My Turn

By Dennis Franks
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Pickaway-Ross took a big step forward recently when 10 students from our Media Design Technologies and Network Support Technologies programs qualified for the state finals in the Business Professionals of America (BPA) competition to be held in March 14 in Columbus.

Add to that 13 students qualifying for state BPA competition from Kim Litter's Interactive Computer-enhanced Academic Technologies (I-CAT) program at Paint Valley, and it makes for an impressive showing. While Kim has developed the I-CAT program to the point where qualifying for state competition is expected, this is the first time our Main Campus programs are sending this many students to that level.

Photo: Courtesy of the Gazette

Now that the bar is raised, we want to keep it elevated and potentially increase the numbers of students winning regional competition, qualifying for state competition and perhaps moving on to compete at the national level.

The names of the students from our Media Design Technologies and Network Support Technologies programs who are competing at state, and the BPA category they will compete, include:

- **Jennifer Graves: Computer Network Technologies**
- **Elizabeth Schwalbauch: Entrepreneurship**
- **Harley Neff, Quentin Marshall and Patrick Allison: Network Design Team**
- **Marissa Nichols and Brandon Burgett: Video Production Team**
- **Sydney Hughes and Amanda Rutherford: Website Design Team; and**
- **Cody Clifton: PC Servicing and Troubleshooting.**

(You can read more about Kim's students in our *Career Tech Spotlight* page, which will run in this Sunday's *Gazette*.)

I wish all of these students the best of luck, and congratulate teachers Holly Wagoner and Tony Eallonardo for their hard work and dedication.

In fact, with schools closed due to inclement weather recently, several students met with Tony here in the afternoon to review, tweak and prepare for the regional event. That extra work obviously paid off, and it's just one many examples of our staff going above and beyond expectations to help their students.

Keep up the great work, everyone.

Pickaway-Ross
Career & Technology Center