

# Scholastic Visions

The Newsletter of the Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association

Vol. 12 No. 4

Editor: Rob Grierson <robgrrierson@comcast.net>

May 2007

## Message from the Editor

This newsletter has been sent to 320 current members, 38 program directors, 34 vendors, and 8 media contacts. Of these, 210 will download the newsletter from our website.

Early Bird renewal notices were mailed in early May. Susan Martin and Phyllis Kidd are our new Treasurers. Although the renewal forms said to mail them to Susan, please mail your renewal to Phyllis Kidd, IHSSBCA Treasurer, Wheaton North HS, 701 W Thomas Road, Wheaton IL, 60187.

## IHSA Rule Changes Proposed

Changes proposed by the Scholastic Bowl Advisory Committee have been sent to the IHSA Board of Directors for their approval. Among the changes are the following:

- State Final Tournament moved from Saturday to Friday
- Sub-Sectionals will be eliminated in most Sections
- Regionals to be assigned at Seeding Meetings, as before

See the article on Page 18 for more details and Rule changes.

## SchoBowIFest '07

### Save the Date: Saturday, September 29

For more information see the article on Page 3.

## 2nd Annual IHSSBCA Awards Banquet Held at ISU in Normal April 21, 2007



### Scholastic Bowl Hall of Fame Class of 2007

*Bud Lachel, Cheryl Christianson, Tom Holbrook, Ken Johnson*

Over 170 people attended the second annual IHSSBCA Awards Banquet that honored four new Hall of Fame coaches, All-State players, Friend of Scholastic Bowl winners, and the IHSA and Masonic Championship teams. You can see more pictures and read the article on Page 12. **ZeeCraft Tech** was our official Hall of Fame sponsor for 2007.

## IHSA Announces FOXJOX.COM

FOX Chicago is teaming up with area high schools to put together the most robust high school video website in the country. Game highlights, winning plays, amazing shots, **academic competitions**, and great dramatic or musical performances, will be showcased. All video clips will be shot and produced by students who provide video coverage of events at and around their schools. More information is at: <<http://www.ihsa.org/announce/2006-07/2007-04-27.htm>>

## New Trier, Decatur Lutheran Ranked #1

Post-Season Coaches Poll appears on Page 15

## IHSA State Series Questions For Sale

Question sets from the last six IHSA State Series (eleven rounds each) can be purchased from the IHSA by contacting Cheryl Mitchell at (309-663-6377) or <[cmitchell@ihsa.org](mailto:cmitchell@ihsa.org)>.

## 2007-08 Tournament Schedule Is Your Tournament Listed?

Tentative schedule appears on Page 6

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## All-State Players Honored

Congratulations to the following honorees, listed alphabetically.

**Class A, 1st Team:** Stefan Aydt\*\*, Paris; Stephen Bock, Macon (Meridian); Zach Dietmeier, Aledo; Eliot Driver, Morrison; Isaac Etheridge, Fairfield; Andrew Friedman, Chicago (Latin); Kenneth Knuppel, Petersburg (PORTA); Kenneth Moore; Moweaqua (Central A&M); Jonathan Ryherd\*\*, Decatur (Lutheran); Lian States, Fairfield.

**Class A, 2nd Team:** Bob Bunton, Seneca; Alex Davis, Elmwood; Aaron Deets, Byron; Alex Lueker, Litchfield; Alex Martin, Johnston City; Julia Mindeman, Macomb; Nicholas Morgan, Alton (Marquette); William Szumski, Seneca; Zach Troxel, Peoria Heights; Samuel White, Decatur (Lutheran); Jacob Zwilling, Bridgeport (Red Hill)

**Class AA, 1st Team:** Carlo Angiuli, Winnetka (New Trier); Hunter Fast, Bloomington; Greg Gauthier\*\*, Wheaton (North); Bonny Jain, Moline; Erin Li\*, Park Ridge (Maine East); Ben Montet, Frankfort (Lincoln-Way East); Greg Peterson\*\*, Park Ridge (Maine South); Justin Stoncius\*\*, Carbondale; Siva Sundaram, Rockford (Auburn); Kristina Warren\*\*, Bloomington

