

MIAMI-DADE

HP, NBA team up to honor students

■ HP honors three Miami-Dade schools for their high-tech projects, with Howard A. Doolin Middle winning the top award, followed by Shenandoah and Miami Lakes middle schools.

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The HP Digital Assist competition is over and Howard A. Doolin Middle in west Miami-Dade County came out on top, followed by Shenandoah Middle in Miami and Miami Lakes Middle.

HP announced the winners of the program, which counts the National Basketball Association as a partner, earlier this month.

The program was a competition among 20 Miami-Dade middle schools in which students must use technology to create multimedia projects that mesh

learning and basketball.

Doolin's winning submission, "NBA Distance Between Players," is a video including NBA highlights, voice-over work and computer animated imagery that teaches the viewer how to calculate the coordinates on different spots of a basketball court and then how to find the distance between those coordinates.

Shenandoah Middle School won second place for "Slam Dunk Science," a video explaining how Isaac Newton's Laws of Motion correlate to passing, dribbling and running on a basketball court. It also shows how players use kinetic and potential energy when shooting a layup.

Miami Lakes Middle School won third place for "The Bounce," another video depicting a group of students calculating the height a basketball bounces after it falls off the rim.



ALLISON DIAZ/MIAMI HERALD FILE

BIG MAN ON CAMPUS: Miami Heat forward Udonis Haslem watches a PowerPoint presentation from student Rebecca Santana on Heat team statistics.

Along with the first place recognition, Doolin will be the recipient of \$80,000 in HP digital technology that will be delivered

by Miami Heat players, NBA representatives and HP executives in early 2010.

Last fall, Shenandoah Middle

received a surprise pizza party with Miami Heat players Udonis Haslem and Daequan Cook, the Heat dancers and team mascot Burnie. Shenandoah was the first Miami-Dade middle school to submit a project for the HP Digital Assist program, an education outreach created by HP, the National Basketball Association and the International Society for Technology in Education.

The players were impressed with the students' work.

"Growing up, I didn't have the opportunity to have those types of programs or be a part of them," Cook said at the time. "For me to be able to come out and help give back to the kids ... It feels good because growing up was kind of tough for me."

HP gave each competing school two tablet PCs and a printer to help with creating their projects.



PHOTOS BY ALLISON DIAZ/FOR THE MIAMI HERALD



MEMORABLE VISIT

Children at the Downtown Miami Charter School enjoy a visit from Santa Claus, who gave away donated toys provided by the Miami Police Department and the Marriott Business Council of South Florida on Dec. 18. Left, Devin Beckham, Dwight Beollamy and Brianna Bueso thank Santa for their presents. Above, Adrianna Maldanade, 5, receives her gift from Santa.