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**For Immediate Release**

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## **MAST in the News**

MAST Academy seniors **Alejandro Cervera**, **Dayan Paez**, and **Monica Simo** have been named Semifinalists in the 2004 Merit Scholarship Competition. The honor recognizes strong performance on the most recent administration of the PSAT. All three students will go on to compete for National Merit Finalist standing.

MAST ninth grader **Bryan Yancey** is one of Florida's five **National Finalists in the 2003 Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge**. **Bryan's** award-winning research project is entitled *The Effectiveness of Caffeine as a Pesticide Against South Florida Snails (bulimulus guadalupensis)*. Students are judged on the scientific merit of their work and on their ability to communicate the science of their project. In October, 40 finalists receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, DC for the competition finals, consisting of a series of team challenges and oral presentations. The winners receive college scholarships.

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