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RIDLEY AND THE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY EARN DELCO Hi-Q WINS

The third round of Delco Hi-Q competition tends to bring out the competitive spirit in teams. Hi-Q teams compete in three regular season contests and the cumulative points of all three determine playoff positions. Contestants know that every point counts as they strive to gain enough points to take one of seven playoff spots. Ridley High School and The Christian Academy needed to be especially strong this week to stay in contention. Both teams have a chance to take at least the seventh playoff spot and both have showed great improvement over last season.

Contest fifteen of the season played to a packed and enthusiastic auditorium at Cardinal O'Hara High School on February 1st when the O'Hara Lions hosted Ridley and Sun Valley. Welcoming remarks were made by the principal, Mrs. Marie Rogai and Mrs. Janet Fitzgerald, representing Delco Hi-Q's primary sponsor, Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union.

The social studies curriculum seemed to be the big winner in this contest. All but one question in the social studies categories were neatly handled by all three teams. The Ridley Green Raiders proved to be a force to be reckoned with by picking up points in all but the Toss-Up Math category where only one team can supply the correct answer. Ridley and O'Hara went four for four in the Social Studies categories. Ridley added to their lead by picking up two bonus points and four points in the Team Choice Toss Up. O'Hara kept the heat on the scoreboard leader but missing answers in two categories gave Ridley a solid six point lead at the half. O'Hara pulled within three points after the Team Choice Category, where all three teams correctly answered their team choice. Sun Valley had a consistent showing in this contest answering four questions for points in the first half and five questions for points in the second. Ridley scored their biggest win in years and hold a slim chance at gaining a playoff spot. All three teams bested their scores from this season's prior competitions. **Final Scores: Cardinal O'Hara – 40, Sun Valley – 33, and Ridley - 51.**

The next day's contest was like homecoming weekend with several alumni in attendance. Mr. John Unangst, Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union's President/CEO, Mr. Rick Durante, Delco Hi-Q Executive Director, and Ms. Michelle Skrobak, Delco Hi-Q Assistant each Interboro High School graduates, received a warm welcome from the home crowd. Opening remarks we made by Ms. Valerie Eckman,

Interboro Assistant Principal and Mrs. Peggy Wanger, a retired Interboro teacher representing the Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union also spoke to the audience, reminding them about the John D. Unangst Scholarships which will be awarded at the 2012 Partners in Learning Celebration.

The Christian Academy lived up to their motto of the pursuit of excellence as they fought to gain the points they need to make the playoffs. TCA answered eleven questions, as well as, the Team Choice Toss Up question correctly, and picked up seven bonus points to take a commanding lead in this contest. Interboro did well in the language arts categories- picking up points in both Literature and Shakespeare and they swept the American Government category adding six points to their total score. The Academy Park Knights earned points answering their questions correctly in the Geography, Physics and Shakespeare categories. None of the teams could come up with the final toss-up Math question posed by Quizmaster Tom McCarthy but it didn't matter since TCA held the lead from start to finish. TCA took a big win and may have scored enough points to make the playoffs. **Final Scores: Interboro – 20, The Christian Academy – 49 and Academy Park – 10.**

The third round continues on Monday February 6, when Monsignor Bonner High School hosts Springfield and Delaware County Christian School. With the fate of Monsignor Bonner still undecided, this contest may be the last ever held at Bonner. It may also decide the playoff fates of several teams.

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, Michelle Skrobak and Karen Hassett are Hi-Q Coordinators.

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