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Education

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## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Ohio Teams Dominate 2008 National Science Olympiad** *Middle and High School Students Represent Ohio at Tournament*

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 2 — On May 30–31, 2008, all four Ohio teams placed in the top three in each division of the **National Science Olympiad** held at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Solon Middle School (44139) won the middle school division with Magsig Middle School (45459) coming in third. In the high school division, Solon High School (44139) took second place and Centerville High School (45459) ranked third.

“Ohio schools always do very well at the national tournament, usually all placing in the top 10. This is the first time that a state has had four teams place in the top three of both divisions,” says The Ohio State University Office of Continuing Education Conference Management Program Manager and **Ohio Science Olympiad** State Director Sarah Sieling (43214). “As usual Ohio has some of the best science teams in the country.”

The four Ohio teams advanced from the 24<sup>th</sup> annual state-level competition held on April 12, 2008, at The Ohio State University where over 40 middle and 40 high school teams of 15 students each plus alternates competed in events, such as Disease Detective, Mystery Architecture, Sounds of Music, and Robot Ramble, for the opportunity to represent the state at the **National Science Olympiad**.

At the national tournament, students from more than 120 teams of champions from across the United States participated in more than three dozen events, such as bridge-building, genetics, chemistry, and astronomy.

The tournament is a rigorous academic interscholastic competition that consists of a series of individual and team events for which students prepare throughout the school year. Requiring knowledge of science facts, concepts, processes, skills, and application, these challenging and motivational events are well-balanced among the various STEM disciplines of biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, computers, and technology.

The National Research Council recognizes **Science Olympiad** as a model program in the National Science Standards. The **Science Olympiad** is a national nonprofit organization devoted to improving the quality of science education, creating a passion for the learning of science, and providing recognition for outstanding achievement in science education by both students and teachers.

The 25<sup>th</sup> annual **Ohio Science Olympiad** tournament will be held April 18, 2009, at The Ohio State University.

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For more information regarding the **Ohio Science Olympiad**, visit [ced.osu.edu/scioly](http://ced.osu.edu/scioly) or call (614) 292-8571. Information about the **National Science Olympiad**, including the official list of this year's winners, can be found at [soinc.org](http://soinc.org).

The Department of Conference Management in The Ohio State University Office of Continuing Education (CEd) specializes in providing meeting and conference management services — from pre-conference concept to post-conference follow-up — on a cost-effective basis to the university community as well as to private and public businesses and associations. For more information on CEd's Conference Management services, visit [ced.osu.edu](http://ced.osu.edu) and click on "Conference Management," or contact Sarah Sieling in the Office of Continuing Education at (614) 292-8571.

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**Editor's Note:** Interviews regarding the **Ohio Science Olympiad** are available by contacting Latina A. D. Rockhold, CEd public relations/communications coordinator, at (614) 688-3310 or [rockhold.14@osu.edu](mailto:rockhold.14@osu.edu).