



FOR RELEASE: March 1, 2005

Contact: DONNA ZERBY - 610/399-4802

DELCO Hi-Q ACADEMIC COMPETITION NEARS END OF SEASON

In a season that that begins early in January, it has come down to every contest in the final week. Every contest contains at least one and several have two teams that are semifinalist hopefuls.

This list will change daily for the next few days, but for now, Leaders are:

Round One Completed: Strath Haven - 180, Marple Newtown - 153, Radnor 139. Right on their heels are those with one contest left: Garnet Valley - 114, Chichester - 99, Delco Christian - 96, Upper Darby - 95, Haverford - 94, and Penncrest - 92.

Final Contests in Series One:

At HAVERFORD, Mar. 2, Wed., 9:30 a.m. with Penn Wood and Springfield
At the ACADEMY OF NOTRE DAME, Mar. 2, Wed., 1:15 p.m. with Academy Park and Delco Christian
At ARCHBISHOP CARROLL, Mar. 3, 9:30 a.m. with Garnet Valley and Upper Darby.
At INTERBORO: Mar. 4, 9:30 a.m. with Springfield and the Academy of Notre Dame
At CHICHESTER, Mar. 4, Fri., 12:40 p.m. with Penncrest and The Christian Academy

STRATH HAVEN LEADS IN DELCO Hi-Q;

At RIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL, Feb. 28: Coming into this contest, Strath Haven students knew they had to score - BIG TIME. They wanted first place and the bye. They wanted to host the Championship. They may have done it. Strath Haven didn't miss a single question of their own, gobbled up 13 points from the opposing teams, added 8 more in Toss-Up categories, and finished with the season single-game high score of 69. Host team Ridley took the lead in the first the first three categories, Current Events, American History and Biology. Then came the drought, with no score until Geography. Interboro had the opposite result...waiting until the end of the first period to score in Sports, Mathematics and Geography. All three teams began the second period with points in Chemistry. Beginning with Art History, Strath Haven again began piling up the points, ending with

- more -

a game total of 69 and a three-game cumulative of 180 which makes their team the one to beat. Ridley's team kept at it until they started scoring again, pointing in Physics, American Government and World History. The home team finished with 28. Interboro just had a tough contest, but they kept trying to find the right answers, answering the final toss-up question in the contest, in Mathematics, ending with 21 points and a two-game cumulative of 41.

As it has done frequently in the past, Ridley's audiovisual department taped the contest for broadcast over the local cable channel throughout Ridley High School's community. Principal William Mills welcomed the visitors and guests, including family members from the host school, retired Interboro Hi-Q faculty advisor Ken Mobley, and Strath Haven supporters Principal Albert Bichner and Superintendent Sharon Parker.

Representing the two primary corporate sponsors of Hi-Q were Ruth Malloy representing Kimberly-Clark's Chester Operations, who gave the opening remarks, and Rick Durante from the Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union, who provided comments at halftime.

Strath Haven - 69 Ridley - 28 Interboro - 21

At SUN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL, Mar. 1: It was almost an even match at the end of the first period. Defending champion Marple Newtown had an "oops" in American History, but recovered in Sports and Shakespeare for a slight lead: MN - 27, Sun Valley - 23, Cardinal O'Hara - 20. MN and Cardinal O'Hara have a good start early in the second period. Home team Sun Valley struggled scoreless through four categories, but found its pace and ended with points in Physics, American Government and World History, and snatched the final question, in Toss-Up Mathematics, from its rivals to finish with 39 points and the applause of the home audience. Marple Newtown knew the Art History category, just not their own question, answering both competing team questions and adding to their overall score with 7 additional points from competing teams - for a total of 54. Cardinal O'Hara had a difficult ending, totalling 32 points.

Marple Newtown - 54 Sun Valley - 39 Cardinal O'Hara - 32

Sohrab Shergi, Kimberly-Clark finance manager, noted in his opening remarks that this was his first contest, he was excited to be there and pleased that K-C was a corporate sponsor of Hi-Q for so many years. Sun Valley Principal Mary Jo Witkowski-Smith opened the contest with recognition for the efforts of the contestants. Among the guests were Sun Valley Superintendent Dr. Leslie Abrutyn, and family members and community supporters for all three teams. Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union Assistant Vice President Rick Durante provided the audience with information about the upcoming "Partners for Education" dinner honoring all of the scholars who competed in the 2005 Delco Hi-Q contests. The audience buzzed with excitement when Durante announced the guest speaker at the dinner would be Jeopardy! Host Alex Trebek.

###