



Delco Hi-Q Contest Report
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**MARPLE NEWTOWN AND GARNET VALLEY WIN THE SEMI FINAL ROUNDS AND ADVANCE TO
THE DELCO Hi-Q CHAMPIONSHIP**

Six academic teams, representing some of Delaware County's brightest students, competed to earn a spot in Delco Hi-Q's 59th Season Championship match.

At Marple Newtown High School, February 21, 2007: Defending champions, Marple Newtown finished the regular season in third place and hosted fourth place Delaware County Christian School, and fifth place team, Haverford High School. Principal John Sanville welcomed several Hi-Q supporters including, Jack Holefelder, President of the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce, Anne McNally, Vice President of Human Resources, from primary sponsor Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union, and Marple Newtown Superintendent and Delco Hi-Q Advisory Board member, Merle Horowitz.

Team members were visibly excited while waiting to begin this first semi-final match. Marple Newtown was hoping to keep the Donna Zerby Trophy for another year. Haverford, after an outstanding regular season was fighting for their a return to the final round. They last won the championship in 1997. Delaware County Christian School, hosted last year's final contest and hoped to return in 2007. All three teams started the contest with correct answers in Current Events. Marple Newtown and Haverford each earned points on the second question in American History and spent the rest of the first half matching each other's point totals. At the half, Marple and Haverford were tied with 22 points and Delco Christian was close behind with 14. In the second half, Delco Christian made up for a slow start and missed only two questions. Haverford missed three consecutive questions, which gave Marple Newtown the opportunity to move ahead and take the win. Final scores were, Marple Newtown, 46; Haverford, 36; Delaware County Christian School, 30.

At Garnet Valley High School, February 22, 2007: Garnet Valley's audience is used to their team competing in the semi-final competition and to being a Hi-Q finalist; they've done it every season since 1998. And for 2007, they did it again! This win gives them a place in next month's championship match. In a very competitive contest, the home team only missed two regular category questions during the entire match. Strath Haven, the 2005 champions, had a strong first half and only missed two questions in the early round. Sun Valley was off to a strong start with points in the first two categories but was unable to score again until the second half. Garnet Valley had the lead at intermission with Strath Haven behind by only eight points.

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All three teams scored points in Chemistry to start the second half. Garnet Valley continued to dominate the competition by picking up six bonus points in the later part of the contest. Sun Valley scored last by buzzing in with the correct answer in the toss up Math category, but it wasn't enough for them to earn their school's first trip to the championship. Final scores were, Garnet Valley, 59; Strath Haven, 35; Sun Valley, 22.

Garnet Valley Principal Joseph Hook welcomed the visitors and turned the assembly over to Co-Director, Rick Durante. Anne McNally and Jack Holefelder made opening remarks. Special guests included Superintendent Anthony Costello and Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union board member, Dr. Harry Jamison, both are members of the Delco Hi-Q advisory board. Strath Haven's team was supported by Superintendent Dr. George Slick and Principal Mary Jo Yannacone. Penn Delco's Assistant Superintendent, Alexis McGloin came out to support the Sun Valley team.

CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION COACHES AND STUDENTS:

Penncrest, Garnet Valley, and Marple Newtown will compete against each other in the Championship competition for the fifth time since 2001.

Penncrest: Penncrest will make their twenty-first Championship contest appearance since 1959, winning seven championships. Six of those championships were earned under the guidance of Faculty Advisor, Michael Ludwig, now in his twenty-seventh season as coach. Penncrest team members are: Rebecca Dunn, Robert M. Graham, Victor Janmey, Emily Moberg, Natalie Scherer, Alexander Senko, Teresa Slifer, Erik Virbitsky, Dustin Volz, and Emily Wright.

Garnet Valley: This will be the tenth consecutive championship appearance for Garnet Valley. Their teams have won first place in 2001, 2002 and 1978. The team is under the guidance of Faculty Advisors Carol Rockafellow in her fourteenth season and first season coach, Dr. Lesley Arensberg. Team members are: Kyle Brown, Stephen Ciarrocchi, Jeffrey Conway, Curtis Covelli, Amoca Elsaify, Chloe Glynn, Nicki Martini, Keith Mikus, Hetty Nie, and Wasiq Sheith.

Marple Newtown: The Marple Newtown team is the defending Delco Hi-Q champions. This will be their sixth appearance since 2001. Marple has also won championships in 2004 and 1972. Faculty Advisor Deborah Bonder is celebrating her tenth year as coach. Team members are: Daniel Albert, Roashan Ayene, Jennifer Dailey, Amy Xiujie Guo, Joseph Mansky, Jason Pan, and Wei Wang.

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Penncrest scored the highest point total during the regular season and earned the right to host the Championship on Tuesday, March 6th at 9:30 a.m. The community is invited to attend Hi-Q contests but must contact Penncrest High School in advance to register, due to security and limited seating.

The first place team will win a \$3,000 cash award for their school and will take possession of the Donna Zerby Trophy, to be displayed at their school throughout the next season. Second and third place finalists will receive cash awards for their schools of \$2,500 and \$2,000 respectively. All teams will be honored by the Foundation of the Delaware County Chamber and the Delaware County Intermediate Unit at the annual Delco Hi-Q Partners in Education Celebration on March 28 at Drexelbrook.

This is the ninth year of corporate and school sponsorship for this Delaware County tradition, which encourages and recognizes academic excellence and achievement. The Delaware County Intermediate Unit partners with the Foundation of the Delaware County Chamber to help ensure the continuation of the Hi-Q program. Ginger Beaumont and Rick Durante are Co-Directors, Tom McCarthy is Quizmaster, production engineer is Dave Bramble and Hi-Q assistant is Michelle Skrobak.

In addition to the 21 participating schools' support, primary corporate sponsor is Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union. Kimberly-Clark Corporation's Chester Operations is the Valedictorian sponsor. Contributors and supporters for the 2006/2007 season are: Delaware County Daily Times and the Hilbush Foundation.

For information on becoming a sponsor of this outstanding education program, call Donna Stilwell at (610) 565-3677. For general Hi-Q information or to nominate a past participant for the Delco Hi-Q Hall of Honor, visit www.delcohiq.org.

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