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For Immediate Release

Area Schools Compete in DOE’s National Science Bowl[®] *America’s Future Scientists and Engineers Show What They Know*

AIKEN, S.C., (February 4) –America's next generation of scientists and engineers will soon put their knowledge to the test in the country’s largest science tournament. The Department of Energy’s (DOE) National Science Bowl[®] involves more than 17,000 students competing in regional events held in 41 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Each match will put students’ knowledge to the test in science and math using a fast-paced question and answer format similar to *Jeopardy*. DOE’s National Science Bowl is the only educational event and academic competition of its kind that is sponsored by a federal agency.

“Developing the students who will be our next generation of scientists and engineers is critically important,” said Jeff Allison, Manager, Department of Energy-Savannah River Operations Office. “In many ways, the economic success of our nation’s future lies in their hands.”

DOE’s National Science Bowl for high school students features 67 regional competitions, each one sending a winning team to the National Finals (all-expenses-paid trip), scheduled for May 1-6, in Washington, DC.

The national championship team will win its choice of three science-related trips, which include locations in the U.S., France and England.

Ten CSRA high schools will compete against 13 other teams from South Carolina in the 18th annual Department of Energy Regional Science Bowl at The University of South Carolina Aiken Saturday, Feb. 9. Competition begins at 9 a.m. at USC Aiken’s Business and Education Building.

(more)

The WSRC Team:

Washington Savannah River Company LLC • Bechtel Savannah River, Inc. • BNG America Savannah River Corporation
BWXT Savannah River Company • CH2 Savannah River Company

Aiken High School, Aquinas High School, Augusta Area Homeschoolers, Augusta Preparatory Day School, Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School, Fox Creek High School, Lakeside High School, North Augusta High School and South Aiken High School are the local contestants.

Since DOE's National Science Bowl began in 1991, more than 130,000 students – and their teachers – have participated. Student teams, which consist of four students, an alternate, and a teacher/coach, practice for months before the competition. Many teams even test their knowledge against real scientists at major corporations or DOE's National Laboratories, who volunteer their time to help students prepare to answer complex questions.

The competition's questions are so complex that they often stump professional scientists. For example:

- *Physics* – Assuming $g = 10$ meters per/sec², if a pulley is used to lift a 1 Kg weight 2 meters high, how much work in SI units was expended to overcome friction if 20 Newtons of effort was used? Answer: 20 Joules
- *General Science* – This fungus is the causative agent for what was known in medieval times as St. Anthony's fire and is now used as a source for certain drugs. Answer: Ergot

More information about DOE's National Science Bowl[®] is available at:

<http://nationalsciencebowl.energy.gov>

In addition to DOE, the Washington Savannah River Company (WSRC) Team and the University of South Carolina Aiken are partners in putting together this year's regional Science Bowl.

“For 18 years now, WSRC's educational outreach program has supported a variety of events throughout the school year,” said Barbara Smoak, manager, WSRC Educational Outreach. “We do not look at this effort as an obligation. Rather, it is an honor and a privilege to share in the excitement, joy and personal growth experienced by participating students and teachers.”

SRS is owned by the U.S. Department of Energy and operated by a team of companies led by the Washington Savannah River Company.

Note to Editors: See attached map for directions. Reporters are welcome to attend the event. *Reporters wishing to attend should call the media contact listed above.*

2008 DOE Savannah River Regional Science Bowl Teams

1. Aiken High School, Aiken, SC
2. Andrew Jackson High School, Kershaw, SC
3. Aquinas High School, Augusta, Ga.
4. Augusta Area Homeschoolers, Martinez, Ga.
5. Augusta Preparatory Day School, Martinez, Ga.
6. Blythewood High School, Blythewood, SC
7. Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School, Augusta, Ga. (two teams)
8. Dorman High School, Roebuck, SC (two teams)
9. Dreher High School, Columbia, SC
10. Fox Creek High School, North Augusta, SC
11. Gaffney High School, Gaffney, SC
12. Hanahan High School, Hanahan, SC
13. Irmo High School, Irmo, SC
14. James F. Byrnes High School, Duncan, SC
15. Lakeside High School, Evans, Ga. (two teams)
16. Laurens District 55 High School, Laurens, SC (two teams)
17. North Augusta High School, North Augusta, SC
18. South Aiken High School, Aiken, SC (two teams)



DOE Savannah River Regional Science Bowl February 9, 2008 University of South Carolina-Aiken

Schedule of Activities

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|-----------------------|--|
| 8-8:30 a.m. | Registration for Teams and Volunteers
1st Floor Lobby, Business and Education Building |
| 8:15 a.m. | Moderators and Scientific Judges Meeting
Room 116 |
| 8:30-8:50 a.m. | Welcome/Introductions
2 nd Floor Gymnasium
Barbara Smoak, Washington Savannah River Company
Patrick McGuire, U. S. Department of Energy, Savannah River |

9 a.m.	Round Robin Matches Begin See schema in gym
11:30 a.m.	Tie Breakers (if necessary)
12:30-1:30 p.m.	Lunch Student Activity Building
1:20 p.m.	Top two teams from each division meet at stage for instructions
1:30 p.m.	Double Elimination Matches – Top 8 Teams Brainteaser Activity in Gym
3:30 p.m.	Final Science Bowl Rounds Room 122
4 or 4:30 p.m.	Awards Presentation (immediately following final round)

WSRC-08-04



Map Legend

1. Robert E. Penland Administration Building
2. USC Aiken Children's Center
3. Gregg-Graniteville Library
4. Humanities/Social Sciences Building
5. Sciences Building
6. Pacer Downs Student Housing
7. Pacer Park Field
8. The Etherredge Center for Fine and Performing Arts
9. Pickens-Salley House
10. Ruth Patrick Science Education Center
11. Business and Education Building / Wellness Center
12. Supply and Maintenance Building
13. Student Activities Center/ Natatorium
14. J.H. Satcher Softball Field
15. University Police Building
16. Tennis Courts
17. Alan B. Miller Nursing Building
18. Roberto Hernandez Baseball Stadium
19. Pacer Commons Student Housing
20. The Convocation Center

Directions to USC Aiken

Traveling I-20 East:

Exit I-20 at Exit 18/Highway 19. Turn right onto Highway 19. Go 4.2 miles. Turn right onto Highway 118 and go 3.1 miles. Turn left onto University Parkway. Go through the traffic light. USC Aiken will be on your right.

Traveling I-20 West:

Exit I-20 at Exit 22/Highway 1. Turn left onto Highway 1. Go 8.0 miles. Turn right onto Richland Avenue/Highways 78/1. Go 2.8 miles (passing through the downtown business district). Turn right onto University Parkway. Go .6 miles. USC Aiken will be on your left.

University of South Carolina Aiken
471 University Parkway
Aiken, SC 29801
803-648-6851