

NAQTSM

National Academic Quiz Tournaments, LLC

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Fall 2008

2008 National Championship

The 2008 NAQT High School National Championship Tournament (HSNCT) was held in Chicago at the Wyndham O'Hare Hotel over Memorial Day weekend and featured 176 teams from 148 schools in 33 states plus the District of Columbia and China.

NAQT thanks all the coaches, parents, players, and over 120 hard-working volunteers who made the largest national championship ever such a success.

Fourth Win for Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (Alexandria, VA) won its fourth NAQT National Championship title in six years by defeating the Charter School of Wilmington (DE) in the final match, 465-225. Thomas Jefferson had won three consecutive titles from 2003-05, while Charter's previous best performance was its 2007 fifth-place finish. Walt Whitman High School (Bethesda, MD) finished third after beating Paul M. Dorman High School (Roebuck, SC) 430-245.

In the Small School division, Russell High School (KY) defeated Brindlee Mountain High School (Guntersville, AL) to claim the title. Brindlee Mountain's B team finished third, and Ottawa Hills High School (Toledo, OH) finished fourth.

Congratulations to the Top 15 All-Stars:

1. Kurtis Droge, East Lansing High School (MI)
2. Dallas Simons, MLK Magnet High School (TN)
3. Charles Dees, North Kansas City High School (MO)
4. Dan Puma, Gonzaga College High School (DC)
5. Guy Tabachnick, Hunter College High School (NY)
6. Daichi Ueda, Walter Johnson High School (MD)
7. Auroni Gupta, Torrey Pines High School (CA)
8. Ian Eppler, Georgetown Day School (DC)
9. Henry Gorman, Charter School of Wilmington (DE)
10. Ike Jose, Stow Munroe Falls High School (OH)
11. Sam Peterson, Chaska High School (MN)
12. Ben Cohen, New Trier High School (IL)
13. Richard Kitterman, James W. Robinson High School (VA)
14. Naren Tallapragada, Thomas Jefferson High School (VA)
15. "Aaron Burr," South Fork High School (FL)

Complete team and individual statistics, as well as scores from every game, are available on our website at:

<http://www.naqt.com/hsnct/2008>

You can also listen to recordings of matches from the 2008 national championship (as well as those from past years) online at:

<http://www.naqt.com/hsnct/2008/podcasts/index.html>

Coming Soon!

NAQT is excited to announce the inaugural season of Klepsydra, an online quiz game in which teams around the world can compete without leaving their schools.

Starting this fall, Klepsydra will allow teams of high school students to test their knowledge in timed competitions throughout the school year. The questions will be multiple-choice and will cover all of the subjects included in standard NAQT question packets used for face-to-face competition.

Teams will earn points both for correct answers and for speed of response on those correct answers. The time limit for answering the 200 multiple-choice questions will be 90 minutes.

No special software is required in order to participate in Klepsydra competitions. The only equipment needed to play is a computer with an Internet connection; the game will run inside the web browser window.

NAQT's Klepsydra competitions will be held monthly from October to April. Each school may enter one team per month, but there is no limit to the number of students who may participate on each school's team. All types of high schools (public, private, charter, homeschool, etc.) are encouraged to participate.

Trophies will be awarded to the overall winner of each month's competition as well as to the teams with the highest scores in the following categories: literature, history, science, fine arts (visual arts and music), geography, popular culture (including sports), current events, and social science/philosophy. Separate awards will also be given to the top small school and to the top school outside the United States.

After the completion of each month's competition, coaches can receive detailed results for their team plus an overall ranking. Team statistics will be broken down by subject area so that participants will know which areas their team should focus on improving. Record-setting performances and other awards will be displayed on the NAQT website.

More information about Klepsydra, including how to register a team and dates of each competition, will be coming soon. For details, please visit the NAQT homepage at:

<http://www.naqt.com>

We hope that your students will be able to take advantage of this fun opportunity to compete against schools they wouldn't otherwise face until nationals.

Qualifying Tournaments

These high school tournaments are qualifiers for the 2009 NAQT High School National Championship. **No prior affiliation with NAQT or quiz bowl experience is required to attend.** To register, e-mail or phone the listed contact. Most tournaments allow out-of-state schools to attend and allow schools to bring more than one team.

