

Aberdeen High School Students Win \$6,000 in U.S. Army's eCYBERMISSION Program

Saturday, May 15, 2010

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MD., May 2010– In an effort to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, the U.S. Army announced today that it has named the 2009-2010 eCYBERMISSION 96 regional winning teams. Managed by the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., the eCYBERMISSION program awarded more than \$800,000 to students from across the nation and in Department of Defense Education Activity schools overseas.

Headquartered at the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) in Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and managed by Maj. Gen. Nick G. Justice, commanding general, the eCYBERMISSION program awarded more than \$800,000 to students from across the nation and in Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools overseas.

eCYBERMISSION is a free, web-based, STEM competition for students in grades six through nine. The eCYBERMISSION competition encourages and rewards students from a diverse range of proficiency levels, interests and backgrounds. Since the program's inception in 2002, eCYBERMISSION has awarded more than \$7.6 million in U.S. EE Savings Bonds in support of the STEM leaders of tomorrow. The program allows students to compete for regional and national awards while working through the scientific method to solve problems in their communities.

The "Aberdeen HS 2" team, comprised of students Nidhi Shah, Dominique Overman and Samara Miller, and led by Team Advisor Joshua Rupert, was recognized by Virtual Judges for its educational outreach efforts on physical abuse at its high school. The students created two surveys, one given to peers at the beginning of their project, and the other given to peers after the students hung posters around their school and showed an educational video about physical abuse.

The students learned that through their efforts, their peers became more educated on the important topic of physical abuse and violence. The students hope to continue spreading awareness about physical abuse by petitioning the Harford County Board of Education to acknowledge Teen Dating Violence Prevention Awareness month and conducting fundraisers for local physical abuse organizations.

"We are extremely proud of the students from Aberdeen High School for their creative and innovative use of outstanding research, experimentation and analysis during this year's

eCYBERMISSION competition,” said Maj. Gen. Nick G. Justice, commanding general, RDECOM. “These students were selected from thousands of their peers for their work to improve and make a positive impact on the communities in which we live.”

Since its inception in 2002, more than 71,000 students from across the country and in U.S. territories and DoDEA schools worldwide have participated in the competition. This year, 13,218 students registered for eCYBERMISSION and formed more than 3,300 teams.

For more information on the eCYBERMISSION competition or for a complete listing of the 2010 eCYBERMISSION winning teams, contact Rachael Lighty at 1-866-GO-CYBER (462-9237) or visit www.ecybermission.com.

About the U.S. Army RDECOM

RDECOM is the Army's primary source for integrated research, development and engineering capabilities that empower, unburden and protect the Warfighter to enable the dominance of the Army. RDECOM provides the full spectrum of basic research, development, engineering and analysis of Warfighter systems, from concept to capability. RDECOM is headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., with laboratories and research and development centers throughout the country and representatives throughout the world. For more information on RDECOM, visit www.army.mil/rdecom.

About eCYBERMISSION

eCYBERMISSION is a free, web-based, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) competition for students in grades six through nine. Sponsored by the U.S. Army and managed by RDECOM, eCYBERMISSION is designed to share the importance of STEM education with the leaders of tomorrow and encourage them to understand the real-life applications of these subjects. Students compete for state and national awards by working in teams to identify a problem in their community and using scientific inquiry to propose a solution. eCYBERMISSION is an Army Educational Outreach Program (www.usaeop.com).

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For more information, please visit www.ecybermission.com or contact eCYBERMISSION Mission Control at 1-866-GO-CYBER (462-9237) or via e-mail at missioncontrol@ecybermission.com.

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