**Class AA, 2nd Team:** John Binder, Oak Park/River Forest; John Brown, Rockford (Auburn); Catie Flynn, Springfield; Jackson Lai, Libertyville; Nick Matchen, Winnetka (New Trier); Luke Pacold, Chicago (St. Ignatius); Karthik Shastri, Lincolnshire (Stevenson); Brooks Smith\*, Oak Park (Fenwick); Jeff Wear, Park Ridge (Maine South); Alex Zhukhovitskiy, Park Ridge (Maine E)

\* 2nd Team in 2005-06

\*\* 1st Team in 2005-06

## IL Player to Appear on Jeopardy!

As a consequence of attending the tryout offered at last year's NAQT National Championship, Greg Peterson of Maine South High School in Park Ridge was awarded an opportunity to appear on the second Jeopardy! Teen Tournament of the 2006-07 season.

Mr. Peterson taped his shows in early March, however he is legally barred from discussing the results until after the air dates. He is legally permitted to release those air dates, which are Monday, July 16; Wednesday July 25; Thursday, July 26; and Friday July 27. Those familiar with the two week Jeopardy! tournament structure will deduce that Mr. Peterson did not have a bad run.

Mr. Peterson is a two-time 1st Team All-State honoree, and set numerous scoring records while at Maine South, leading his team to a 76-15 record in 2006-07, excluding their upcoming appearance at NAQT Nationals. He will also help represent Illinois this year at the Panasonic Academic Championship.

### Scholastic Visions

The Newsletter Of The

Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association

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Subscription Included With Membership Dues

### Statement of Income and Expenses FY07 Current Fiscal Year

**August 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007**

Submitted by Deb Voorhees, IHSSBCA Treasurer

#### Income

Membership Dues	\$ 6,985.00
Handbooks	420.00
Scorebooks	1,825.00
Advertising	1,509.00
Sponsorship	750.00
Grant ( <b>Tribune Foundation</b> )	2,500.00
Donations	532.00
Awards Banquet	2,390.00
Team IL 2007 Revenue	2,570.80
Miscellaneous	36.30

**Total Income** \$19,518.10

#### Expenses

Team IL 2007 Expense *	\$ 6,463.19
Newsletter	2,284.60
Tournaments	1,788.30
Handbooks	60.00
Scorebooks	458.00
Membership Mailings	677.03
Website	167.40
All-State Awards	222.94
Awards Banquet & Awards *	880.00
Moderator Certification	71.55
Miscellaneous	120.00

**Total Expenses** \$13,193.01

**Net 06-07 Gain (Loss)** \$6,325.09 \*

**From 05-06** \$ 597.48

**Bank Balance 4/30/07** \$6,922.57

\* There are expenses yet to be paid for Team IL and the Banquet

## Spring 2007 KMO Top Twenty

*A preview of strong teams going into Nationals*

1. State College Area, **Pennsylvania** (1826)
2. Bergen County Academies, Hackensack, **New Jersey** (1780)
3. Jefferson Science & Tech, Alexandria, **Virginia** (1779)
4. Maggie Walker Governor's, Richmond, **Virginia** (1776)
5. Montgomery Blair, Silver Spring, **Maryland** (1757)
6. Richard Montgomery, Rockville, **Maryland** (1730)
7. Champlain Valley Union, Hinesburg, **Vermont** (1728)
8. Raleigh Charter, **North Carolina** (1711)
9. Detroit Catholic Central, Novi, **Michigan** (1706)
10. High Technology, Lincroft, **New Jersey** (1689)
11. Lyndon B. Johnson, Austin, **Texas** (1685)
12. St. Anthony Village, **Minnesota** (1685)
13. Ames HS, **Iowa** (1679)
14. Auburn HS, Rockford, **Illinois** (1672)
15. Shanghai American School, **China** (1666)
16. Horace Mann, Bronx, **New York** (1661)
17. Walt Whitman, Bethesda, **Maryland** (1656)
18. Moline HS, **Illinois** (1649)
19. Hanover, **New Hampshire** (1642)
20. Parkland, Allentown, **Pennsylvania** (1639)

727 schools world-wide participated in this KMO

**Congrats Rockford Auburn and Moline, Top 20!!!**

Next year's KMO dates are December 5, 2007 and April 23, 2008.

