Western’s Rookie Team Earns a First Place at Competition

Norte Vista High School students take home first place rookie division trophy at Solar Cup

LAKE SKINNER, Calif. The Solar Cup race weekend at Lake Skinner has come to an end, but not without excitement all around; particularly for one of Western’s teams – rookies from Norte Vista who landed in the top tier.

This year-long competition, sponsored by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, had students from Southern California competing in three days of sprint and endurance races. After attending several technical and boat building workshops throughout the year, students finally got the opportunity to take their boats out on water.

Norte Vista High School, Western’s only rookie team, brought home two trophies at Sunday’s awards ceremony. The team of about a dozen students earned a first place award for the Rookie 200-Meter Sprint and second place honor for the Rookie Endurance Race. A teams’ overall score is based on the results of their races and their scores from technical reports.

“All of Western’s teams truly shined at this year’s competition,” shared Western Board President Brenda Dennstedt, representing Division 3. “Solar Cup is an extraordinary opportunity for any student to participate in, but it’s also an intense competition requiring dedication, focus and team work skills. Students finish the months-long project learning about alternative energy sources, engineering skills and with an added appreciation for our water resources.”

Western co-sponsored teams from Arlington and Norte Vista high schools with Riverside Public Utilities and also sponsored the Elsinore High School team with Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District.

The Western Municipal Water District provides water supply, wastewater disposal and water resource management to the public in a safe, reliable, environmentally sensitive and financially responsible manner.