

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

February 5, 2007

For Immediate Release

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

Academic Decathlon 2007

**Friday, February 2, 2007 · Tulare Country Office of Education Doe Complex
(8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Closed to Public)**

Saturday, February 3, 2007 · Porterville College (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Closed to Public; 2:00 p.m. Super Quiz and Awards Ceremony – Open to the Public)

Tulare County Office of Education will once again host the Academic Decathlon, a ten-part event, scholastic competition for teams of high school students. The event will take place Friday and Saturday, February 2-3, 2007. This year, 17 teams of Tulare County's best and brightest students from 11 high schools will compete. Teams compete in two divisions. The teams competing in the Large School Division include: Tulare Western High School; Porterville High School Teams A, B, and C; Granite Hills High School Teams A and B (Porterville); Redwood High School (Visalia); Monache High School (Porterville); and Dinuba High School Teams A and B. In the Small School Division, teams competing include: Lindsay High School Teams A and B; Woodlake High School Teams A and B; Strathmore High School; Orosi High School; and Farmersville High School.

Each team has six to nine members who compete in ten grueling events in the Academic Decathlon. Team members test their knowledge of subjects including economics, mathematics, music, art, language and literature, and science. In addition, the contestants will present prepared and impromptu speeches, write an essay on a given topic, and be interviewed by a panel of judges. These events – which are not

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open to the public – are held on Friday at the Tulare County Office of Education’s Doe Avenue Complex beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The public is invited to the final competitive event known as the “Super Quiz.” This year’s Super Quiz topic is “China and Its Influence on the World.” The Super Quiz round of competition takes place on Saturday, at 2:00 p.m. at Porterville College. 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 3:30 p.m.

“Academic Decathlon is a very competitive event with some strong rivalries among our schools. I particularly enjoy the competition and excitement that surrounds the Super Quiz finale,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “I encourage the public to attend this segment of the competition and enjoy the amazing abilities of our students.”

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

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