## 2006-07 Tournament Results

2/24 Orion Frosh/Soph *Cancelled*

2/24 Culver (IN) Varsity & Fr/So (12 & 8)

Varsity: 1. Lafayette Harrison A; 2. Culver A

Frosh/Soph: 1. St. Joseph's; 2. Lafayette Harrison A

3/3 24th Masonic State Final @ Springfield SE (16 top teams)

*See the article on Page 4.*

3/17 21st IHSA State Series (512 teams statewide)

Class A: 1. Decatur Lutheran; 2. Columbia;

3. Petersburg PORTA; 4. Chicago Latin

Others Advancing to State:

Beardstown, Fairfield, Macomb, Morrison.

Class AA: 1. Winnetka New Trier; 2. Wheaton

North; 3. Rockford Auburn; 4. Libertyville

Others Advancing to State: Bloomington HS,

Carbondale, Hinsdale Central, Joliet Township

3/24 NAQT State @ Loyola (8 teams)

1. Winnetka New Trier; 2. Park Ridge Maine South;

3. Chicago St. Ignatius; 4. Carbondale

4/25 Knowledge Master Open Sr (27 Illinois teams)

1. Rockford Auburn (1672); 2. Moline (1649);

3. Carbondale (1585); 4. Springfield (1569);

5. Schaumburg (1470); 6. Palatine Fremd (1448);

7. Rock Island (1409); 8. Seneca Township (1387);

9. Decatur Lutheran (1385); 10. Rockford East (1379);

*Worldwide, Rockford Auburn was 14th and Moline 18th*

4/25 Knowledge Master Open Jr (2 Illinois teams)

1. Seneca Township 9th Grade (1374)

2. Rock Island 9th Grade (1149)

*Worldwide, Seneca Township was 54th of 140 teams*

4/28 ICTM State Math Contest

1A: 1. Cornerstone; 2. Johnston City; 3. Oblong

2A: 1. U of Chicago Lab; 2. Herrin; 3. Chicago Northside Prep

3AA: 1. Payton Prep; 2. Oak Park Fenwick; 3. Vernon Hills

4AA: 1. Naperville North; 2. IMSA; 3. Lincolnshire Stevenson

5/12 Culver Midwest Championship (12 teams)

