



Contact: Kelly Ling  
803.952-9172  
[Kelly.ling@srs.gov](mailto:Kelly.ling@srs.gov)

For immediate release

### **NMA Speech Contest Winners Announced**

AIKEN, S.C. – February 23, 2009 - The National Management Association (NMA) of SRS, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), LLC, and Washington Savannah River Company (WSRC) are proud to announce the winners of the NMA Leadership Speech Contest, held February 19 at Aiken Technical College. The NMA sponsors this Leadership Speech Contest each year as part of an initiative to encourage area high school students to be involved in the development of leadership skills.

This year's NMA Speech Contest First Place Winner was Marva Tanksley of A.R. Johnson Magnet High School. Marva won \$300 for 1<sup>st</sup> place and now moves to the NMA Council Level to compete once again. She will be provided complimentary travel and accommodations for the other levels of competition.

The other winners were as follows:

Raam Venkatesh of Lakeside High School won second place and was awarded \$200.

Aleeka Moody of North Augusta High School, won third place and \$100. Two students tied for fourth place. They were Natalie Dunn of South Aiken High School and Robert Freeman of South Aiken High School

The students researched, wrote and memorized their speeches, and then delivered them in front of five judges. The students were judged on their delivery, creativity, and oral presentation skills.

The Judges were:

Scott Eberl, SRNS

Sharma Pogula, SRNS

Sharon Campbell, SRNS

Richard "Skip" Brown, Georgia Department of Education

Richard Proctor, SRNS

Richard Stanton, Williston School District

Dawn Moore, SRS NMA Speech Contest Coordinator, was extremely pleased with the contest and appreciated each student that put forth the effort to participate. "Everybody pulled together to make this contest a success. I am so proud of these students who took their own time, energy and effort, on top of very busy schedules, and researched, wrote and memorized these speeches on their own. Each did an excellent job of presenting his or her speech to the judges."

The keynote speakers for the event were Barbara Smoak, Educational Outreach Manager for Savannah River Nuclear Solutions and Victor Franklin, General Counsel for Washington

Savannah River Company. The speakers expressed their appreciation for the hard work and creativity that these future leaders possess. The students were encouraged to continue to “challenge” themselves and become leaders in their communities.

If you are interested in participating in the NMA's Speech Contest in 2010, contact Tammy Rimes, NMA's Assistant Vice President of American Enterprise, 803-557-5732 for details.

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