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Students Earn Multiple Top Awards at Regional Science Fair

February 21, 2008, Jacksonville, Florida—On Monday, February 18, over 300 of the best science projects in northeast Florida were judged at the regional science fair, held at the University of North Florida. Episcopal sent nine Upper School projects and 25 Middle School projects; those projects won nine first-place awards, and will fill 15 of the 38 state science-fair positions. Most impressive, of the six positions available, five Episcopal projects were chosen to represent the region in the international science fair. Only a handful of schools in the world will send as many projects to this prestigious international fair.

The 2008 state science fair will be held in Lakeland, Florida, April 16-18. Representing the sixth-eighth grade junior division will be Caitlin Dempsey '12, Daniel Hered '12, Kristen Huyghue '12, Emily Smithwick '12, Ali Wells '12 and Brigitte Wittmer '12. Representing the ninth-12th grade senior division will be Peter Blumeyer '08, Greg Kennedy '08, Will Kennedy '08, Jason Marks '08, Nathan Monroe '09, Tess Peterson '08, Satchel Siegel '11, Micha'le Simmons '08, and Cole Taylor '08.

The international science fair will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, May 11-16, 2008. Five Episcopal students will compete:

- Jason Marks, for his project titled "Effect of polymorphic alleles found in the NPPA and NPRA genes on the development of asthma."
- Nathan Monroe, for his project titled "Harnessing solar energy, year 4: increasing the efficiency of a hybrid polymer photovoltaic cell with the addition of zinc oxide nanofibers in varying lengths."
- Tess Peterson, for her project titled "Chicken-embryo development after exposure to MMT, a fuel additive: year 2."
- Greg and Will Kennedy for their team project titled, "Targeting the mTOR pathway enhanced chemosensitivity of metastatic melanoma to Paclitaxel."

During last year's international science fair, two Episcopal students, Meredith Boulos '10 and Daniel Murphy '07, won place awards and special prizes totaling over \$5,000.

In addition to earning top honors during Monday's regional science fair, Episcopal's competing students took home over 50 special- and place-awards, cash prizes, trophies, medallions, books and magazine subscriptions from organizations such as *Scientific American*, ASM Material Education International Foundation, the US Navy & US Marine Corps, the US Department of Health and Human Services, Yale Science & Engineering Association, Discovery Education's Young Scientist, and other notable groups.

For information about any student or project, please contact the Episcopal Communications Office.

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The mission of Episcopal High School is to provide a superior college-preparatory education in an environment marked by high expectation, Christian nurture and social diversity. Through a balanced program of academics, arts and athletics, Episcopal's faculty seeks to instill in each student intellectual growth, character development, responsible leadership and a commitment to community service.