

# LOCAL NEWS

## Academic Challenge experiencing successful season

By Teri Davis  
Contributing Writer

CLAYTON — Claiming a \$6000 cash prize recently, the Northmont High School's Academic Challenge Team is experiencing a successful season so far.

Consisting of seniors Breanna Dominguez and Ryan Kirby, Freshmen Tori Amos and Sam Blizzard, and alternate sophomore Kennedy Amos and coached by David Jones, the team has already qualified for three National tournaments in Washington D.C., St. Louis and Atlanta.

Academic Challenge competes head-to-head against other schools in a quiz show type competition that includes questions in all facets of academics such as science, math, technology, literature, history and pop culture (a category sometimes called "trash".)

On March 11, the team competed in a pool of 60 other teams at the COSI Brain Game state championship in Columbus, defeating Warren G. Harding 370-275 in the



Photo submitted

Pictured from left to right are Academic Challenge Team members David Jones (advisor), Tori Amos, Sam Blizzard, Ryan Kirby and Breanna Dominguez after winning the \$6,000 prize at COSI's Brain Game state championship on March 11.

final match to clinch the championship and take home the cash prize.

Throughout the season, the team will compete in seven non-national tournaments including traveling to Yale University in Connecticut this weekend.

National competition will begin on April 28 at the D.C. tournament which is a history-only tournament and carries a \$20 thousand scholarship prize.

They will compete at the most prestigious of the national competitions, the National Academic Quiz Tournament (NAQT) Championship in Atlanta, against 25 other teams on May 26 and then on to St. Louis on June 9.

Jones says the reason for

the team's success is that the "kids are really dedicated to this and enjoy it."

Tori Amos added that she enjoys it because, "it's a group activity; we have to work together to get to our goal. If only one person is answering all the questions, you won't get there."

She continued, "It's sort of like a family. We have to be able to rely on each other."

The team plays more than any other team in Ohio. It does all its own fundraising because the kids "like the opportunity to travel, and there are very few tournaments in this area," Jones noted. Amos agreed saying that she is really looking forward to their trips to Yale and Atlanta.

### Free antiques appraisals to take place in Clayton

CLAYTON — Have you been wondering what that garage sale find is worth? Maybe you have a treasure in your attic.

The Northmont Branch of the Dayton Metro Library invites you to dust off those items and bring them to the