

Thomas Jefferson High School Wins National Championship

Sixty-four teams. Eighteen rounds. One champion. The A team from Virginia's Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology won eight of ten preliminary games and went undefeated in Sunday's double-elimination rounds to take home top honors at the 2003 NAQT High School National Championship (HS NCT).

On the weekend of May 31, 2003, teams from around the country gathered in Myrtle Beach, SC, for the fifth annual national championship. The event--NAQT's largest of the year, and the largest and most geographically diverse high school championship--was hosted by the City of Myrtle Beach and held at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. On Saturday, ten rounds of power matching led to close games and tight standings. Playoff qualification was straightforward enough--just win more games than you lose--but this was much easier said than done when competing against the nation's elite quiz teams.

By the end of Saturday, 24 teams remained in the hunt. Fourteen advanced with records of 6-4; eight of those had needed final-round wins to stay alive. For some, that last win made a statement: Solon (OH) eliminated Ithaca B (NY), 315-90; Chattahoochee (GA) notched a 415-170 victory over James Madison (VA). Others needed every last point: Petoskey (MI) took a 160-135 contest from James Island (SC); Booker T. Washington (OK) slid past State College B (PA), 180-150; and Cutter Morning Star (AR), eked out a 235-230 decision over Bentley (CA).

Barely edged out were 16 teams finishing just one game out of the playoffs, with 5-5 records. At 4-6 were 13 squads, some of whom knew that a handful of questions had made the difference. Most of those teams came back for more question fun in Sunday's informal consolation rounds.

At the head of the pack, only the Maggie Walker Governor's School (Richmond, VA) was undefeated after ten rounds. Three teams ended the day at 8-2: Thomas Jefferson, Walton (Marietta, GA), and Paul L. Dunbar (Lexington, KY). The geographically diverse field included teams from Alabama, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.

Saturday night was set aside for rest and relaxation. Some enjoyed world-famous beaches just blocks from the hotel, while others took in the Arena Football contest hosted in the convention center itself or a local minor league baseball game.

Sunday morning brought out the best of the best. Teams often answered so quickly that moderators were able to finish the entire packet before time ran out. After each round, onlookers crowded around the standings boards to learn who stayed in the winner's bracket and who had just bowed out.

Cutter Morning Star survived four rounds of the open playoff before earning the small school championship by besting Westmont Hilltop (PA) in a 250-220 shootout. Jason Loy, Cutter Morning Star captain, made the Individual All-Stars, finishing second in points per game to Dwight Wynne of Capistrano Valley (CA). Other top scorers included Sean Hou (Fort Mill, SC), Slade Gilmer (Russellville, AL), Joel Avila (Westminster Academy, TN), Will Turner (Petoskey, MI), Zach Pozun (Westmont Hilltop, PA), Pete Troyan (Catholic Central, MI), Noah Rahman (Solon, OH), and Jaline Gerrardine (State College A, PA).

The Maggie Walker Governor's School A team lost just twice all weekend, but those consecutive defeats led to elimination from the playoffs and a fifth-place finish. Walton (Marietta, GA) took fourth, with the underdog (6-4 on Saturday) St. John's School (Houston, TX) rising to third. Paul M. Dorman High School (Spartanburg, SC) topped St. John's to reach the championship round. Dorman, the loser's bracket champion, would have needed two wins over Thomas Jefferson to take the title, but Thomas Jefferson won the first game and, with it, the title.

NAQT thanks all of the teams and volunteers, as well as the City of Myrtle Beach, for a great tournament. This event depended on dozens of moderators and scorekeepers to run 32 rooms of simultaneous game-play. Behind the scenes, two dedicated statisticians crunched the numbers, paired the teams, and kept the show rolling. Full standings and statistics can be found on the NAQT web site at:

<http://www.naqt.com/hsnct/2003/results/index.html>

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2003-2004 High School Tournaments

These events all use NAQT questions. Registration details are at our on-line schedule page: <http://www.naqt.com/schedule.jsp>

Use the "Set" column below to avoid attending two tournaments that use the same questions.

Information here is as of press date. Check the web site for additional events, location and contact information.

This table lists invitational tournaments. See next page for state championship information.

