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Contact: Rick Durante (610) 325-5008

CHICHESTER, DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN, AND INTERBORO EARN WINS IN THE FIRST WEEK OF HI-Q COMPETITION

The first contests of the 62nd season of Delco Hi-Q kicked off this week with three strong matches by Chichester, Delco Christian, and Interboro. All three won their first matches and racked up valuable points in the process.

December 1, 2009: The first contest of the new season pitted home team Chichester against visiting Ridley and Sun Valley. Quizmaster, Tom McCarthy was under the weather, and Hi-Q Director Rick Durante stepped in to pinch hit for the Hi-Q veteran. This contest also saw a change in venue as the Ballrooms at Boothwyn filled in for the Chichester auditorium currently under renovation. The home team also found extra support with the attendance of superintendent Barbara DiMarino. Chichester started the match off strong nailing six of the first eight questions and picked up a bonus point in Current Events, Biology, and Shakespeare. Ridley and Sun Valley battled heavily for the number two spot. By intermission, Chichester was in the lead with 27 points, Ridley held a slim second with 14 points, and Sun Valley, with 13 points, was in a close third place.

Chichester's strong first half lead allowed them to waltz through the second half, with Ridley and Sun Valley battling to catch them. Sun Valley correctly answered their Physics, American Government and World History questions, vaulting them past Ridley to take second and shrink the gap with the lead team. Chichester would manage to hold them off by correctly answering the Math Toss Up question, solidifying the win at home.

Final Scores: Chichester - 42; Sun Valley - 29; Ridley - 23.

December 2, 2009: - The DeMoss auditorium at Delaware County Christian School was filled to the rafters with a vivacious crowd of Delco faithful. Maria Rolston, Education Manager, spoke on behalf of Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union, sponsor of Delco Hi-Q. Quizmaster Tom McCarthy took it away with the first question to Delco Christian in Current Events. From the get-go Delco Christian and Haverford, both semifinalists from last season, swapped academic volleys as each team correctly answered five questions in the first half of the contest. The difference was a matter of a bonus pick up point, which gave Delco Christian a 24-23 lead over Haverford at the half. The rookie Penn Wood team sat in third with 8 points at intermission.

The second half was almost an exact repeat of the first. Delco and Haverford both correctly answered four questions. The difference would be yet another pick-up point. Delco Christian managed 3 bonus points while Haverford picked up 2. The bonus points were just enough to give the home team a win and they were rewarded with a "We are, D.C.!" chant from the thrilled home audience.

Final scores: Delco Christian 43; Haverford – 41; Penn Wood – 8.

December 4, 2009: The week ended with a competition hosted by Academy Park High School. The Knights took on the Interboro Bucs in a close match. The third team was a hybrid of students from the visiting Interboro team and Academy Park. Chester High School was unable to compete as scheduled in this contest. Under Hi-Q rules, the hybrid team's score did not count but they were able to participate to make this an official contest. Academy Park principal, Alan Johnson, thanked Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union and the Intermediate Unit for their support of Delco Hi-Q and welcomed Adriene Irving from DCIU who recognized the students, thanked the sponsors and turned the program over to Delco Hi-Q Director Rick Durante.

All three teams missed their questions in Current Events but Interboro was able to pick up two bonus points by correctly answering the other teams questions and took an early lead. Academy Park managed to cut the visitor's lead to two points by the half. The home team took a one-point lead late in the match but Interboro was able to score 8 bonus points and earned a close and exciting first place finish.

Final scores: Academy Park- 27; Interboro- 29; Chester- 0

Delco-Hi-Q is a partnership between Delaware County Intermediate Unit and Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union. Veteran Actor Tom McCarthy is Quizmaster, Rick Durante from FMFCU serves as Director, Dave Bramble from Delaware County Intermediate Unit is the production engineer and Wes Crane is Hi-Q Coordinator.

In addition to the participating schools' support, primary corporate sponsor is Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union Foundation. Long-time Valedictorian sponsor is Kimberly-Clark Corporation and the Delaware County Daily Times is a supporter of the 62nd Season.

Nominations are now being accepted for the Delco Hi-Q Hall of Honor. More information is available at www.delcohiq.org.