering lunch. Surviving school would reward me with the ability to get a good job, and function in today's society. While I had known this before, my

dream had reminded me with amazing persuasiveness. Thank goodness for
education!!!