

## Confucius Director Tutoring Chinese Bridge Competition Winner

Kennedy Simes, the winner of Alabama Chinese Bridge final speech competition hosted by Confucius Institute of Troy University, is being given some individual tutoring by Dr. Iris Xu, director of the Confucius Institute at Troy University.

Dr. Xu also enlisted the help of Dr. Feng in preparing Simes for the competition on April, 8.

After Kennedy practiced her presentation, Dr. Xu gave her thorough instruction on pronunciation, intonation, the four tones of Chinese words, the strategies of question answering, and the proper expression and gesture for public speech.

Dr. Rui Feng offered detailed suggestions on the structure and wording of Kennedy's speech script.

Kennedy also rehearsed her talent show, singing a famous Chinese song Tian Mi Mi, which received compliments and encouragement from Dr. Xu and Dr. Feng.

Ms. Jin Qiu and Ms. Wei Yu, CIT instructors on Montgomery campus, will continue to give individual tutoring and support to Simes throughout the next week.

Simes, who is originally from Arkansas, has been learning Chinese for almost three years from Ms. Athena Chang, Chinese teacher at Indian Springs School, who has been offering support and help to the speech competition.

Contestants participating in "Chinese Bridge" Speech Competition in Dallas will compete in Chinese language competence, understanding of Chinese culture and Chinese Society as well as individual talent.

Kennedy won the preliminary on the merits of her informative speech "My Chinese Dream," as well as her fluent Chinese speaking and confident stage manner.

Simes has also shown interest in Chinese cultural elements at Indian Springs School, such as Chinese musical instrument, Chinese culinary delicacies and Chinese tea. She hopes to pursue further study in Chinese as a major in college.