1. Winnetka New Trier; 2. Detroit Central Catholic A;

3. Detroit Central Catholic B; 4 (tie) Lafayette Harrison A and

Wilmette Loyola; 6 (tie) Culver A and Winnetka New Trier B

**Varsity Conference Champs for JV see our website**

Apollo: Mt. Zion

Big Northern: Burlington Central

Cahokia: Columbia

Central State 8: Springfield

Central Suburban: Winnetka New Trier

Corn Belt: Eureka

DuPage Valley: Wheaton North

Heart of Illinois: Farmer City Blue Ridge

Interstate 8: (season) Seneca

Interstate 8: (tournament) Herscher

Little Illini: Bridgeport Red Hill & Toledo Cumberland

Little 10: (season) Hinckley Big Rock

Little 10: (tournament) Somonauk

Metro Suburban: Riverside-Brookfield

Mid-South: Wayne City

Mid-Suburban: Arlington Heights Hersey & Hoffman Estates

NIC-9: Rockford Auburn

NCIC: Sterling

North Metro: Chicago Saint Ignatius

North Suburban: Libertyville & Zion-Benton

Olympic: Macomb

Okaw Valley: (season) Decatur St. Teresa

Okaw Valley: (tournament) Moweaqua Central A&M

Peoria Area: (season) Morton

Peoria Area: (tournament) Peoria Richwoods

Pike County: Pittsfield

Prairieland: Lewistown

Prairie Rivers: Manlius Bureau Valley

River-to-River: Murphysboro

Sangamo: Petersburg PORTA

Sangamon Valley: St. Joseph Ogden

South Central Scholastic: Breese Mater Dei

South Metro: Oak Park Fenwick

South Suburban: (season) Burbank Reavis & Oak Forest

South Suburban: (tournament) Palos Heights Shepard

Southern Illinois Outlaw: Collinsville and Jerseyville

Southwest Suburban: (season) Frankford Lincoln-Way East

Southwest Suburban: (tournament) Joliet Township

Three Rivers: Morrison

Upstate Illini: East Dubuque, Forreston, and Pearl City

West Central: Pittsfield

WIV: Jacksonville Routh

Western Sun: Geneva

West Suburban: Oak Park/River Forest

## SchoBowlFest '07: September 29

*by David Reinstein, IHSSBCA Chair*

Ten years ago, IHSSBCA hosted SchoBowlFest, a conference for Scholastic Bowl coaches to talk and learn about all aspects of coaching—organizing a team, getting school support, preparing a team for matches, coaching a team during matches, moderating matches, organizing conferences and tournaments, etc. The event was successful.

We are excited to announce that we are bringing SchoBowlFest back. It will take place at Bloomington High School on Saturday, September 29. The event will last from 10:00-2:20, and coaches who attend will have the option to attend several sessions. If you are a newer coach, this will be a great opportunity to listen to experienced coaches and meet people willing to help you out. If you are an experienced coach, you will be able to learn more about what some of the strongest programs in our state are doing, and you may be able to pass your experience on to the next generation.

Because this event will be early in the year, before the season begins for most teams, please start planning for it now. Mark the date on your calendar. If you want to lead a session or if you have ideas for what session topics we should have, please contact me. If this is your final year in coaching, please let your replacement know about this opportunity because it will offer some of the support that is very important for first year coaches.

An invitation to attend was included with the Earlybird Membership Forms, so it will be easy for you to sign up.

## Masonic Academic Bowl Recap

by Dale Thayer, Tournament Director,  
Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl

Maine South High School of Park Ridge won the 2007 Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl State Championship by defeating New Trier High School of Winnetka. Maine South received a scholastic award of \$2,000 from the Masons of Illinois for their championship finish, and New Trier received \$1,250 for their second-place finish. The Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl State Tournament was held on March 3, 2007, at Springfield Southeast High School.



### Champions: Maine South High School

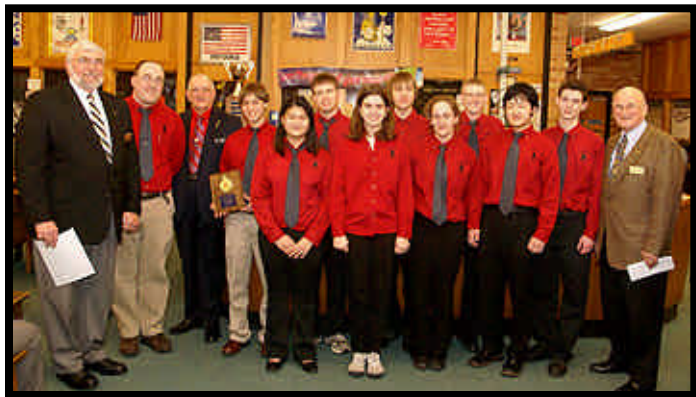
Terry Seward (Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Illinois), Dale Thayer (Tournament Director for the Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl), team members Brian Enders, Jimmy Grizzell, Stacey Svetlichnaya (captain), Jeff Wear, Brigette Demke, and Greg Peterson, and Noel Dicks (Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois).



### Second Place: New Trier High School

Terry Seward (Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Illinois), Dale Thayer (Tournament Director for the Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl), Coach David Reinstein, team member Jeff Hirschey, Coach Carolyn Gerhardt, team members Nick Matchen, Carlo Angiuli (captain), Ben Cohen, Robert Sido, Jonah Greenthal, and Sohaib Qadri, and Noel Dicks (Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois).

Finishing in third-place and receiving \$950 was Springfield High School. Moline High School received \$450 for their fourth-place finish. Auburn High School in Rockford won the consolation championship by defeating Bloomington High School and received \$650.



### Third Place: Springfield High School

Terry Seward (Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Illinois), Coach David Adkins, Dale Thayer (Tournament Director for the Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl), team members Sam Schoenburg (captain), Nancy Lin, Galen Furry, Caitie Flynn, Jonathan Hughes, Marissa DeWeese, Wade Morrison, Xinlong Cheng, and Carl Butt, and Noel Dicks (Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois).



