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To: Leaf Chronicle

Montgomery County Student Attends International Science Fair

Bethany Cartwright, graduating senior at Rossview High School, recently returned from a week long trip to the 55<sup>th</sup> Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), held this year in Portland, Oregon. Bethany earned the right to attend and exhibit her project, "Carbon Dioxide Concentration and Photosynthesis" by winning one of the Grand Prize Awards at the regional Middle TN Science and Engineering Fair (MTSEF), held at and sponsored by Austin Peay State University. While at the ISEF, Bethany enjoyed scientific and cultural tours of the Portland area as well as meeting some of the over 1,200 students present at the fair from 40 different countries. She also was questioned about her research for several hours by some of the over 1,000 judges present at the fair.

Bethany's awards at the regional MTSEF included a 1<sup>st</sup> award from the U.S. Army and a 1<sup>st</sup> award from Intel for excellence in the area of Environmental Health and Safety. She also received 1<sup>st</sup> awards from the Clarksville Department of Electricity and the Dupont Company. These special awards were in addition to her 1<sup>st</sup> place award in the Environmental Sciences category. Prize money from these awards totaled almost five hundred dollars in addition to the expense paid trip to the ISEF.

Bethany was accompanied to the ISEF by her mother, Jama Cartwright, as well as the MTSEF fair director, Dr. Ron Robertson, Associate Professor at APSU. The other grand prize winner attending from the MTSEF was Amy Coffey, graduating senior at Smyrna High School. Bethany plans to attend Vanderbilt University this fall. Her sponsoring teacher at Rossview High was Ben Dager. She is the first Montgomery County student in many years to win the grand prize at the MTSEF.

The ISEF is the largest pre-college science research competition in the world and is sponsored by the Intel Corporation and administrated by Science Service, which started the competition in 1950 to increase public awareness and appreciation of science.

Submitted by: Ron Robertson, Director Middle TN Science and Engineering Fair and Associate Professor of Chemistry, APSU

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