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***BPA + E = MC2 = 280 Oregon students = fun***  
***BPA science bowl competition challenges middle school students' minds***

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**Bonneville Power Administration**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1999**

PR 04 99

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**Portland, Ore.** - Nearly 280 Oregon middle school students will compete in the Bonneville Power Administration's seventh annual regional science bowl at the [University of Portland](#) on Saturday, February, 6. The 56 registered teams make this the largest middle school science bowl competition to date.

The BPA Regional Middle School Science Bowl is a quiz-show-style competition aimed at raising students' interest and awareness in math, science and technology. Teams of five students will try to beat the clock in answering questions about astronomy, physics, math, computers and earth science.

The round robin competition begins at 8:30 a.m. in the University of Portland's Franz Hall. The university is located at 5000 N. Willamette Blvd. Each team will compete at least four times. Teams that advance will compete at 1:30 p.m. A championship match pairing the top two teams will kick off at 4 p.m. in the university's Buckley Center Auditorium.

The competition is designed to create enthusiasm and show support for students in math, science and technology – especially for female and minority students who are underrepresented in these fields.

The Bonneville Power Administration, a federal agency under the Department of Energy, markets power from 29 federal dams and one nonfederal nuclear plant in the Pacific Northwest. BPA provides low-cost electricity to the publicly owned and investor-owned utilities that serve the communities these students represent. The University of Portland is a co-sponsor of BPA's Regional Middle School Science Bowl.

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