Each school may attend only one tournament using each packet set. If you have any questions about how the tournaments work, how to prepare for them, how to register for them, or how to make sure that the events you've chosen are using different packet sets, please contact NAQT at naqt@naqt.com or 888.411.6278. **This schedule is subject to change. Please contact the tournament director to confirm the date or check the continuously updated schedule at:**

<http://www.naqt.com/schedule>

Tournament Name	Location	Set	Date	Director	Contact Information
E. P. McCabe Scholars Bowl	Langston Univ., Langston, OK	IS-80A	9/27/08	Kyle Gregory	kg2495@lunet.edu
Moravian Academy Invitational	Moravian Academy, Bethlehem, PA	IS-78A	9/27/08	Gordon McCambridge	mnglj@msn.com
Wofford Invitational	Wofford College, Spartanburg, SC	IS-78A	9/27/08	Matt Cathey	CatheyME@wofford.edu
Sue Pasco Memorial Tournament	Essex High School, Essex Junction, VT	IS-75A	9/27/08	Kevin Commo	kcommo@scholarsbowl.org
Yale Fall Academic Tournament	Yale Univ., New Haven, CT	IS-78A	9/27/08	Michael Bylow	michael.bylow@yale.edu
Mississippi State Invitational	Mississippi State Univ., Starkville, MS	IS-78A	10/4/08	Harry Nelson	jhn31@msstate.edu
TWAIN IX	Univ. of California-Los Angeles	IS-77	10/5/08	Chris Ngoon	crntjn@ucla.edu
Liberty Invitational	Liberty High School, Liberty, MO	IS-78A	10/11/08	Rosemary Camp	rcamp@liberty.k12.mo.us
Princeton H.S. Academic Tourn. XVI	Princeton Univ., Princeton, NJ	IS-77	10/11/08	Kunle Demuren	kdemuren@princeton.edu
Novi Wildcat Invitational	Novi High School, Novi, MI	IS-73A	10/11/08	Robert Baker	rbaker@novi.k12.mi.us
Walton Academic Challenge	Walton High School, Marietta, GA	IS-80A	10/11/08	Matt Edelstein	Matt.Edelstein@cobbk12.org
Shorter College H.S. Invitational	Shorter College, Rome, GA	IS-78A	10/14/08	Chuck Pearson	cpearson@shorter.edu
Pre-Season Goldfish Championship	Anywhere (it's a virtual tournament)	GF-2	10/15/08	Phil Blessman	blessmp@culver.org
Long Island Fall Tournament VIII	Kellenberg Memorial H.S., Uniondale, NY	IS-80A	10/18/08	Brother Nigel Pratt	BroNigel@kellenberg.org
CBCT IX	Univ. of California-Irvine	IS-79	10/18/08	Ray Anderson	r.g.anderson@gmail.com
Temple Invitational	Temple H.S., Temple, TX	IS-78A	10/18/08	Chris Romero	romeroc@gmail.com
Princess Anne Invitational	Princess Anne H.S., Virginia Beach, VA	IS-78A	10/18/08	John Harrison	John.Harrison@VBSchools.com
OWC-Collegiate High School	Okaloosa Walton College Collegiate H.S., Niceville, FL	IS-77	10/18/08	De Cook	cookd@owc.edu
Jefferson Invitational Academic Tourn.	Thomas Jefferson H.S., Alexandria, VA	IS-79	10/18/08	Harry White	hwhite@tjhsst.edu
Shawnee Invitational	Shawnee High School, Lima, OH	IS-80A	10/18/08	Debra File	filed@shawnee.noacsc.org
Vergilian Classic Invitational IV	MLK Magnet H.S., Nashville, TN	IS-78A	10/18/08	Nancy Howell	Nancy.howell@mnps.org
Cornell Cayuga Championship	Cornell University, Ithaca, NY	IS-78A	10/25/08	Cornell Quiz Bowl	CUquizbowl@gmail.com
2008 Culver Kick-Off Tournament	Culver Academies, Culver, IN	IS-78A	10/25/08	Phil Blessman	blessmp@culver.org
SOCIAL V	St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN	IS-78A	10/25/08	R. Robert Hentzel	rhentzel@gmail.com
2nd Annual Viking Invitational	Spartanburg H.S, Spartanburg, SC	IS-80A	10/25/08	Gow Lo	gylo@spart7.org