### Fourth Place: Moline High School

Don Anderson (Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl committee member), Noel Dicks (Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois), Coach Nick Pitz, and team members John Davenport, Alex Ryser (captain), Bonny Jain, Hemanth Sirandas, John Scott, Mohammed Hussain, and Stephen Grimes.



### Consolation Champions: Rockford Auburn High School

Terry Seward (Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Illinois), Dale Thayer (Tournament Director for the Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl), Coach Linda Greene, team members Michael Jiang, John Brown (co-captain), Siva Sundaram (co-captain), Matt Hargrove, Zaid Siddiqui, Jeremy Tatar, Tage Singh, and Robert Westfall, and Noel Dicks (Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois).

The sixteen teams that competed in the Masonic State Tournament were: Bloomington, Carbondale Community, Chillicothe Illinois Valley Central, Fairfield Community, Farmington, Jacksonville, Litchfield, Moline, Oak Park Fenwick, Park Ridge Maine South, Rockford Auburn, Seneca Township, Springfield HS, Sterling, St. Joseph-Ogden, and Winnetka New Trier.

The Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl Regional Tournaments were held on February 17, 2007, at fifteen different locations throughout the state. A total of 194 high schools participated in our tournament this year. A total of 244 registered to participate in our tournament, but many withdrew due to weather conditions on the day of the Regional Tournament. Snow and wind created poor road conditions at all regional sites, especially in the central part of the state. Listed below are the teams finishing in the top five positions of each Regional Tournament:

Site #1 @ Erie: 1. Moline; 2. Rock Island; 3. Morrison; 4. Princeton. Consolation: Geneseo

Site #2 @ Rock Falls: 1. Sterling; 2. Sterling Newman Central Catholic; 3. Scales Mound; 4. Amboy. Consolation: Pecatonica

Site #3 @ Maple Park Kaneland: 1. Rockford Auburn; 2. Rockford Boylan Catholic; 3. Rockton Hononegah; 4. Winnebago. Consolation: LaSalle-Peru.

Site #4 @ Palatine Fremd: 1. Winnetka New Trier; 2. Park Ridge Maine South; 3. Lincolnshire Stevenson; 4. Palatine Fremd. Consolation: Lake Zurich

Site #5 @ Wheaton-Warrenville South: 1. Oak Park Fenwick; 2. Wheaton-Warrenville South; 3. Wheaton North; 4. Chicago St. Ignatius. Consolation: Frankfort Lincoln-Way East

Site #6 @ Farmington: 1. Farmington; 2. Elmwood; 3. Aledo; 4. Dunlap. Consolation: Sciota West Prairie

Site #7 @ Eureka: 1. Chillicothe Illinois Valley Central; 2. Washington Community; 3. Peoria Heights; 4. Spring Valley Hall. Consolation: Morton

Site #8 @ Fairbury Prairie Central: 1. Seneca Township; 2. Streator Township; 3. Normal University; 4. Pontiac. Consolation: Hersher

Site #9 @ Petersburg PORTA: 1. Jacksonville; 2. Petersburg PORTA; 3. Quincy Senior; 4. Pittsfield. Consolation: Pleasant Plains

Site #10 @ Springfield HS: 1. Springfield HS; 2. Auburn; 3. Chatham Glenwood; 4. Athens. Consolation: Carlinville

Site #11 @ Decatur St. Teresa: 1. Bloomington; 2. Decatur Lutheran High School Association; 3. Decatur MacArthur; 4. Decatur St. Teresa. Consolation: Mattoon

Site #12 @ Tolono Unity: 1. St. Joseph-Ogden; 2. Champaign St. Thomas More; 3. Charleston; 4. Paris. Consolation: Toledo Cumberland

Site #13 @ O'Fallon Township: 1. Litchfield; 2. Alton Senior; 3. O'Fallon Township; 4. Belleville Althoff Catholic. Consolation: Belleville Township West

Site #14 @ Fairfield Community: 1. Fairfield Community; 2. Teutopolis; 3. Effingham HS; 4. Effingham St. Anthony. Consolation: Farina South Central

Site #15 @ Carbondale Community: 1. Carbondale Community; 2. Murphysboro; 3. Marissa; 4. Sparta. Consolation: Cobden

At each of the fifteen regional tournament sites, scholastic awards money was awarded as follows: \$500 to the Regional Champion, \$400 to second-place, \$300 to third-place, \$200 to the consolation champion, and \$100 to fourth-place.

