

CHRIS WAHL WINS BUCKNER FANNING CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
GEOGRAPHIC BEE
Moves One Step Closer to \$25,000 College Scholarship

San Antonio, Texas, January 12, 2012 – Chris Wahl, a 7th-grade student at Buckner Fanning Christian School, won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee on Thursday and a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. The school-level Bee, during which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the 24th annual National Geographic Bee. This year's Bee is sponsored by Google (visit www.google.com/educators/geo).



The kickoff for this year's Bee was the week we came back from Christmas break. The school winner, Chris Wahl will now take a written test; up to 100 of the top scorers on that test in each state will then be eligible to compete in their state Bee March 30, 2012.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses trip to Washington, D.C., for state champions and teacher-escorts to participate in the Bee national championship rounds May 22-24, 2012. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship, a lifetime membership in the Society, and a trip to the Galapagos Islands, courtesy of Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic. (visit www.expeditions.com).

“Jeopardy!” host Alex Trebek will moderate the televised national finals on May 24.

Congratulations also to our second-place winner, 4th-grader Matthew Bradley, and third-place winner, 8th-grader Cameron Walker. The other students who competed in the final round were: Mallory Lyell, Cory McMichael, Heidi Schuppenhauer, Preston Miller, Aiden McMichael, Michael Gerick, and Matthew Ellis.

Anyone interested can test his geography knowledge with the exciting GeoBee Challenge, an online geography quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee, which poses 10 new questions a day, or by downloading the “National Geographic GeoBee Challenge” app, with more than 1,000 questions culled from past Bees, from the App Store on iPhone, iPod touch and iPad; for the Android Market; or for Nook Color.

The National Geographic Society is one of the world's largest nonprofit scientific and educational organizations. Founded in 1888 to “increase and diffuse geographic knowledge,” the Society's mission is to inspire people to care about the planet. It reaches

more than 400 million people worldwide each month through its official journal, National Geographic, and other magazines; National Geographic Channel's television documentaries; music; radio; films; books; DVDs; maps; exhibitions; live events; school publishing programs; interactive media; and merchandise. National Geographic has funded more than 9,600 scientific research, conservation and exploration projects and supports an education program promoting geographic literacy. For more information, visit www.nationalgeographic.com