

Two Tassels in One Day for Local High School Student

Graduation is a major milestone for high school seniors. For Kimberlee Isaac, age 17 of Coalinga, this milestone will be celebrated twice over in just one day.



Kimberlee will graduate with her senior class on the morning of May 25. But she won't stop there. She'll graduate with her associate's degree from West Hills College Coalinga just a few hours later, walking across the stage and turning a tassel for the second time in one day with family, friends, and classmates cheering her on.

A 4.0 student attending Faith Christian High School, Kimberlee will graduate second in her senior class with the honor of salutatorian. Her college GPA is impressive as well, a proud 3.65.

It all started 13 years ago when Kimberlee stepped through the doors of Faith Christian Academy, a shy four year old who cried nearly every day for the first two weeks. You wouldn't know it by talking to her now. Her smile is infectious and she easily strikes up a conversation. Somewhere along the way she set her sights and her mind on a goal that is now just a moment away. What inspired her to set this goal? Kimberlee says, "I started taking college classes online when I was a freshman in high school because I thought it would be good to get a head start on college. The more classes I took, the more interesting they were. I really liked my sociology classes. During my junior year I realized how close I was to actually getting an associate's degree so I just kept going and made it my goal."

Faith Christian High School principal, Tara Davis, encourages her students to take advantage of the opportunity to complete college classes while in high school. "Not only do the students get a head start with their college experience, they also earn credits that count toward their high school academic requirements. It's a tremendous opportunity for the students," says Davis. Kimberlee's sister, Rebecca, is a freshman at FCHS and started taking college classes last semester. The two are part of a growing number of Faith Christian students who see the benefits of attending classes throughout their high school career.

Aside from her accelerated academic successes, Kimberlee is much like her peers. She enjoys socializing, going to the movies, and playing the guitar. She can often be found helping out with the children's worship time at Faith Fellowship Church and working in the nursery. She is also involved with her high school chapel team, performing worship songs for her classmates every Friday morning.

Being raised in a Christian home has provided a solid foundation for Kimberlee's success. Says her parents, Mike and Donna Isaac, "God has truly blessed our family. Kimberlee is a great student and a hard worker. She is self-motivated and knows her priorities. Both of our daughters have made us proud. God comes first and they are no strangers to relying on faith and the power of prayer." Having recently been through a tragic accident, Mike is the first to acknowledge that their daughters were "real troopers" these past few months. In spite of the challenges faced by their family during this time, both girls have stayed the course and are finishing the school year on a high note.

Kimberlee's future plans include continuing her education and obtaining a bachelor's degree in business administration. She is well on her way!