

PALMYRA

ENTERPRISE

Winners Determined For Geography Bee

Matt Hall (Palmyra), Andrew Leppard (Eagle) and Jill Bennett (Palmyra-Eagle Middle School) have won their school's geography bee and a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. The school-level bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the third annual National Geography Bee, which is being sponsored by National Geographic WORLD, the Society's magazine for children, Amtrack, and KUDOS Snack. Many students, (140 in all!) in grades four through eight participated in this school-level bee in Palmyra/Eagle School District. It is wonderful to see such interest in geography. There was one winner per school building (4th, 5th and 6th grades competed in Palmyra



MATT HALL

Elementary and Eagle Elementary, 7th and 8th grades competed in Palmyra Middle School.)

The bee was kicked off the week of January 28 in thousands of schools around the United

States, District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories. The school winners, including Matt Hall, Andrew Leppard and Jill Bennett, will now take a written test which is sent in for competition at State Level.

The National Geographic Society with its co-sponsors, will provide an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C., for state champions and their teacher escorts to participate in the National Geography Bee finals on May 22 and 23. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship; the second place winner, a \$15,000 scholarship and the third-place winner, a \$10,000 scholarship.

Alex Trebek, host of "Jeopardy", will moderate the national finals.

The National Geographic Society developed the National Geography Bee in response to a growing concern about the lack of geographic knowledge among young people in the United States. A 10-country Gallup Survey conducted for the Society in 1988 and 1989 found that people in the U.S. ages 18 to 24, the youngest group surveyed, knew less about geography than young people in any of the other countries.

The National Geographic Society, with more than 10 million members, says its mission is the "increase and diffusion of geographic knowledge". Besides the National Geography Bee, the society sponsors a number of other geographic education initiatives, including the Summer Geography Institute for teachers, the National Geographic Society Education Foundation and the Geographic Alliance Network, which currently encompasses 40 states and Puerto Rico.

PEOPLE

HALL, MATT