

Local girl wins trip to see 'Idol'

Louisville teen will watch show finale in Hollywood

By Greg Glasgow
Camera Staff Writer

In the high-stakes world of "American Idol," where millions of people select their favorite performers every week, 10,000 votes may not seem like a lot. But they were enough to send 16-year-old Amanda Good, of Louisville, to Holly-

ON THE WEB

• Watch the video Amanda and Matt Good entered in the contest.
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wood to be in the audience for the show's final two episodes, which air live at 7 tonight and Wednesday on Fox.

Good, who attends Monarch High School, is the winner of the nationwide "Digital Blue Sends You to Hollywood" con-

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MARK LEFFINGWELL / Daily Camera

Amanda Good, 16, left, and her brother Matt, 14, used their Digital Blue videocamera to make a video of Amanda singing the Evanescence song "My Immortal," which won Amanda a trip to see the finals of "American Idol."

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test, sponsored by the electronics and software company. Contestants were asked to create their own music video; Good's entry features her singing the Evanescence song "My Immortal." It was filmed and edited by her brother Matt, 14, who has been making movies since he was 5. Little brother Ryan, 10, held the lights.

The contest received about 250 entries; the final four, selected by an independent panel, were posted on Digital Blue's Web site, where, in true "American Idol" fashion, fans voted for their favorites.

"It was very surprising to be a finalist, I was really excited," Good said. "My mom called me at school and I told all my friends about it, and I had friends that just sat down and voted for me a few hundred times. I was really thankful for that. I had a lot of support from people all over."

Filmed at the Goods' Louisville home, the video features scenes of Amanda, clad in an old homecoming dress, playing

guitar in her bedroom and playing the piano. Some atmospheric outdoor shots use a fog machine for special effects. The audio, recorded separately, is of Amanda singing the song over a karaoke backing track.

"We thought it was a pretty song, and we decided to have some simple scenes, some kind of dramatic scenes that went with the song, so we did it at night," says Amanda, who performs in school plays and with Louisville's youth-oriented CenterStage Theater Company. "A lot of them were outside because it was a gorgeous night."

Amanda and Matt, along with their mother, Kimberly Good, head for California today. Amanda has two tickets for each night and plans to bring Matt one night and Mom the next.

Tonight's episode of "American Idol" is the last showdown between the two remaining finalists, Taylor Hicks and Katharine McPhee. The winner will be announced in a two-hour finale Wednesday.

Both episodes include ap-

pearances by this year's other finalists, including Boulder native Ace Young. Amanda said she originally was rooting for rocker Chris Daughtry to win the competition, but he was voted off May 10.

"I'm ... excited just (to see) the show," Amanda said. "I've never had an opportunity like this and it's probably something I'll never have again."

Kimberly Good, Amanda's mom, says sitting in the audience may not be Amanda's last experience with "American Idol."

"We're kind of waiting to see where this voice of hers takes her," Kimberly says. "She's actually planning to audition for 'American Idol'; hopefully they're coming back in the fall. She just turned 16, so she wasn't old enough (when the show held auditions in Denver last September), but if they come back or anywhere remotely close by, she's going to go audition."

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