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COLUMNISTS

Paul Henry Abram

Ronna Adler

Judith Allender

Dr. Bill Atwood

Dwight Barnes

Daniel Blodgett MD

Cathie Campbell

Tom Elias

Jim Flanagan

Elizabeth Gabriel

Grace Grady-Barnes

Bryan Greeson

Mike Hackworth

Al Joyal

Tony Krizan

Ed Lyons

David Richards

Earlene Ward

EDUCATION

Fifty students go to Academic Decathlon

(Updated Friday, February 2, 2007, 1:44 PM)

The Madera County Office of Education will host the 25th annual Academic Decathlon on Saturday, Feb. 3 at Madera South High School.

More than 50 students from six high schools will compete in this 10-event academic competition.

The 2007 Academic Decathlon topic is "China and Its Influence on the World." The Super Quiz topic is "An Introduction to Climatology," featuring a case study of China.

After the Super Quiz and reception, Madera County Office of Education and Madera County Schools Foundation will celebrate the Madera County Academic Decathlon's 25th Anniversary.

Former decathletes and coaches will be honored at a special celebration, and storyboards featuring each year will be displayed.

"For 25 years Madera County's Academic Decathlon has challenged students to reach for new heights," said Dr. Sally Frazier, Madera County superintendent of schools. "It is a wonderful way for our community to come together to celebrate commitment and success."

Decathletes will be required to deliver a prepared speech, an impromptu speech and conduct a mock interview before a panel of judges.

In addition to the speech and interview, students will take seven objective tests on the subjects of art, economics, language and literature, mathematics, music, social science and science.

"The Academic Decathlon is an awesome event that builds upon student's poise and confidence," Frazier said.

The last event will be the Super Quiz. While in front of an audience, students from each school will answer questions on climatology.

The Super Quiz begins at 2:30 p.m., followed by a reception. The anniversary celebration will begin at 4 p.m. The public is invited to attend all of the afternoon events.

The winning team will be announced and individual awards will be given at the awards ceremony beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Along with representatives from legislative officials, local community members and business persons will be presenting awards during the awards ceremony.

The winner of the county competition will move on to the state competition in Los Angeles on March 15 through the 18 to represent Madera County.

A \$100 scholarship will be awarded to the top-ranking senior from each school and the gold-medal winner of each category. The individual who scores the most of points in the competition will receive a \$200 scholarship.

The schools participating this year are: Chawanakee Academy, Chowchilla High, Liberty High, Madera High, Madera South High and Yosemite High.

This is the first year Madera South will participate in the competition.

More than 75 volunteers from Madera County will help during the event. Volunteers will serve as speech and interview judges, will administer tests and will be Super Quiz proctors



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as well as assisting in other areas.

Students participating in the Academic Decathlon are also eligible to receive college credit from Fresno State. Students must attend three workshops at Fresno State and take all of the objective tests.

For more information call Kristi Peine, Events Developer at (559) 673-6051 Ext. 273.



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