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MOORPARK HIGH SCHOOL WINS 2008 CALIFORNIA ACADEMIC DECATHLON

SACRAMENTO — Ventura County's Moorpark High School on Monday won the 2008 California Academic Decathlon. The team scored 52,879.4 points out of 60,000 possible, earning the school the state title and currently the highest, all-time score throughout the country.

Members of the winning team are Jonah Buck, Christie Calle, Colin Calle, Anaamika Campeau, Angela Chen, Justine Levan, Chrissa Rutkai, Kris Sankaran, Paul Watanabe and Coach Larry Jones.

The nine-member team will represent the state of California at the 2008 United States Academic Decathlon, scheduled April 30 – May 3, in Orange County, California.

Palisades Charter High School in LAUSD finished second with 51,364.2 points. El Camino Real High School in LAUSD finished third with 51,261.9 points.

Moorpark also finished first in the Super Quiz with 5,670 points followed by North Hollywood High School with 5,510 points and Palisades Charter High School with 5,260 points.

In addition to Moorpark's victory, University High/Fresno received the Small School title with 44,798.3 points and Duarte High/Los Angeles received the Medium School title with 42,905.1 points. University and Duarte will be eligible to compete in the United States Academic Decathlon On-line National Competitions.

The winners were announced before an enthusiastic crowd at the 2008 California Academic Decathlon's award ceremony at the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium.

Rounding out the top 10 scoring teams were Stockdale High/Kern County (45,989.9), Marshall High/LAUSD (47,042.2), Taft High/LAUSD (48,095.6), Casa Grande High/Sonoma County (48,537.7), Granada Hills Charter High/LAUSD (48,914.0), North Hollywood High/LAUSD (48,926.7), and Edison High/Fresno (49,049.3).



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School districts are divided into three categories based on their size: Division I (K-12 student populations of 130,000 or more), Division II (K-12 student populations between 29,001 and 129,999), and Division III (K-12 student populations at 29,000 and below).

The top three scoring Division II teams are: Casa Grande High (48,537.7), Sonoma; Vanden High (45010.1), Solano; and Oakdale High (43,628.5), Stanislaus.

The top three scoring Division III teams are: Marysville High (36,963.9), Yuba; Summerville High (35,631.4), Tuolumne; and Mountain Oaks Charter High (34,263.3), Calaveras.

In all, 54 high school teams from across the state competed in this year's California Academic Decathlon. Decathlete teams are comprised of three Honor students (3.75 and above GPA), three Scholastic students (3.00-3.74 GPA), and three Varsity students (2.99 GPA and below).

California has won the last five national titles and has won ten national titles in the past 14 years of national competition. In 25 years of national competition, California has placed first or second every year but one.

The California Academic Decathlon is supported solely by donations from businesses, foundations and private individuals who support this valuable opportunity to encourage, acknowledge and reward academic excellence by preparing and motivating high school students to achieve at a significantly advanced level through highly competitive cross disciplined scholastic events. Other major sponsors include the College Access Foundation of California, Genentech, Toyota Motors, ALL Student Loan,, the Patricia A. Brown Charitable Trust, Northrop Grumman, the California Community Foundation, Toyota Motors, All Student Loan, and Payne & Fears.

To learn more about the California Academic Decathlon, visit the CAD website at <http://www.academicdecathlon.org>

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