Mellon Bowl VI	Carnegie Mellon Univ., Pittsburgh, PA	IS-79	10/25/08	Dan Schafer	dschafer@andrew.cmu.edu
Technophobia Jr.	Cal. Tech., Pasadena, CA	IS-78A	10/25/08	Micah Manary	manary@caltech.edu
Lincoln-Way East Invitational	Lincoln-Way East H.S., Frankfort, IL	08-IL	11/1/08	Brian Mulford	bmulford@lw210.org
Ohio State Buckeye Invitational	The Ohio State Univ., Columbus, OH	IS-78A	11/1/08	Jacob Durst	jdd2007@gmail.com
Missouri Fall Academic Tournament	University of Missouri-Columbia	IS-80A	11/1/08	Alex Dzurick	MizzouQuizbowl@gmail.com
Northwestern Wildcat Invitational X	Northwestern University, Evanston, IL	IS-79	11/1/08	Rebecca Fisher	rebecca.fischer@northwestern.edu
Speedway Shootout III	Jay M. Robinson H.S., Concord, NC	IS-77	11/8/08	Alex Drake	adrake@cabarrus.k12.nc.us
4th Annual Jr. Jaguar JV Tournament	Cedar Shoals H.S., Athens, GA	IS-78A	11/8/08	Robin Richards	RichardsR@clarke.k12.ga.us
Fall Jayhawks Invitational	St. Joseph Catholic H.S., Ogden, UT	IS-78A	11/8/08	Alex Salvo	asalvo@stjosephutah.com
Matt Cvijanovich Memorial Tourn.	Iowa State University, Ames, IA	IS-77	11/8/08	Scott Nystrom	smnystrom@gmail.com
Tippecanoe Academic Challenge XIII	Tippecanoe H.S., Tipp City, OH	IS-77	11/8/08	Joseph Bellas	JRBellas@TippCity.k12.oh.us
Eagle Quizbowl Invitational Event	Auburn High School, Riner, VA	IS-80A	11/8/08	Matt Beeken	mbeeken@mail.mcps.org
Arts & Sciences Academic Challenge	Univ. of Louisville, Louisville, KY	IS-79	11/8/08	Matthew Church	mschur01@louisville.edu
SAGACITY IV	Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA	IS-77	11/15/08	Steve Ziemak	sjz3@pitt.edu
Parkersburg Catholic Invitational	Parkersburg Catholic H.S., Parkersburg, WV	SS08-A	11/15/08	Stephanic Frank	stephaniefrank@hotmail.com
Ottawa Invitational	Univ. of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON	IS-78A	11/15/08	Ben Smith	uotrivia@yahoo.ca
Scarlet Knight Invitational Tournament	Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ	IS-79	11/15/08	Rutgers Academic Team	rutgersacademic@yahoo.com
Bel Air Invitational	Bel Air High School, Bel Air, MD	IS-78A	11/15/08	Laurie Bates	laurie.bates@hcps.org
Southside Invitational	Southside H.S., Greenville, SC	IS-77	11/15/08	Laura Shoun	lshoun@greenville.k12.sc.us
Geek Wars III	Dolgeville H.S., Dolgeville, NY	IS-73A	11/15/08	Ruth Leavitt	rleavitt@dolgeville.org
2008 Bear Bowl	Southwest Mississippi CC, Summit, MS	IS-80A	11/21/08	Matthew Calhoun	mattc@smcc.edu
Vermont Pre-Holiday Academic Tourn.	TBA	IS-80A	12/5/08	Kevin Commo	kcommo@scholarsbowl.org
TQBA Houston Holiday Hoedown	Seven Lakes H.S., Katy, TX	IS-79	12/6/08	Chris Romero	romeroc@gmail.com
The Decemberist	Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL	IS-76	12/6/08	Brad Fischer	Styxman42@gmail.com
3rd Annual Rowdy Raider Invitational	Wright State University, Dayton, OH	IS-79	12/6/08	David Jones	david.jones@wright.edu
Gopher Invitational Tournament	Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN	IS-77	12/6/08	R. Robert Hentzel	rhentzel!@gmail.com
Univ. of Michigan Autumn Classic	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	IS-79	12/13/08	Andy Kravis	alkrav@umich.edu
Delaware Fall Open	The Charter School of Wilmington, DE	IS-78A	12/13/08	Bill Tressler	stat74@gmail.com
Loyola Invitational	Loyola Academy, Wilmette, IL	IS-78A	12/13/08	David Riley	driley@loy.org