One hundred ninety-nine Masonic Lodges throughout the state supported this year's tournament. Some Lodges sponsored more than one school, and some Lodges split the cost of sponsoring a school. Some Lodges did not sponsor a specific school, but financially contributed to the overall tournament. Lodges donated a total of \$28,100 to support this year's tournament.

The Masons of Illinois congratulate all teams participating in the tournaments and extend a special "Thank You" to the schools that hosted a tournament site and to all of the workers at the various sites. Without the host schools and without the many, many tournament workers, these tournaments would not be possible. This year's tournament marked our largest tournament to date – 244 high schools registered which required us to schedule 15 regional sites, and 194 schools actually competed.

The dates for the 2008 Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl are Saturday, February 16, 2008, for the Regional Tournaments and Saturday, March 1, 2008, for the State Tournament. Please mark these dates on your school calendar for 2008. Information about the 2008 tournament should arrive at the schools during the first week of September 2007. The 2008 tournament will be the 25th annual tournament for the Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl.



**Editor's Note:** We salute and thank the Masons of Illinois for their contributions to Illinois Scholastic Bowl over the past 24 years. What an achievement – from one tournament with sixteen schools awarding \$1,000 in 1983, to fifteen tournament sites statewide involving nearly 200 schools and awarding over \$25,000 in 2007 – more than \$425,000 total in 24 years. We look forward to next year's milestone – the 25th Annual Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl Tournament.

**Special thanks** to the members of the Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl Committee: Jim Albsmeyer, Donald L. Anderson, Sam Bridger, Ronald Cronau, Ron Croy, Jeff Estes, Thomas J. M. Fassler, Colin Jordan, Phillip Pinney, Robert Raukohl, Rod Reid, Dale H. Satorius, Dale F. Thayer, Committee Chairman, Steve Walker, and Thomas Warner, Sr.

For general information about Masonry in Illinois, visit their website at <<http://www.ilmason.org/gl.html>>. Currently there are 531 Masonic Lodges in cities all around Illinois.

## Call for Spotlight Subjects

We welcome contributions to our ongoing Spotlight On ... series of articles, highlighting coaches, players, moderators, or friends of Scholastic Bowl. Coaches, moderators, parents, and other interested parties should contact Tom Egan at <[tegan@maine207south.k12.il.us](mailto:tegan@maine207south.k12.il.us)> with suggestions or offers to write articles for future issues of Scholastic Visions.

## 2007-2008 Tentative Tournament Schedule

**Send corrections/changes/additions to David Riley <driley@loy.org> (847-920-2546)**

Tournaments are **Varsity** unless otherwise noted ... (F/S) = Frosh/Soph ... (VJV) = Varsity & JV ... (V F/S) = Varsity & Frosh/Soph

KEY TO CODED TOURNAMENTS: [C] = Competitive; [N] = Neutral; [O] = Open; [T] = Turnabout/Novice; [X] Not Classified

