

Schools

Madison wins academic competition

Thousands of students throughout the country and in many foreign countries competed Dec. 2 in the 53rd Knowledge Master Open academic competition. Middle school, junior high and high school students faced their computers and 200 tough questions to vie for top scores based on the accuracy and speed of their answers.

The questions were from a variety of subject areas: American history, world history, government, recent events, economics and law, geography, literature, English, math, physical science, biology, earth science, health and psychology, fine arts, and

useless trivia.

A team of 16 students at Madison Middle School scored 1,517 points of 2,000 possible points. Out of 200 questions, the Madison team answered 193 correctly, placing Madison first in the state. Just as impressive is that Madison's team placed 11th nationally out of almost 600 teams.

Academic Coach Roberta Weiner described the event "as a tremendous, cooperative work effort by the Knowledge Master Team. Each member brought his/her expertise to help the team win. Furthermore, this is a testament to the faculty at

Madison Middle School for the excellent teaching done each day."

Team members, comprised of students from grades 6 to 8 are: Steven Costello, James Donahue, Thomas Garzillo, Keshav Khazanchi, Maneesh Koneru, Jackson LaBoa, Larissa Mark, Danny Netting, Sam Nguyen, Rieya Phillip, Nikilha Ramachandran, Iris Rushkin, Maya Rushkin, Anuj Sisodiya, Molly Stewart, Varun Vallabhaneni and Maxwell Wu.

The Knowledge Master Open was designed to stimulate enthusiasm for learning and recognition

for academic accomplishment. The contest runs on classroom computers to allow all students the opportunity to compete in a large academic event without the expense of traveling to a central site. Results of the contest are tabulated into overall, state and enrollment-size rankings by Academic Hallmarks, a Colorado publishing firm that hosts the event.

Example questions are available at greatauk.com.

Madison's team will begin practicing for the spring competition. New members are always welcome.