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**GARNET VALLEY DELCO HI-Q TEAM TO COMPETE IN NATIONAL HI-Q CHAMPIONSHIP**

Garnet Valley continues its championship quest. The current Delco Hi-Q champs now have the opportunity to become national champions when the team competes in the National Hi-Q Championship on March 30, 2011. This is a rare opportunity for the team, considering that the last national championship was held long before any of the current team members were born. In 1981, Hi-Q students from across the country competed in a series of locally televised contests from Widener University. Haverford High School represented the county and came home with the top prize.

The 2011 contest will make use of the latest technology when teams meet via the Internet. "This is a great way to bring our locations together without the need to travel or miss school," commented Delco Hi-Q Director and Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union vice president, Rick Durante. The March 30<sup>th</sup> contest will match Garnet Valley against the other regional Hi-Q champions, from Wisconsin's Wausaukee High School, Alabama's Alma Bryant High School, and Washington's Monroe High School. "Not everyone realizes that the unique Hi-Q competition is played by students from across the country. It's different from most academic competitions due to the unique format that has evolved over the last sixty three seasons," said Durante.

Hi-Q was started in Chester as a radio quiz show for high school students by the former Scott Paper Company. Under the direction of the late National Director Donna Zerby, the competition was expanded to other Scott plant locations in the 1970's and 80's.

Current Delco Hi-Q Quizmaster, Tom McCarthy, was the moderator for the 1981 championship and will serve as the local quizmaster for this year's contest. McCarthy commented on the experience of serving in the first national contest, "It was very exciting for the students. The team members were hosted by our local Hi-Q families and had a chance to see local sights, like the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall. I'm glad to be a part of this second contest and I know our Hi-Q contestants are excited."

Indeed, they are excited. Garnet Valley won the championship contest against Penncrest and Chichester earlier this month to earn the honor of representing Delco Hi-Q. Garnet Valley faculty advisor Carol Rockafellow said it was "awesome" to be ending her 39-year teaching career on such a high note. She has been coaching Hi-Q teams for seventeen years. Rockafellow is joined by fellow advisor Dr. Lesley Arensberg in coaching this year's team.

The contest will be hosted at Delaware County Intermediate Unit's distance learning lab in Morton and is locally sponsored by Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union. It will be recorded through Everett Community College in Everett, Washington and available for later viewing at [www.delcohiq.org](http://www.delcohiq.org).

The team will also represent Delaware County at the Pennsylvania Academic Quiz Competition on May 6 in Harrisburg. That competition, a slightly different format from Hi-Q, is sponsored by Chester County Intermediate Unit and is played against academic quiz teams from across the state.

Delco-Hi-Q, founded in 1948, is the oldest continuous academic quiz competition in the United States. It is a partnership between Delaware County Intermediate Unit and Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union. Veteran actor Tom McCarthy is Quizmaster, Rick Durante from Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union Foundation serves as Director, Dave Bramble from Delaware County Intermediate Unit is the production engineer, Michelle Skrobak and Wes Crane are Hi-Q Coordinators.

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 63<sup>rd</sup> Season.

Photo Caption:

**The Garnet Valley High School Team prepares to compete at the 63<sup>rd</sup> Delco Hi-Q Championship Contest.** Back (L to R): Faculty Advisor Carol Rockafellow, Tom Scott, Bryan Fox Haley Randolph, Mory Elsaify, John Curran, John Mygra, and Faculty Advisor Dr Leslie Arensberg. Seated (L to R): Michael Dubnansky, Kevin Wharton, Paul Becker, and Alex Gil.



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