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**GRANADA HILLS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL WINS
2011 CALIFORNIA ACADEMIC DECATHLON**

SACRAMENTO — Los Angeles Unified School District's Granada Hills Charter High School today won the 2011 California Academic Decathlon. The team scored 50,801 points out of 60,000 possible, earning the school the state title this year.

Members of the winning team are Austin Kang, Celine Ta, Joon Lee (Honor Students); Harsimar Dhanoa, Shagun Goyal, Jiyong "Eugene" Lee (Scholastic Students); and Elysia Eastty, Rikiu Higashida, Sindhura Seeni (Varsity Students).

The nine-member team will represent the state of California and defend its eighth consecutive national titles at the 30th Annual United States Academic Decathlon Competition, scheduled April 27 - 30, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

In addition to Granada Hill's victory, Marshall High/Los Angeles Unified School District received the Large School title with 49,889, Hallmark High/Fresno County received the Medium School title with 41,356 and University High/Fresno County received the Small School title with 44,745 points. All three high schools will be eligible to compete in the United States Academic Decathlon On-line National Competitions taking place in April.

For the second consecutive year in Super Quiz, Marshall High School finished first with 5,190 points out of 6,000 points possible. Edison High School/Fresno County finished second with 5,175 points and Granada Hills finished third with 5,095 points.

The winners were announced before an enthusiastic crowd at the 2011 California Academic Decathlon's award ceremony at the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium.

Rounding out the top 10 scoring teams were Marshall/LAUSD (49,889), El Camino Real/LAUSD (48,047), Edison/Fresno County (47,857), West/Los Angeles County (45,572), Franklin/LAUSD (45,173), Palisades Charter/LAUSD (45,040), Oakdale/Stanislaus County (44,876), William Taft/LAUSD (44,826), and University/Fresno County (44,745).

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The state competition is divided into three divisions based on their regional score: Division I (top 20 highest scoring teams), Division II (next top 20 highest scoring teams), and Division III (next top 25 highest scoring teams). The format allows teams to compete with other teams of similar scores. Furthermore, it gives developing counties the opportunity to experience a state championship and a chance for their decathletes to attain medals for their achievement at a level of competition that best fits where they are currently at.

The top three scoring Division II teams are: Chino Hills/San Bernardino County (42,954), Torrance/Los Angeles (42,839), Burbank/Los Angeles (42,051).

The top three scoring Division III teams are: Olympian/San Diego County (40,357), Oxnard/Ventura County (38,770), and West Ranch/Los Angeles (38,340).

In all, 567 students representing 65 high school teams from across the state competed in this year's California Academic Decathlon. 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 eight national titles and has won thirteen national titles in the past 16 years of national competition. In 29 years of national competition, California has placed first or second every year but one.

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

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