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**PENNCREST AND MARPLE NEWTOWN WIN DELCO HI-Q CONTESTS AS THE FIRST ROUND OF COMPETITION ENDS**

At Penncrest High School Dec.17: Penncrest Principal, Mr. Rick Gregg addressed the crowd of more than 800 and welcomed visiting teams from Strath Haven and Garnet Valley High Schools. Mr. John Greskiewicz, Vice President at Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union and a Penncrest graduate, introduced the contest. Mr. Greskiewicz also serves on the board of the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber Foundation is a co-sponsor of Delco Hi-Q. The audience anticipated an exciting contest, as Penncrest and Garnet Valley were both finalist teams in last season's championship match.

All three teams scored in the first category in Current Events to start the assembly. After Penncrest missed the next two questions in American History and Biology and Strath Haven missed the correct answer in Biology, Garnet Valley gained an early lead. The visiting "Jaguars" went on to correctly answer every question posed to them in the first half. At intermission, Garnet Valley lead with 32 points, Penncrest held second place with 21 and Strath Haven was right behind with 20 points.

The schools remained strong in the second half. When the competition moved to the Team Choice category, only a few points separated teams with Garnet Valley holding the lead. In the Team Choice category, each team chooses the subject of their question. They have 15 seconds and one opportunity to answer. If they do not answer correctly, the other teams can buzz in and gain two bonus points for a correct answer. Penncrest managed to pick up two bonus points by answering Garnet Valley's missed question. The next question was a toss-up when only one team can score by buzzing in with the right answer. Penncrest took that category and gained four points and the lead. Strath Haven dominated the last regular category in World History. The "Cougars" answered their own question and picked up two bonus points by answering the other teams missed questions. The Penncrest "Lions" took the toss-up question in Math and scored enough points in the second half to rebound and finish as the top cats. Final Scores were: Penncrest, 50; Garnet Valley, 43; Strath Haven, 41.

At Marple Newtown High School, Dec. 19: Visiting teams and guests were welcomed by Marple Newtown Principal, Mr. John Sanville. In the audience was Marple Newtown Superintendent and Delco Hi-Q Advisory Board member, Mrs. Merle Horowitz. Ms. Ruth Kauffman represented primary corporate sponsor Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union.

The defending champions from Marple Newtown hosted Radnor High School and Delaware County Christian School. The home team stumbled on the first question but managed to give a correct answer on the second try for three points. This gave the visiting teams a very early lead. A correct

answer in the toss-up Sports category left Delco Christian tied with Radnor and the four points gained in this category gave Marple a slight lead. This is the only category where all three teams can gain points on the same question. At the half, the home team led Delco Christian by four points with Radnor behind in third place.

The second half was very competitive with Radnor missing only one regular category and Delco Christian missing just two. Marple had the strongest second half by missing only one question and capitalized on the other teams missed questions by scoring four bonus points. The home team cemented their win by taking the team choice toss-up and scored the final Math category before Quizmaster Tom McCarthy could finish reading the question. Final scores were: Marple Newtown, 61; Delaware County Christian School, 39; Radnor High School, 34.

Marple Newtown finishes the first round of competition with the highest score but each team will play in two additional rounds. The cumulative season score will determine standings and playoff positions. The team ending the season with the most points will compete against the two semi-final winners on March 5, 2008. Competition continues on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at Sun Valley High School and on January 4<sup>th</sup> at Interboro High School.

The search for the 2008 Delco Hi-Q Hall of Honor inductees has begun. Hall of Honor members serve as role models for current Hi-Q contestants. More information and a nomination form are available at [www.delcohiq.org](http://www.delcohiq.org).

Delco-Hi-Q is co-sponsored by the Delaware County Intermediate Unit (program management) and The Foundation of the Delaware County Chamber (primary fund raiser and fund management). Tom McCarthy is Quizmaster, Dave Bramble is the production engineer and the program director is Rick Durante. Assisting with the competition is Maria Rolston and Michelle Skrobak from Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union.

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 2007/2008 season are the Delaware County Daily Times and Hilbush Foundation.

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

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Photo Captions:

**Penncrest High School Team**

Standing (l to r): Alex Senko, Scott Teal, Dustin Volz, Dylan McAndrew, Faculty Advisor Mike Ludwig  
Seated (l to r): Katie Davis, Celia Castellan, Natalie Scherer, Jennifer Walker, Elizabeth Freeburg

**Marple Newtown High School Team**

Standing (l to r): Amy Guo, Jenny Wang, Tom McCauley, Kira White, Faculty Advisor Deb Bonder  
Seated (l to r): Jason Pan, Danny Albert, Joey Mansky, Roashan Ayene, John VanZelst

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