



St. Eugene School
Guiding hearts, growing minds



Sharing the Good News

February 9, 2010

St. Eugene Wins First Place at Dominican Academic Challenge

Consistent success.

That's what was demonstrated by fourteen students from St. Eugene School who went to Dominican High School to compete in the annual Dominican Academic Challenge on Friday, January 29.

Out of 18 schools participating, St. Eugene students had the highest average score, winning 1st place for the third year in a row.

The Dominican Academic Challenge is set up so that each student competes in a different area: art, English, math, religious studies, science, social studies, or Spanish. Individual students who placed 1st or 2nd in their grade level were announced.

St. Eugene student Jacob Drehobl placed 1st in math for 8th grade. Margaret Naczek placed 2nd in Spanish for 8th grade, and Sarah Baker placed 1st in religious studies for 7th graders.

For school awards, Dominican divides the schools competing into a large school division and a small school division. St. Eugene School won 1st place in the small school division, but Ed Foy, the Dean of Academics at Dominican, told the St. Eugene team that they had indeed had the highest overall score, beating the larger schools as well.

St. Eugene students were curious about that, since they knew that two of the larger schools had had more individual winners announced (four or five, compared to St. Eugene's three).

St. Eugene principal Michael Taylor explained, "I told the students that the reason was most likely that everyone did fairly well. Having the highest average score suggests that none of the St. Eugene students did poorly to drag down the average. Probably we had a lot of students scoring 3rd, 4th, or 5th, really helping the team without getting the recognition that went with 1st or 2nd place individually."

Not only did this year's team show consistent success across all fourteen team members, but St. Eugene teams have been remarkably consistent year after year at this competition.

This is the third year in a row that the St. Eugene team has won first place. Before that, our teams won second place for four years in a row. We are not aware of any other Catholic school that has shown this kind of consistent strength at the Dominican Academic Challenge.

Congratulations to the St. Eugene team members!

8th grade: Helen Barzyk, Jacob Drehobl, Mickey Gral, Joey Hoffmann, Sydney Manista, Margaret Naczek, and Mike Roche

7th grade: Sarah Baker, Claire Barzyk, Ryan Carter, Marci Klugiewicz, Michael Sesini, Peter Ullrich, and Matthew Weiler