

NEWS RELEASE FROM THE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

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Subject: Ultimate Skill Challenge Champions

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St. Michael Catholic High School Crowned Ultimate Skill Challenge Champions

Kemptonville, ON – St. Michael Catholic High School took home the gold medal and the Ultimate Skill Challenge Cup (USC) on Wednesday, May 30th at the North Grenville Municipal Centre.

This year saw the largest, most competitive challenge ever. The fifth annual event welcomed 56 teams from 21 elementary schools, filling the competition floor in a sea of blue. “This is a wonderful event,” commented CDSBEO Prescott-Russell Trustee, Sue Wilson. “Everyone is working so hard, and they are all so focused.”

This year, students were challenged to build *The Ultimate Tri-Towers*: a series of three connected towers which had to be able to hold the weight of a grade 8 science text book. Students were only allowed to use drinking straws and tape in constructing their Tri-Towers. “It’s amazing that with 56 teams, you see 56 completely different ideas,” said Bell representative Jim Neubauer. Bell proudly sponsored the event for the second year in a row.

Teams qualify for the USC final by competing first at their own school. “I’m thrilled with the response of the schools, principals and our community partners. We’ve gone from six schools in our first year to 56 this year, including schools from our coterminous board,” said event coordinator Dan Lortie. “We’ve got this down to a science now, and I’m confident that we’ll see even more teams and schools involved next year.”

The top ten finishers were as follows:

1. St. Michael CHS, Kemptonville
2. Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lanark
3. St. Jude, Vankleek Hill
4. Bishop Macdonell, Cornwall
5. St. Francis de Sales, Smiths Falls
6. St. Michael (team 34), Kemptonville
7. St John Elementary, Perth
8. St George, Long Sault

9. St. Mary-St Cecilia, Morrisburg
10. Notre Dame CHS, Carleton Place

For more information on this or other skilled trades related programs please contact CDSBEO OYAP coordinator Dan Lortie at 613-930-9928 or dan.lortie@cdsbeo.on.ca.

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario operates 40 elementary and 10 secondary schools across 8 counties. The CDSBEO offers excellence in Catholic education through provincial-leading programs to approximately 15,000 students.