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**DELCO HI-Q COMPETITIONS BEGIN WITH WINS BY GARNET VALLEY, SPRINGFIELD,  
AND CARDINAL O'HARA HIGH SCHOOLS**

Competition in the 59<sup>th</sup> season of Delco Hi-Q, the nation's oldest continuous academic quiz for high school students got underway this week.

At Delaware County Christian School, Dec. 4: As the energized gymnasium crowd listened, Mr. Gary Davis, Principal of Delco Christian, thanked the program sponsors and welcomed guests and students to the first contest of the 59<sup>th</sup> season. Rick Durante, Delco Hi-Q Co-Director, thanked the school for its hospitality and welcomed Tom Brooks of Kimberly-Clark. Mr. Brooks introduced the contest by providing a brief history of the program and told the crowd of his past involvement with Hi-Q in Everett, Washington. The debut contest was a battle of championship teams as Garnet Valley defends its second place finish and Delco Christian hopes to improve on their impressive third place last season. Strath Haven hopes to return the playoffs after placing first in 2004-2005.

All three teams were off to a good start by correctly answering the first six questions posed to them by Quizmaster, Tom McCarthy, but Delco Christian moved into the lead in the Literature category and held on with only a few points separating them from Strath Haven at the half-way point of the contest. Garnet Valley came on strong in the second half, closing in on Delco Christian in the World History category and buzzing in with the correct answer in the final toss-up Math question to gain four points and the win.

Final scores were:

**Garnet Valley – 46   Delaware County Christian School – 45   Strath Haven– 36**

Also attending the contest was Donna Stilwell, Vice President of Finance and Administration of the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce and Maria Rolston, Education Specialist, of Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union.

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At The Christian Academy, Dec. 5: Principal Anita Gray welcomed the teams from Archbishop Carroll and Springfield High School. Jennifer Strasinski, Assistant Vice President, and Kristen Bound, Business Development Associate, represented Delco Hi-Q's primary sponsor Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union (FMFCU). Mrs. Strasinski introduced the contest and recognized the hard work and dedication of the Hi-Q teams.

Each team missed the first question in Current Events but after four rounds of questions, the home crowd was buzzing when The Christian Academy had the lead with Archbishop Carroll only a few points behind. Springfield warmed up in the late part of the first half and correctly answered their next four questions and picked up three bonus points from the other teams.

Each team showed their knowledge of Physics in the second half by sweeping the category. Springfield dominated most of the second part of the contest but The Christian Academy ended the meet by earning four points in the toss-up Math category.

Final Scores were:

**Springfield - 47    The Christian Academy - 26    Archbishop Carroll- 14**

Also in attendance was Cathy Durning from the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce.

At Upper Darby High School, Dec. 7: As anxious team members waited to go on stage, John Unangst, FMFCU's President/CEO, spoke with them and offered his support and encouragement. Unangst, who also serves on the Chamber Foundation Board, commented on the "high expectations and enthusiasm" of team members.

Assistant Principal John Wolk welcomed the visiting teams from Interboro and Cardinal O'Hara High Schools. Mike Magnavita, Executive Vice President, representing sponsor Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union, introduced the contest, recognized the teams for their "hard work and dedication," and thanked the audience for their good sportsmanship and hospitality.

The students' preparation paid off as each team correctly answered the first questions in Current Events. Cardinal O'Hara dominated the next two categories by picking up two extra bonus points and led by seven points at the half with Interboro holding a four point lead over Upper Darby.

Upper Darby and Interboro went head to head in the second half by correctly answering five of the six standard categories. The home crowd applauded as Upper Darby forced a second place tie with Interboro by correctly answering the last question of the day in Math. After facing strong competition, Cardinal O'Hara managed to maintain its lead to take the third contest of the season.

Final scores were:

**Cardinal O'Hara- 36      Upper Darby- 33      Interboro-33**

Also lending their support in the audience was Upper Darby Principal, Geoff Kramer and FMFCU Vice President, Liza Mattis.

Information, including scores and upcoming contests, can be found at [www.delcohiq.org](http://www.delcohiq.org) and by calling the Delco Hi-Q Hotline at 610-359-3992.

Delaware County Intermediate Unit (program management) partners with the Foundation of the Delaware County Chamber (fund-raising and fund administrator) to help ensure the continuation of Delco Hi-Q. Ginger Beaumont and Rick Durante are Co-Directors, Tom McCarthy is Quizmaster, Michelle Skrobak is Hi-Q Assistant, and production engineer is Dave Bramble.

In addition to the participating schools' support, primary corporate sponsor is Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union. Valedictorian sponsor is Kimberly-Clark Corporation. Contributors and supporters for the 2006/2007 season are the Delaware County Daily Times and Hilbush Foundation.

For information on becoming a sponsor of this premier education program, contact Donna Stilwell at (610) 565-3677.

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