

Annie Polo – Catholic – Conroe/Imperial Oaks, 77385, Villager, Woodlands Sun, This Week, [annie\\_madrid86@hotmail.com](mailto:annie_madrid86@hotmail.com), 281-650-4882 Annie may have corrections to this copy!!!

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MULTI-LINGUAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER  
HEADS FOR FLUENCY IN FRANCE**

HOUSTON (May 1, 2006) — Annie Polo will spend eight weeks of her summer studying French in Nice, which she selected with some help from her University of St. Thomas professor, Dr. Rolande Leguillon. Polo may not even earn credit for her efforts, but *c'est la vie*, she'll be in France!

Polo recently became one of six Houston university students – and the only winner from St. Thomas – to win the \$3,000 L'Alliance Francaise scholarship to study in France. Because she saved enough money to cover airfare and other expenses, she can use all of her scholarship money on tuition, room and board, extending the scholarship's value.

Polo's aiming for achieving fluency in French. This should not be a problem, given her background.

"I was born in Madrid," she said. "And I lived there until I was 11 years old." That explains her first and second languages, Spanish and English.

After that, the story takes a twist only an educator would have devised: "When we're in Spain," she said, "we speak English. When we're at home near Conroe, we speak Spanish."

Not surprisingly, Polo's mother, Andrea Bacorn, teaches Spanish at Montgomery College. She majored in Spanish at UST, graduating in 1976. On a trip to Madrid she met Anne's father, Angel, an auditor at Stanford Financial. She visits relatives in Spain whenever she can save enough money to go.

When faced with high school language requirements, Polo chose to study French, which she continued studying at St. Thomas. "Learning a third language is much easier than most people know," she said.

“My mother influenced my decision to attend UST. I also knew that I wanted to be able to live at home,” Polo explained.

Polo’s uncle, Christopher Bacorn, and an aunt, Laurie Armstrong, graduated from UST in 1972 and 1976, respectively.

University of St. Thomas is a private institution committed to the liberal arts and to the religious, ethical and intellectual tradition of Catholic higher education.

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My real name is Anne, but everybody always calls me Annie, so either one, Anne or Annie, is fine. My dad's name is Angel. He has an MBA in Finance, and he is an internal auditor for Stanford Financial. I am not really sure about what I want to do in the future. I would like to have a job that is related to international studies, and I would like to use the different languages that I speak in the future. Everything about the article is accurate, except that I do not really visit Spain twice a year. I try to go once every year, but I really go whenever I can save enough money. The article is great. Thanks for everything. I enjoyed talking to you on Friday. Annie.