Contact: Gabe Ross (916) 643-9145 gabe-ross@scusd.edu

## McClatchy duo wins high

## <u>Teens become first ever from a California public high school to win the</u> <u>national Tournament of Champions in Kentucky</u>

May 6, 2013 (Sacramento) A C.K. McClatchy High School debate team has won the national Tournament of Champions, becoming the first team ever from a California public high school to win the nation's top high school debate competition.

McClatchy seniors John Spurlock and Keenan Harris took first place in the policy debate division at the University of Kentucky tournament. In the 42-year history of the Tournament of Champions, no team from a California public high school has ever won. (In 2003, a team from College Preparatory School, a private high school in Oakland, took top honors.)

McClatchy Debate Coach Seth Blackmon compares winning the Tournament of Champions to winning the Super Bowl or the NCAA Basketball finals. "The magnitude of this win cannot be overstated," he says. "I couldn't be more proud of these young men."

Policy debate is considered the most difficult form of debate, as students spend a year researching and arguing one subject. By