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Hillary Rodham made a good impression in 1965.

TV Show Is a DC Who's Who

IT'S ACADEMIC kicks off its 45th season this fall. High schools nationwide put together teams of their best and the brightest to compete for the championship and bragging rights; the winning local school gets \$5,000 from Giant Food.

It's Academic started here—created by **Sophie Altman**, who still runs the show, shown locally on NBC-4. It has spread to cities across the country, and its alumni continue to achieve.

In the Chicago suburbs in 1965, high-school senior **Hillary Rodham** was a member of an *It's Academic* team. Altman, who also then produced the Chicago program, auditioned Rodham herself. She remembers the 17-year-old Hillary as "one of the brightest." A photo of Hillary and her teammates hangs in the Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock.



In the 1960s and '70s *It's Academic* also was produced in New York, where Hillary Clinton's Senate colleague **Chuck Schumer**

Sandra Bullock cheered for W-L in the early '80s.

competed for his Brooklyn high school in 1968.

ABC political commentator **George Stephanopoulos** and WJLA anchor **Leon Harris** appeared on the show in Cleveland in the late '70s.

Washington Post Company chair **Don Graham** was captain of his St. Albans team in 1961-62. He competed against former Maine governor **Angus King**, who represented Hammond High School in Alexandria.

Post columnist **David Ignatius** was also a St. Albans team member. Sports writer **Tom Boswell** represented Alexandria's St. Stephen's School.

Other Washington alums include **Bruce Cohen**, Oscar-winning producer of *American Beauty*, who competed for J.E.B. Stuart High School in Falls Church in 1979; financial writer **James Glassman**, a member of the Sidwell Friends team in 1965; and Supreme Court expert **Edward Lazarus**, who also competed for Sidwell.

The best-looking high-schooler to appear on *It's Academic*? Actress **Sandra Bullock** represented Arlington's Washington-Lee High School in the early '80s. She wasn't answering questions, but she was on camera—as a cheerleader.

—SARA LEVINE