Date	Set	Event	Site	City/State
Oct. 25	IS-40A	Texas Quiz Bowl Alliance Fall Event	Rice Univ.	Houston, TX
Oct. 25	IS-41	Wildcat Invitational Tourn.	Northwestern Univ.	Evanston, IL
Oct. 25	IS-39	Caltech High School Tourn.	California Inst. of Technology	Pasadena, CA
Oct. 25	IS-38A	U. of Minnesota High School Tourn.	U. of Minnesota-Twin Cities	Minneapolis, MN
Oct. 25	IS-38A	ISU High School Tourn.	Iowa State Univ.	Ames, IA
Oct. 25	IS-37	Yale Fall Academic Tourn.	Yale Univ.	New Haven, CT
Oct. 25	IS-37	Jefferson Invitational Academic Tourn.	Thomas Jefferson H.S.	Alexandria, VA
Nov. 1	IS-40A	Tal Atkins Memorial Q.B. Tourn.	Caddo Magnet H.S.	Shreveport, LA
Nov. 1	IS-39	Brandeis' Lawndale H.S. Invitational	Brandeis Univ.	Waltham, MA
Nov. 1	IS-37	14th Annual Hartland Acad. QB Tourn.	Hartland H.S.	Hartland, MI
Nov. 8	IS-37	Stanford H.S. Invitational	Stanford Univ.	Palo Alto, CA
Nov. 8	IS-38A	Conserve V/JV Challenge Tourn.	Conserve School	Land O' Lakes, WI
Nov. 8	IS-38A	Vanguard Fall Tourn.	Vanguard H.S.	Ocala, FL
Nov. 8	IS-37	OQBA Fall Challenge III	Redlands Community College	El Reno, OK
Nov. 8	IS-38A	UL-Lafayette High School Tourn.	UL-Lafayette	Lafayette, LA
Nov. 15	IS-40A	Riverside Invitational	UC-Riverside	Riverside, CA
Nov. 15	IS-39	Shamrock Invitational	Charleston Catholic H.S.	Charleston, WV
Nov. 15	IS-41	CBCT VI	UC-Irvine	Irvine, CA
Nov. 22	IS-40A	Boren Cup XV	Univ. of Oklahoma	Norman, OK
Dec. 6	IS-38A	USC High School Tourn.	Univ. of Southern Calif.	Los Angeles, CA
Dec. 6	IS-40A	U. of Wisconsin Fall Tourn.	Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison	Madison, WI
Dec. 6	IS-41	University of Michigan Autumn Classic	Univ. of Michigan-Ann Arbor	Ann Arbor, MI
Dec. 6	IS-41	Princeton H.S. Academic Bowl Tourn.	Princeton Univ.	Princeton, NJ
Dec. 6	IS-40A	Bay State Quiz Bowl Classic VI	Boston University	Boston, MA
Dec. 13	IS-38A	Maverick Academic Challenge	Mauldin High School	Mauldin, SC
Dec. 13	IS-38A	Delaware Fall Open	The Charter School	Wilmington, DE
Jan. 10	IS-41	14th Annual Hornet Invitational	Savannah Country Day	Savannah, GA
Jan. 10	IS-42	Parkersburg South Tourn.	Parkersburg South H.S.	Parkersburg, WV
Jan. 24	IS-40A	Carleton High School Tourn.	Carleton College	Northfield, MN
Jan. 24	IS-39	Bulldog Brawl	The Univ. of Georgia	Athens, GA
Jan. 24	IS-39	Wichita State H.S. Invitational	Wichita State Univ.	Wichita, KS
Jan. 31	IS-37	Cordova Spring Tourn.	Cordova High School	Cordova, TN
Jan. 31	IS-41	OQBA Spring Challenge II	Univ. of Tulsa	Tulsa, OK
Jan. 31	IS-41	Martin County H.S. Invitational	Martin County H.S.	Stuart, FL
Jan. 31	IS-41	5th Annual Cougar Invitational	Cedar Creek High School	Ruston, LA
Jan. 31	IS-39	Wayland Academy Tourn.	Wayland Academy	Beaver Dam, WI
Feb. 9	IS-40A	Ada Invitational Quiz Bowl	Ada Senior High School	Ada, OH
Feb. 14	IS-41	Bentley H.S. Tourn.	Bentley High School	Lafayette, CA
Feb. 14	IS-39	Alpha Kappa Tao Quiz Tourn.	Munford High School	Munford, TN
Feb. 21	IS-39	Cavalier Academic Challenge	Univ. of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA
Feb. 28	IS-40A	Ripley H.S. Invitational	Ripley High School	Ripley, WV
Feb. 28	IS-41	2004 Flower City Invitational	Univ. of Rochester	Rochester, NY
Feb. 28	IS-42	2004 VITAE	Vanguard H.S.	Ocala, FL
Feb. 28	IS-42	2nd Annual Conserve QB Varsity Tourn.	Conserve School	Land O' Lakes, WI
Feb. 28	IS-42	Half Moon Bay Rotary QB Classic	Half Moon Bay H.S.	Half Moon Bay, CA
Mar. 6	IS-42	Quizarama	Irmo H.S.	Irmo, SC
Mar. 20	IS-42	Blue Hen Invitational VI	Univ. of Delaware	Newark, DE
Apr. 17	IS-42	Spring Fling Tournament	CR Washington H.S.	Cedar Rapids, IA
May 15	IS-43	Ransom Everglades Tournament	Ransom Everglades School	Coconut Grove, FL

