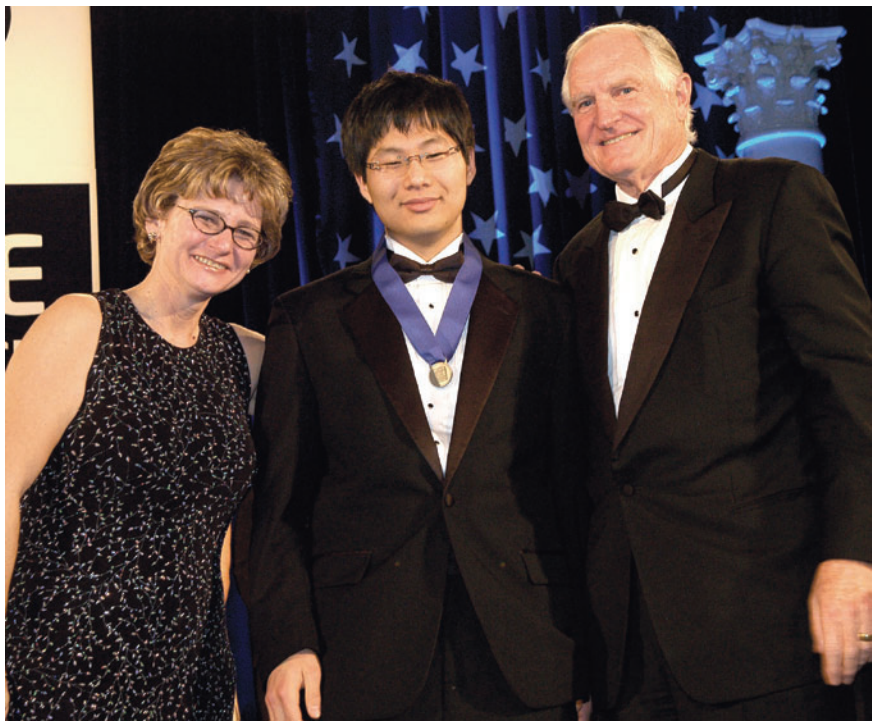
EXETER SENIOR NAMED FINALIST IN INTEL TALENT SEARCH

Senior Gongmyung "Mike" Lee is looking forward to a successful career in science—and with good cause. The Exeter, NH, resident recently returned from a weeklong trip to Washington, D.C., where he was one of 40 high school finalists in the 2007 Intel Science Talent Search, formerly known as the Westinghouse Talent Search (and nicknamed the "Junior Nobel Prize"). The talent search is America's oldest and most prestigious science competition for high school students. This year alone, 1,705 students representing 487 high schools entered—a record number of participants.

Lee's entry, a computer science research paper entitled "Improving the Differential Evolution Algorithm—A New Approach to Multi-Modal Global Optimization," applied the Darwinian principles of mutation, crossover and survival-of-the-fittest to solve optimization problems more reliably and efficiently.



As a finalist in this year's Intel Science Talent Search, Gongmyung "Mike" Lee '07 (center) traveled to Washington, D.C., for a weeklong conference. With Lee is Elizabeth Marincola, president of the Science Talent Search, and Intel chairman Craig Barrett.

Although he wasn't among the Top 10 finalists, Lee says his week was crammed with project presentations, sightseeing and meetings with fellow student scientists and national politicians. He especially enjoyed the public exhibition of student entries at the National Academy of Sciences. More than 2,000 people visited the exhibition over the course of two days, "which was pretty astonishing," he says. "Explaining my project to curious people was a lot of fun." Like all of the finalists, Lee will receive a $5,000 scholarship and a laptop computer.

Lee plans to major in computer science and minor in physics, and to enter more science competitions. "I'm actually hoping to join one of the research projects funded by the U.S. Department of Defense," he says. "It's known as DARPA (which stands for Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) Urban Challenge, a competition to design an autonomous road vehicle. It would be an exciting problem to be working on, something that could have many real-life applications."

Being an Intel finalist has, he adds, motivated him to continue working to reach his dreams. "This was a great opportunity. It was amazing just to be named as a finalist and I had such a great time in D.C. Now, I'm excited about the opportunities that lie ahead." *—F.W.*