

May 2, 2007

## Spring Lake Park High School students earn top state honors, two advance to national competition

Spring Lake Park High School students had an extremely successful state Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) convention and competition. They brought home a number of statewide honors and two students will now represent Spring Lake Park at the national competition this summer in California.

**Jamie Benjaminson**, grade 12, received a Gold Rating, a perfect score, and will advance to FCCLA nationals for the third time as a result of her illustrated talk "Dad and Daughter Relationships," a ten-minute speech with a flip chart.

**Maria Sjodin**, grade 12, also attained a Gold Rating and a trip to nationals for her work on a comprehensive chapter service manual that documented Spring Lake Park FCCLA's work with local charities throughout the year.

**Zainab Ali**, grade 10, earned a Gold Rating for her display on FCCLA's enormously successful Toys for Tots project.

**Cassandra Baker**, grade 12, earned two Gold Ratings one for an impromptu speech and another for a planned speech.

**Alex Kwong**, grade 11, earned a Bronze Rating in the math test category so difficult that it produced no Gold winners.

**Bernice Reyes**, grade 10, was elected Region 4 FCCLA President.

Advisor **Lori Henry** received the Youth Development Advisor of the Year award for Region 4 FCCLA.



*Above: state honors for Jamie Benjaminson, Maria Sjodin (seated) and Alex Kwong, Zainab Ali, advisor Lori Henry. Not pictured: Cassandra Baker.*



*Right: With advisor Lori Henry are Maria Sjodin (L) and Jamie Benjaminson (R) will go to nationals this summer, an unprecedented three-peat for Benjaminson.*