

## The Odyssey Continues

By Steve Angelides

**F**our Lamorinda teams each placed second in their division at the Odyssey of the Mind creative problem-solving California state tournament in Visalia on March 31, earning the opportunity to compete in the world tournament in Michigan in May.

The Miramonte High School and Stanley Middle School teams each placed second in their division in the problem entitled "I'm Only Thinking of You!" For this problem, teams create and present an original humorous performance that includes a self-centered character who attempts to take advantage of others three times.

The Moraga Rotary Team from Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School placed second in the problem entitled "The Large and Small of It." This problem requires teams to create and present an original performance that integrates team-created small pages and large versions that change appearance. The large versions serve as stage sets for the performance. The Moraga team used a James Bond theme for its performance.

The Happy Valley Ele-

mentary School team placed second in the problem entitled "Around the World in 8 Minutes." In this problem, teams create and present a performance of a trip around the world that includes stops at three locations, two real and one imaginary. The Happy Valley team's performance used pen and pencil characters that traveled to Pennsylvania and to the imaginary pen and pencil land.

Besides the four Lamorinda teams headed to Michigan this year, four other Lamorinda teams competed at the California State tournament in Visalia. In "Around the World in 8 Minutes," the fifth grade Moraga Rotary Club team placed third, the Burton Valley Elementary

School Team A placed sixth, the Orinda Intermediate School Purple Team placed seventh, and the Moraga Rotary Club Team C placed eleventh. The Orinda Intermediate School Purple Team also placed fourth in "The Large and Small of It."

To be eligible to compete at the state tournament, the eight Lamorinda teams placed in the top three in their division in their problem at the East Bay Regional tournament held at College Park High School on March 3. Of the 157 teams competing at the state tournament in Visalia, 31 were from the East Bay. Twelve of the 32 California teams advancing to the world tournament are from the East Bay.



Back: Ari Frankel, Anna Hirsh; Front: Jess Kallen, Brendan O'Donnell, Casey Sclar, Nikki Kurtz, Kelly Rice.

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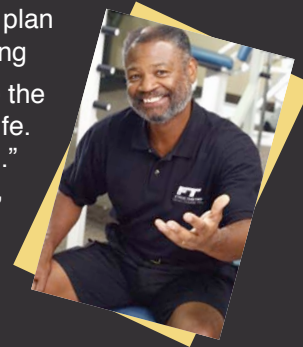
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