

Holyoke team wins Brain Bowl

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

In an overtime, sudden death championship round against the team from Green Acres Elementary, the Holyoke third- and fourth-grade team won the Fort Morgan Optimists' Club annual Brain Bowl last weekend.

Saturday Feb. 9, two Holyoke Elementary School teams competed against teams from other schools in northeast Colorado to earn points during one written round and four oral rounds of questions. Each team consisted of six members who answered questions in the areas of literature, science, math, history, technology, sports, spelling, grammar, current events and trivia.



Members of the Holyoke Elementary Brain Bowl teams are pictured from left, front row, Ashley Rahe and Isaac Strauss; second row, Haley Van Overbeke, Rylan Worley, Cade Killin and Tate Dille; third row, Emily Jelden, Ashlyn Churchwell and Josie Herman; fourth row, Kyra Loutensock, Emma Roll and Alex Vieselmeyer; and back row, coaches Christina Martinez and Laura Loutensock.

At the end of the regular rounds, both teams had represented the community well, but the fifth- and sixth-grade team was knocked out of the competition, while the third- and fourth-grade students were ranked at the top of their division with 108 points.

After 30 questions in the championship round, Holyoke and the Green Acres teams were tied at 12 points each. Holyoke's team won the tie-breaking point with their rapid buzz-in on a question asking, "What continent has the second largest land mass?"

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Team member Cade Killin fed the correct answer to team spokesman Rylan Worley to earn the final point with the correct answer of "Africa." The final decision for the championship was decided when each team's coach contested a question. After a tense few minutes, Holyoke was declared the champion with a score of 14-12.

Students were chosen to participate on the team based upon a general knowledge assessment. Representing the grades 3-4 were Tate Dille, Cade Killin, Rylan Worley, Ashley Rahe, Haley Van Overbeke and Isaac Strauss. Loren Jo Oberle served as the team alternate.

Students on the grade 5-6 team were Alex Vieselmeyer, Emma Roll, Kyra Loutensock, Ashlyn Churchwell, Emily Jelden and Josie Herman. Volunteer coaches for the Brain Bowl teams were teachers Christina Martinez and Laura Loutensock.

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