



SCIENCE & ARTS ACADEMY

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Des Plaines, IL

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Science & Arts Academy students bring some “KABOOM” to Champaign - Urbana for Science Olympiad.

Once again fielding one of the youngest teams, as well as being from one of the smaller schools, SAA students maintained their high profile among some extremely tough competition this past weekend at the University of Illinois for the state-wide Science Olympiad.

A contingent of students, parents and teachers made the trip and could be seen wearing shirts bearing “KABOOM!”, their team’s signature cheer, at every event.

SAA’s team of 5th-7th graders placed in the top 10 in 16 events, bringing home medals in 5 events in the Division A category.

Medal winners include:

- Tony Russo, age 11, Park Ridge (Meteorology, 1st place)
- Michael Sprague, 11, Elmwood Park (Meteorology, 1st and Trajectory, 2nd)
- Liam Kakavas, 11, Elmhurst (Balloon Launch Glider, 3rd and Road Scholar, 1st)
- Georg Zinzer, 12, Mount Prospect (Road Scholar, 1st)
- Josh Jacobsen, 12, Glenview (Egg-O-Naut, 2nd)
- Luke Calian, 11, Evanston (Balloon Launch Glider, 3rd and Egg-O-Naut, 2nd)
- Bryant Nelson, 11, Franklin Park (Trajectory, 2nd)

The SAA team advanced to the state level by placing 8th in a very competitive Niles North Region which include perennial powerhouses Latin School and Marie Murphy. Most impressively, Science & Arts Academy won the coveted Spirit Award at their regional for the second year in a row. The Spirit Award recognizes team work and sportsmanship, and is awarded by event judges and competitors’ coaches.

More information about Illinois Science Olympiad can be found at <http://www.illinoisolympiad.org/aboutSO.shtml>.

PRESS RELEASE

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Did you know...

This is only the 2nd year SAA has had a Science Olympiad team.

Photos attached

1. Tony Russo (Park Ridge) and Liam Kakavas (Elmhurst) wait as results are being announced.
2. Liam Kakavas (Elmhurst) and Luke Calian (Evanston) prepare for their award winning glider flight.