

COLLEGE RELATIONS AND MARKETING

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Palm Beach Community College Brain Bowl team wins first Southern Regional championship, advances to state tournament**

**The team also has been invited for the first time to participate in the Intercollegiate Championship Tournament sponsored by National Academic Quiz Tournaments (NAQT)**

Palm Beach Community College's Brain Bowl team is headed to the state tournament after winning its first ever regional championship earlier this month.

The Jeopardy-like Florida Community College Activities Association Brain Bowl Tournament tests students' knowledge in the areas of natural science, social science, mathematics and humanities.

The team consisting of **Adella Irizarry, Denzil Jackson, Greg Garbee and Joe Richardson** brought home the "traveling trophy" after defeating Broward Community College, which has had sole possession of the trophy for all but one of the past 16 years.

Coached by Professor **Kim Parker**, who teaches speech communication at the Boca Raton campus, and **Tommy Minton**, who teaches mathematics in Palm Beach Gardens, the team will compete against nine others at the state championship tournament March 4-6 in Sandestin, Fla.

PBCC's Brain Bowl team has enjoyed much success over the last year. It also has been invited to participate in the NAQT Intercollegiate Championship Tournament after a stellar performance Feb. 14 in the NAQT Sectional Championship Tournament in Orlando.

In the Intercollegiate Championship Tournament, PBCC will compete in Division II with teams of freshman and sophomore students from various schools including Harvard, Georgetown, Columbia and Carnegie Mellon universities as well as local rivals from Broward and Valencia community colleges. It will be held at Washington University in St. Louis April 2-3.

PBCC's team has grown to 10 members over the last year, giving it more students with strengths in various subjects to compete in a variety of competitions in which no more than four members compete at any given time.

"I'm thrilled with the team's success, which reflects not only their incredible talents but also their hard work," Parker said. "Watching them win the FCCAA Southern Regional Championship for the first time ever and then seeing them qualify for the NAQT the next weekend was one of the

most exciting things that has happened to me in my seven years of coaching. All of our players are a wonderful group of students with whom it has been my privilege to work.”

**About the winning team:**

Adella Irizarry, Denzil Jackson and Joe Richardson are students at the Lake Worth campus. They are in their second year on the team.

Greg Darbee, a student in Boca Raton, is in his first year on the team. He recently was a contestant on “Who Wants to be a Millionaire.”

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