You Gotta Know . . . These Deserts

NAQT has a quota for geography questions at all levels of play; these are the deserts that have been most frequently asked about in our past packets.

1. **Antarctica** (5.4 million sq. mi.) Because it is covered with (solid) water, it is somewhat surprising that Antarctica is considered a desert, but it is classified as such due to its lack of precipitation. Players should be familiar with its tallest mountain (Vinson Massif, in the Ellsworth Mountains), its active volcano Mount Erebus, the surrounding Ross and Weddell Seas, and the Ross Ice Shelf. Norwegian Roald Amundsen was the first to reach the South Pole (1911), while Englishman Robert Scott died trying to reach it. Ernest Shackleton had to abandon his ship, the *Endurance*, during an attempt to cross Antarctica on foot.
2. **Sahara Desert** (Northern Africa; 3.5 million sq. mi.) The Sahara is the world's second largest desert, but its largest hot desert. Players should know the Atlas Mountains (which bound the western Sahara on the north) and the Sahel, a savannah-like strip that bounds it on the south. It is dominated by rocky regions (*hamada*), sand seas (*ergs*), and salt flats (*shatt*) and dry river valleys (*wadi*) that are subject to flash floods. Its most asked-about inhabitants are the Berbers and Tuaregs.
3. **Atacama Desert** (Chile; 70,000 sq. mi.) The Atacama's chief claim to fame is the rain shadow of the Andes which makes it the driest (hot) desert in the world. The desert was the primary bone of contention in the War of the Pacific (1879-1883, Chile defeats Peru and Bolivia) that sought to control its nitrate resources (which were necessary for the production of explosives).
4. **Kalahari Desert** (Botswana, Namibia, South Africa; 360,000 sq. mi.) The Kalahari is a large region, not all of which is arid enough to qualify as a desert. It is known for its red sand, large game reserves (meerkats, gemsbok, springbok, steenbok), and mineral deposits (notably uranium). Most famous are its San Bushmen and their click language.
5. **Mojave Desert** (U.S.; 22,000 sq. mi.) The Mojave is bounded by the San Gabriel and San Bernardino mountain ranges along the San Andreas and Garlock faults. It lies between the Great Basin and the Sonoran Desert and it contains the lowest and driest point of North America, Death Valley. It is most strongly associated with the Joshua tree.
6. **Gobi Desert** (China and Mongolia; 500,000 sq. mi.) The Gobi, Asia's largest desert, is bounded on the north by the Altai Mountains. It is known for its role in the Silk Road and the Nemegt Basin, where fossilized dinosaur eggs and human artifacts have been found.
7. **Rub' al-Khali** (Arabian Peninsula; 250,000 sq. mi.) Its name means "Empty Quarter" in English and this desert can be considered the most inhospitable place on earth. It is known for the world's largest oil field, the Ghawar, and for once being part of the frankincense trade.
8. **Namib Desert** (Namibia and Angola; 30,000 sq. mi.) The Namib, a coastal desert, is known for its bizarre Welwitschia and medicinal Hoodia plants. It is thought to be the oldest desert in the world.

