Championship round: *Matt Wayne (left) of Power Middle School answers a question in the final round of the Quiz Bowl tournament. Other team members are Jeff Pascoe, Blake Heraghty and Ann McHenry. Power took second place in the tournament.*

STAFF PHOTOS BY JIM JAGIELO

'I knew that!' *Dan Fuchs of Warner Middle School reacts to hearing the correct answer to a question at last Saturday's Quiz Bowl.*

Quiz whizzes

2 local schools bowl over tourney

■ Tournament games consisted of four quarters of play — two all toss-up, one toss-up bonus and a 600-second speed round. Each team played at least three games answering questions about literature, science, religion, math, history and even some trivia.

Two Farmington area schools — Warner Middle School and Power Middle School — walked away with the first- and second-place trophies, respectively, in the second-annual Quiz Bowl Tournament sponsored by Detroit Catholic Central.

Third- and fourth-place honors went to Emerson Middle School in Ann Arbor and St. Edith Catholic School in Livonia.

Middle school students from throughout western Wayne County, Ann Arbor, Farmington and West Bloomfield participated in the competition.

The top four teams received trophies. The four male starting players on the winning team also receive a $1,000 scholarship to attend CC. The four starting players on the second-place team are awarded $500 scholarships while the starters on the third- and fourth-place teams each are eligible to receive $250.

All participants were awarded certificates.

Other local teams in this year's tournament included Our Lady of Good Counsel, Plymouth; Our Lady of Refuge, Orchard Lake; St. Mary, Wayne; St. Michael, Livonia; St. Raphael, Garden City; St. Robert Bellarmine, Redford Township; Emerson Middle School, Livonia; Northville Christian School, Northville; Orchard Lake Middle School, West Bloomfield and Riley Middle School, Livonia.

Quiz Bowl/Academic Bowl is one of the fastest-growing varsity sports in the country, according to the CC organizers.

"It teaches students the spirit of competition in something other than athletics," said Linda Welborn, director of the eighth-grade tournament and a guidance counselor at the high school in Redford Township.

"It also teaches students the importance of listening skills," said Welborn, who coaches the junior varsity and novice quiz bowl teams at CC.

Most schools didn't have academic teams but CC students who are members of the Varsity Quiz Bowl Team acted as consultants and helped schools set up teams, Welborn said.

Warner, the winner of this years' tournament, is one of the schools that CC team members helped this year.

Pondering: *Matt Wayne of Power Middle School thinks about an answer to a problem in a round of questioning at the second annual Quiz Bowl Tournament at Detroit Catholic Central. The team from Power took second place in the competition.*

Tournament games consisted of four quarters of play — two all toss-up, one toss-up bonus and a 600-second speed round. Each team played at least three games answering questions about literature, science, religion, math, history and even some trivia. The questions are based on an eighth-grade curriculum.

Some 55 schools were invited to participate, Welborn said. Schools targeted were those in the CC service area and those that had previously sent students to CC.

Moderators for Saturday's competition were Howard Weinberg, varsity academic team coach and a teacher at CC; Jeff Macy, a CC graduate now attending law school at the University of Michigan; Chris Sroka, a CC grad now attending Wayne State University. Last year Sroka placed second in the nation in Citizen Bee competition.

Other moderators included Jason Kirk, a CC grad and former Quiz Bowl Team member now attending U-M, Nick Farrell, a CC grad and former varsity player now at U-M and Jeff Proctor, Jason Harris and Doug Connolly, all senior members of the CC Quiz Bowl Team.

Schools that would like assistance in establishing teams to compete in the "Varsity Sport of the Mind" can contact Catholic Central High School. A player from the three-time state championship varsity team will be assigned to consult. For more information, call the school at 534-0550.

Catholic Central is a private, all-male college preparatory high school. Over the last 10 years, Catholic Central has had 98 National Merit semifinalists — more than any other parochial high school in Michigan.

Winning team: *Finishing out the championship round are Warner Middle School team members Dan Krochmal, Gregg Herning, Dan Fuchs and Eric Feldman. Warner took first place.*

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