

# KANSAS 2006 ACADEMIC DECATHLON WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Shawnee Mission South's Academic Decathlon team took first place of 16 schools at the state competition held January 20 and 21 in Manhattan. South's team scored a record high team total to earn the right to represent Kansas at the national tournament April 26-29 in San Antonio, Texas.

Second place in the large school division was Shawnee Mission Northwest, coached by Sallie McQuiston. This team won the SuperQuiz Oral Competition on the topic of "The Renaissance." Third place honors went to a rookie team from Washburn Rural High School in Topeka competing for the first time at the state event with coach, Matt Mosher.

The Shawnee Mission South students earned the following medals in the honors category: Chris Hinton had the overall high score in honors category; first in speech, economics, essay, fine arts, language, and music; second in interview and Superquiz; and third in science. Simon Li took second overall; first in math and science; second in arts, economics, language, music, and speech; and third in Superquiz. Wendy Zhang was fourth overall; first in language; and second in fine arts, math, music, and science.

These students competed in the scholastic category: Kevin Able had the overall high score in the category; took first in math and music; second in arts and economics; and third in language and science. Sara Jordan was third overall; first in Superquiz and third in language. Josh Potter was second overall; first in science; and third in Superquiz.

These students competed in the varsity category: Matt Richardson had the overall high score; first in essay, fine arts, music, speech, and Superquiz; second in interview; and third in economics. Lou Schumaker was sixth overall; and third in interview. Scott Olinger also competed.

The small school division winner was the Blue Valley West High School team coached by Pam Fellingham. Second place honors went to Tracy Corey's Blue Valley North team and the trophy for third was won by Independence High School coached by Connie Staley.

Blue Valley West's Honors category achievements: Rebekah Schulz took first in Math and Music; second in Essay and Language/Literature. She ranked first on the BV West team and first Overall. Courtney Miller garnered seconds in Speech, Interview, and Essay. Kyle Dembinski won second in Economics while Melissa McCaw ranked second in Superquiz and third in Music.

Scholastic team members made a showing: Lesley Darsnek won second in Science and third in Essay and Economics. Meredith Miller came home with second in Economics and Essay and third in Music and Art. Jennifer Engdahl also took third in Music while Gill Wright garnered second in Math and third in Music.

BVWest Varsity contenders also did well: Katelin Walker won firsts in Essay, and Language/Literature, seconds in Science, Math, Economics, and Art, and a first Overall. Calvin Dugan won a first in Economics. Colwynne Ballenger took home a third in Math while Clay Freeman won second in Economics.