9. **Painted Desert** (Northern Arizona, 146 sq. mi) The Painted Desert, which is shared by Grand Canyon and Petrified Forest National Parks, is known for its colorful, banded rock formations.
10. **Negev Desert** (Israel; 4,700 sq. mi.) The triangular Negev covers the southern half of Israel.
11. **Taklamakan Desert** (China; 105,000 sq. mi.) The Taklamakan is an extremely cold, sandy desert known for splitting the Silk Road into branches running north and south of it. It is bounded by the Kunlun, Pamir, and Tian Shan mountain ranges.
12. **Great Sandy Desert** (Western Australia; 140,000 sq. mi.) Part of the Western Desert, and the ninth largest in the world.

Oddly, half of the world's ten largest deserts don't make this frequency-based list: the Arabian Desert (#3, which includes the Rub' al-Khali), the Patagonian Desert (#5), the Great Victoria Desert (#6), the Great Basin (#7), and the Chihuahuan Desert (#8).

Statistics Database

August 2008 saw the official launch of NAQT's statistics database, which is a searchable repository of results from past tournaments using NAQT questions. It also tracks record-setting performances and generates ratings for teams.

This system, which is still being expanded and refined, is intended to be fun and to spark discussion among players, coaches, and fans. .

The success and accuracy of this database is dependent on tournament hosts sending NAQT complete individual and team statistics for every tournament using NAQT questions. To simplify the reporting of this information we recommend using SQBS, an easy-to-use quiz bowl statistics program designed by Chris Sewell. For more information on SQBS or to download your free copy, go to:

<http://ai.stanford.edu/~csewell/sqbs/index.html>

For more details about the statistics database and associated rating system (including rankings of over 1000 teams), please visit:

<http://www.naqt.com/stats>

Some of the data we have received from tournament hosts has incorrect or incomplete names for players. If your team has competed in an NAQT tournament, please go to the "School Search" page (under the "Schools" tab) and email us at results@naqt.com if you find any errors.

Also at www.naqt.com

NAQT rules changes for 2008	http://www.naqt.com/2008-rules-changes.html
2009 HSNCT information	http://www.naqt.com/hsnct/2009/details.html
NAQT's RSS feed	http://www.naqt.com/rss.xml
Hosting a tournament	http://www.naqt.com/host

New High School Package

NAQT has redesigned its New High School Package for the 2008-09 competition year! For **only \$99** (including shipping), teams can now receive:

- 10 packets of short, easy questions for use with new players at the beginning of the year
- 36 packets of **A-level Invitational Series** questions that will help introduce less experienced players to the game
- 15 packets of **Regular Invitational Series** questions that are slightly harder and slightly longer than the A-level questions
- Literature, art, and music **study guides** listing the 3,599 works that have been mentioned most frequently in NAQT questions since 1996. These study guides include titles, creators, creation dates, and the frequency with which they've occurred.
- Administrative materials including NAQT's Gameplay Rules, Eligibility Rules, and scoresheet.

This package contains over 2,800 questions and would cost \$230 if its components were ordered separately. For more details or to place your order, go to:

<http://www.naqt.com/new-high-school-package.html>

As with any of our products, we are happy to provide a free sample prior to purchase. Just email orders@naqt.com with your request.

Sorry, no substitutions can be made within the New High School Package.

Free Tournament Questions

In 2007-08, qualifying tournaments for the NAQT High School National Championship Tournament were held in 39 states, but that means that teams in 11 states did not have an easily accessible tournament at which they could compete for a chance to be recognized as one of the top quiz bowl teams in the nation.

To encourage the spread of quiz bowl to new areas, NAQT is again offering free tournament questions to any institution interested in running a high school tournament in any of the following states during the 2008-08 school year: Alaska, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Montana (which only had one tournament in 2007-08), Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. This offer also extends to U.S. territories including Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

To take advantage of this offer, contact NAQT at hosting@naqt.com.

Matt Cvijanovich Memorial Fund

The parents of quiz bowler Matt Cvijanovich have created a memorial fund to help schools participate in the activity that Matt loved most.

Grants in the amount of \$200 will be awarded to help public schools nationwide purchase buzzer systems. Applications may be submitted from now until November 30, 2008. For more information, please visit the memorial fund website at:

<http://www.mattsbuzzers.com>

Matt captained the Iowa State University quiz bowl team from 2000 through 2004. He had just completed his first semester of graduate study at the University of Illinois when he passed away suddenly from acute pancreatitis.

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