



Monday, May 5, 2003

OU SIFE team wins regional competition

Oakland University's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team, sponsored in large part by SBC, recently won the SIFE regional competition in Cleveland. The team now will compete in the SIFE National Competition May 10-13 in Kansas City.

In addition to winning the regional competition, the team also was a finalist in three special competitions held throughout the school year and won \$4,000 in prize money. All of the prize money will go towards continuing programs in the community aimed at teaching business principles to underprivileged youth.

Joining the Oakland SIFE team in Kansas City will be the Students for the Advancement of Global Entrepreneurship (SAGE) team from University of Detroit Jesuit High School. The U-D team won the first-ever SAGE regional competition in Michigan that was hosted by Oakland University in April.

Founded in 1975 and active on more than 1,200 college and university campuses in 31 countries, SIFE is a nonprofit organization that works in partnership with business and higher education to provide college students the opportunity to make a difference and to develop leadership, teamwork and communication skills through learning, practicing and teaching the principles of free enterprise. Each year, SIFE teams worldwide develop and implement thousands of educational outreach projects in their communities that are designed to teach others the principles of the free enterprise system.

SAGE is a similar organization to SIFE, except it is for high school students. SAGE teams are required to complete at least one entrepreneurship or business project and at least one community outreach project. Teams have tremendous freedom to determine which projects to pursue. For example, they can be real entrepreneurship ventures, marketing programs, technology-based projects or any project related to business, entrepreneurship or economics. This unique experience enables SAGE students to acquire stronger communication, team building, leadership and management skills.

For more information on Oakland University SIFE or SAGE, contact Mark Simon or Nancy B. Hastings at (248) 370-2660 or entrep@oakland.edu.

SUMMARY

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