NAQT is also proud to supply questions to QuizBusters (Lansing, MI) and Battle of the Brains (Richmond, VA)

NAQT Practice Materials and Web Portal

Fun Fact: NAQT's database has over 100,000 questions dating back to 1996, on literature (18,000, including 500 on Shakespeare plays), science (17,000), history (17,000), and many other topics.

National Academic Quiz Tournaments wants your team to learn, have fun, and win. Visit us at <http://www.naqt.com> to order questions and study guides, and read free articles on building successful teams. Our members, all past quiz-bowl players--now doctors, software developers, and professors--want more players and schools to enjoy quiz competition.

Practice Questions. 36 Invitational Series packet sets are now available. Used in tournaments as recently as 2002-03, sets include 15 rounds, roughly 50 questions per round. These are the product of a rigorous process: Once a writer submits a question, it is sent to a subject editor with expertise in the field. Custom software then groups edited questions into packet sets; two set editors independently go over each set to ensure consistency, accuracy, and proper distribution. Finally, experienced quiz alumni playtest the questions. Most practice sets sell for just \$35 per set. We also have previous national championship questions available, typically at \$40 per set.

Frequency Lists. If you could learn just one book for quiz competition, what should it be? *Moby-Dick* has been asked about over 50 times in NAQT packs, more than any other novel. Is this helpful? NAQT has lists of every novel, play, painting, statue, and composition that has been frequently asked about in NAQT competition. Subscriptions are available for schools that want an updated data set each year. Lists for other subjects will be available before long.

"You Gotta Know" is the most popular section of NAQT's web site. Each month we add a new entry describing 10-12 people, places, and things that championship teams really need to know. Go to <http://www.naqt.com/YouGottaKnow/>

Much More. NAQT is in the process of updating its **How To** section; our **Rules** are available for invitational use (and are quickly becoming the most common standard at college and high school events). We also have **Links** to software, discussion groups, and team contacts. Last but not least, download our **free sample questions** from <http://www.naqt.com/samples/index.html>

NAQT High School State Championships

Many states use the NAQT format for state championship tournaments. This table reflects information available at press time.

In states with multiple divisions based on school size, "2003 champion" refers to the winner of the largest division.

If your state does not have an NAQT championship, write to hosting@naqt.com and let us help you set one up.

State	2004 Information			2003 Champion	
	Site	City	Date	School	City
Alabama	Bevill State	Jasper	March 1	Bob Jones	Madison
Arkansas (qual.)	Univ. of Arkansas	Fayetteville	March 6		
California (North)	TBA	TBA	TBA	Bentley School	Oakland
California (South)	UCLA	Los Angeles	April 1		
Delaware	Ursuline Academy	Wilmington	February 7	Charter School	Wilmington
Indiana	Univ. of Notre Dame	Notre Dame	April 3		
Iowa	Iowa State Univ.	Ames	April 1	Ames High School	Ames
Louisiana	Tulane Univ.	New Orleans	March 27	Caddo Magnet	Shreveport
Maryland	TBA	TBA	TBA	Blake	Silver Spring
Michigan	Univ. of Michigan	Ann Arbor	March 20	Catholic Central	Redford
New Hampshire	TBA	TBA	TBA	Hanover	Hanover
New Jersey	Rutgers	New Brunswick	March 13	East Brunswick	East Brunswick
Oklahoma	Univ. of Oklahoma	Norman	April 17	Edmond Memorial	Edmond
Pennsylvania	Carnegie Mellon	Pittsburgh	March 6	State College	State College
South Carolina	Aiken H.S.	Aiken	April 1		
Tennessee	Tennessee Tech.	Cookeville	March 26	Cookeville	Cookeville
Texas	Rice Univ.	Houston	March 6	St. Johns	Houston
Virginia	Univ. of Virginia	Charlottesville	March 20		
West Virginia	Ripley H.S.	Ripley	March 8	George Wash.	Charleston
Wisconsin	Univ. of Wisconsin	Madison	March 27	Conserve	Land O' Lakes

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