

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

January 30, 2003

For Immediate Release

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces: Academic Decathlon 2003 Saturday, February 1, 2003 × Porterville College

Tulare County Office of Education will once again host the Academic Decathlon, a ten-event, scholastic competition for teams of high school students. The event will take place this Saturday, February 1, at Porterville College.

This year, fourteen teams of Tulare County's best and brightest students from thirteen area high schools will compete. Schools fielding teams are: Dinuba High School; Exeter High School; Farmersville High School; Golden West High School, Visalia; Granite Hills High School, Porterville; Lindsay High School; Monache High School, Porterville; Orosi High School; Porterville High School; Strathmore High School; Tulare Union High School; Tulare Western High School; and Woodlake High School.

Each team has six to nine members who will compete in ten grueling events in the Academic Decathlon. Team members will test their knowledge of subjects including economics, mathematics, music, art, language and literature, and social science. In addition, the contestants perform prepared and impromptu speeches, write essays on a given topic and are interviewed by a panel of judges.

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The final competitive event is the academic relay known as the oral “Super Quiz.” This year’s Super Quiz topic is “The Blue Planet – Beneath the Surface.” The Super Quiz round of competition takes place at 2:30 p.m. in the Porterville College Theater and is open to the public. The Super Quiz will be immediately followed by a reception to honor the students and their coaches. An awards ceremony to recognize the top teams will follow the reception and is scheduled to begin at 4:00 p.m.

“Academic Decathlon is a very competitive event with some strong rivalries among our schools. I particularly enjoy the level of friendly competition and excitement that always surrounds the Super Quiz finale,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak.

“If you have the opportunity to see the Super Quiz competition, you should take it,” says Vidak. “It’s great to watch our students competing and the oral quiz format can be quite lively at times,” he adds.

For more information about the Academic Decathlon, please call Carmen Friesen at (559) 651-3046 or visit our website at www.tcoe.org.

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