Dear Academic Challenge Team Coach:

The Texas Academic Challenge State Championship will be held on Saturday, March 5th, 2011.

Who is eligible: Public and private high schools in Texas who have had some degree of success in Academic Challenge competition in their local area are eligible. Invitations will be based on a team’s record, taking into account the degree of competitiveness in local contests and the need for geographic diversity to broadly represent the state. The maximum number of teams that can compete is 36.

Format: In each individual match, teams of four students from two high schools compete by answering questions in a “College Bowl” style contest. Questions vary in both type and level of difficulty and cover a wide range of subjects. Individual matches last about 25 minutes, and we will try to guarantee each school a minimum of four matches. Matches will begin about 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning and continue until late afternoon.

Deadline: The last possible date to apply is Wednesday, February 23rd. It is best to apply as early as possible. If your school is slow about processing the entry fee check, let me know your intentions by mailing or faxing me a copy of the application form as early as possible as space is limited.

Schedule: The schedule will be posted on the SHSU Academic Challenge web site at www.shsu.edu/~acp_www/ by Monday, February 28th. The initial match ups will be determined by a random draw.

Awards: Trophies will be awarded to the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Place winners. Medallions for individual team members and coaches of the First and Second Place teams will be presented.

Arrangements: Directions and maps to the University will be available at www.shsu.edu/~acp_www/. Rules, score sheets, and schedules will also be posted there. Complimentary morning and afternoon snacks will be available. In this era of fiscal austerity we will not host a luncheon for teams this semester so we can reduce the entry fee to $200. You will have about 90 minutes to go off campus for lunch.

To Apply: Fill out the enclosed application or download one from the web site. Be sure to include the coach’s e-mail address and all participants’ T-shirt sizes. Please make your check for $200 payable to Sam Houston State University Academic Challenge. The application and registration fee should be mailed to Dr. Mitzi Mahoney, P. O. Box 2149, SHSU, Huntsville, TX 77341.

The final schedule will be posted at www.shsu.edu/~acp_www/ on Monday, February 28th.

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