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For Immediate Release

Oxford High School Team A places first at State Envirothon

RAYMOND, MS -- For the 10th time in the past 11 years, Oxford High School Team A placed first overall in the State Envirothon Competition, held on Friday, April 27, 2018, at the FFA Center in Raymond. The team will compete at the National Conservation Foundation, NCF-Envirothon Competition at Idaho State University, in Pocatello, Idaho, July 22-July 26, 2018.

Oxford High School Team B placed second, followed by Pascagoula High School, third place; Hillcrest Christian Academy Team A, fourth place; and Delta Academy Team A, fifth place.

In addition to placing first overall in the State competition, Oxford High School Team A had the high score in the categories of: Soils/Land Use, Oral Presentation, Forestry, Current Issue and Aquatic Ecology. Cleveland Central High School Team B had the high score in the Wildlife category.

Twenty-one teams advanced to the State competition from area competitions, held on March 22, 2018, in the Delta, South, North and Central areas. Twenty teams competed at State.

The top teams at the State competition received scholarships, and their advisor(s) received a cash award.

Mississippi Envirothon, a program of the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission and supported by Mississippi Association of Conservation Districts, is a hands-on competition designed to challenge students in grades 9 through 12 to explore natural resources. Competitors are tested in the categories of: aquatic ecology, forestry, soils/land use, wildlife, and a current environmental issue.

The 2018 area competitions included more than 60 student teams with more than 360 students in the competition, and 100 teacher advisors on-site who worked with the teams to prepare for Mississippi Envirothon.

Through local soil and water conservation districts, more than 125 volunteers and resource personnel from state and federal natural resource agencies and organizations worked with educators, sharing environmental expertise to prepare the teams for the competitions.

In intensive preparation for the competitions, students received hands-on assistance from the experts, who tested and judged the area competitions, and assisted at the statewide competition.

The Mississippi Envirothon is funded through grants from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and Chevron. Scholarships are funded by Georgia-Pacific Monticello Mill.

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