

Academic Decathlon trying to reach the beach

LeeAnne Gerz

by news manager

This year the students in Academic Decathlon have been studying every day.

They have been sacrificing weekends to research papers.

They have been doing this all in the name of good sportsmanship and the quest for knowledge.

All that and a trip to Hawaii.

If the ACADECA teams win the regional and state they get the chance to go to Hawaii for nationals.

The teams are honors, scholastics, and varsity.

Each team has three players and one alternate.

"We've been doing so well this year," senior Meg Garnet, varsity captain said. "Carly (Goodman) and Bret (Harbin) are really great."

Senior Mathias Hake agreed. "(Captains) Eric (Norgard) and Corey (Stone) have really good scores," Hake said. "Their average score is 564 out of 1000."

Scores are based off of tests that are taken to show how much

a student has studied in a given subject. Some the tests subjects are like art, botany, economics, and music.

"[The scores] aren't exceptional but they are really good."

Hake also said that the entire class is trying to get their average scores up to the higher 800's before state.

To help keep the teams motivated, they have enlisted the help of spirit "captains" seniors Katrina West and Ankit Agrawal.

"I go in during lunch and 'yell' at people do their work," West said, "I also tell people they aren't stupid."

The studying and motivation may be paying off. At a recent competition senior Eric Norgard won first place in the honors economic category, much to some schools' dismay.

"When Eric won, Creighton Prep was really upset," Garnett said, "they said that they

should have won and that we were a 'ghetto' school."

Because of comments like that North and Creighton Prep have developed a rivalry. "They think that we have no money," Garnett said.

Senior Corey Stone added that there was an incident at a meet a last year involving Vik the Viking and the Creighton Prep bluejay.

"Vik slapped the bluejay," Stone said. "It was really funny."

But rivalry aside, Hake said nothing's going to distract them from Hawaii. "Hawaii is the big thing this year, that's what we're working so hard to achieve."

To make sure they have every possible chance to win, ACADECA is sticking to rituals and traditions.



They've Got The Music In Them

Reported by Logan Watson

"It's looks good on a college résumé." This was the first thing sophomore Chris Huston said when asked why he created the A.L.L Music Club.

Huston, who is a self-proclaimed music lover, knew he wanted to be in charge of something he could be proud of.

"I knew I wanted to be president of club," Huston said, "then I realized I couldn't 'escape' music."

The club was started at the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year and currently has about seven members that meet Thursday afternoons at about 3 o'clock and lasts about 45 minutes to an hour.

After Huston came to his

realization and fellow sophomores James "Whit" Compton and Dakota Horrell worked on the concept for the club. After some consideration they came up with the idea for A.L.L Music Club.

Huston considers the club a great place to lay back and relax after school. "It's a place to hang out and share music," he said.

All three boys describe the club as having different tastes in music, but it's all in the quest help people 'see music for what it is'. Currently the club is listening to Bill Hicks, a former stand up comedian.

Later in the year the club is planning a trip to the Omaha Symphony.

Some include if two people are dating they cannot break up, and no lights off in the ACADECA room.

Their collective score is 23,000, but it needs to be up to 25,000 for nationals.

But Garnett said that she would

not be completely disappointed if ACADECA did not win.

"Because of the great teams we're going to go far," she said, "even if we don't medal (at state) we're going to go far."

They ACADECA

team would also like to extend an invitation to come watch them compete at a quiz bowl on Saturday February 17.

"It would be great if people would come watch us play," Goodman said. "Especially this close

STUDENT OF THE MONTH: TEACHERS CHOICE



WRITTEN BY BRIANA BALLEW

Student of the month (SOM) was started again this year after receiving sponsorship from the Elk Lodge No. 39.

The Elks are a fraternal organization that sole purpose is to promote the welfare and happiness of its members while serving the government and its people through beneficial programs.

The Elk Lodge contacted North High School and proposed that the SOM program be reinstated for the 2006-2007 school year.

North hasn't had SOM sponsorship for a few years.

Each month staff members are asked to nominate students, one from each grade level.

"The hardest part is getting nominations," said Carrie Freeman, Dean of Students.

Ms. Freeman has a FirstClass e-mail conference where teachers can post their student nominations.

"I'm looking for students of all varieties, not just A+ students," said Freeman

One of the following: attendance, behavior, and academics are the three requirements taken into consideration each month.

When nominated the teacher recommendations must explain which one the student accomplished.

The whole purpose of the program is to recognize student's talents, and school involvement.

Students chosen for SOM get their picture taken to be place in a showcase in the main hallway.

They also receive a certificate and a congratulations letter from the administration.

The senior student chosen is presented in the Elk Lodge magazine and is placed in their monthly lottery to receive a fifty-dollar savings bond.

North High School SOM program officially started September 15th, 2006 and will end May 15th, 2007, perhaps to continue next year.

Out of the five months that the SOM has been in operation, North High has only participated in three of those months.

"The teachers must nominate someone for us to be able to have a student of the month," said Freeman.

Recommendations are due before the last day of each month.

There are four more chances for SOM during the 2006-2007 school year.

The Elk lodge expects a senior monthly to be in their magazine and their lottery.

The Elks participate in drug prevention through education, provide scholarships for financial need students, sponsor youth sports and scouting troops, as well as sponsors twenty-seven schools through out the Omaha metro area for SOM.