<u>(Week) Date</u>	<u>Northeast (Regions 1-2-3)</u>	<u>Northwest (Regions 4-5)</u>	<u>Central/South (Regions 6-7)</u>
(13) Sept 29	statewide draw	statewide draw	SchoBowlFest (Bloomington)
(14) Oct 6 (SAT Date)	- open date -	- open date -	- open date -
(15) Oct 13	statewide draw	statewide draw	U of I Early Bird
(16) Oct 20	Loyola Ultima (Invitation Only) [C]	statewide draw Rock Valley Community College	statewide draw
(17) Oct 27 (ACT Date)	Fremd (F/S) [N] Evanston Northwestern NAQT	Rock Island Orion	- open date -
(18) Nov 3 (SAT Date)	Lincoln-Way East	Rock Valley Community College (F/S)	- open date -
(19) Nov 10	New Trier Scobol Solo	statewide draw Moline (F/S)	statewide draw
(20) Nov 17	Kickoff (Wheaton North) [O]	Kickoff (Sterling) [O]	Kickoff (Central - TBA) [O] Kickoff (O'Fallon) [O]
(21) Nov 24	[Thanksgiving Holiday]	[Thanksgiving Holiday]	[Thanksgiving Holiday]
(22) Dec 1 (SAT Date)	Richards	- open date -	- open date -
(23) Dec 8 (ACT Date)	Loyola (F/S) [O]	Rockford Boylan (F/S)	- open date -
(24) Dec 15	New Trier	- open date -	- open date -
(25) Dec 22 & (26) Dec 29	[Winter Holiday]	[Winter Holiday]	[Winter Holiday]
(27) Jan 5	Kaneland [O]	Rockford Auburn (F/S)	- open date -
(28) Jan 12	- open date -	Sterling	- open date -
(29) Jan 19	Fremd [N]	Winnebago Rock Island (F/S)	- open date -
(30) Jan 26 (SAT Date)	statewide draw Wheaton North (F/S)	statewide draw	UIUC Solo Springfield Octangular (Invitation Only)
(31) Feb 2	Kaneland (F/S) [O]	Streator Rotary Rockford Boylan	- open date -
(32) Feb 6 Wednesday	IHSA Seeding Meetings	IHSA Seeding Meetings	IHSA Seeding Meetings
(32) Feb 9 (ACT Date)	Fenwick	Galesburg Rotary	- open date -
(32) Feb10 Sunday	statewide draw	statewide draw	Team Illinois Tryouts
(33) Feb 16	Masonic Sectionals	Masonic Sectionals	Masonic Sectionals
(34) Feb 23 (ICTM Date)	NAQT State Qualifier (Loyola) Carmel Catholic (V F/S)	statewide draw Orion (F/S)	statewide draw U of I NAQT Tournament
(35) Mar 1 (SAT Date)	statewide draw Homewood-Flossmoor	statewide draw	Masonic State (Chatham Glenwood)
(36) Mar 4 Tuesday	IHSA Regionals [O]	IHSA Regionals [O]	IHSA Regionals [O]
(36) Mar 8	IHSA Sectionals	IHSA Sectionals	IHSA Sectionals
(37) Mar 14 Friday*	statewide draw	statewide draw	IHSA State

\* pending IHSA action, the IHSA State Tournament will most likely be moved from Saturday to Friday

**The September issue will include contact information, but will only be as complete as the information that is sent in by our members. Please notify David Riley of other tournaments.**

**There will be Turnabout Tournaments at Bensenville Fenton and O'Fallon on dates TBA**

# BUZZERSYSTEMS.COM

"I have coached Quiz Bowl in three different states at a competitive level and have through the years worked with several other buzzer system vendors, but none have matched up with BuzzerSystems.com in regard to quality of product, value/price ratio and quality of service." **Phil Blessman**, Head Coach, Culver Academies (Culver, IN)

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Rev 11/06

## 2006-07 Profile of Champions

### Winnetka New Trier Profile by Co-Captain Carlo Angiuli *IHSA Class AA Champions*

I remember the first Scholastic Bowl match I ever played. It was a short two and a half years ago; the captain, Nick Matchen, had joined the team only a month prior. "How do you play?" I asked on the drive there. "Don't worry, just buzz in when you know the answer; you'll figure out the rest." So I buzzed in correctly on the first tossup. Then I buzzed in on the first bonus part.

We've come a long way since then. I've since learned the rules. Nick and I are now co-captains, the "New Trier twins." Our areas of expertise have always complemented each other quite nicely: Nick knows the humanities; I know math and science. But while we were long used to playing without much help, we've found a great supporting cast this year, from massacre expert Ben Cohen, to Chef Robert Sido and jack-of-most-trades Jonah Greenthal.

New Trier has produced many outstanding teams and players through the years but has never before won State. While we all felt this was "our year," we knew this was hardly the first New Trier team with such convictions. Besides, though we had many top-four finishes, the dynamic duo had never taken first at an independent tournament.



#### The Trevians from Winnetka New Trier

**Front:** Robert Sido, Jonah Greenthal, Nick Matchen, Carlo Angiuli, Ben Cohen. **Back:** Coach Ben Yang, Jeff Hirschey, Sohaib Qadri, Coach David Reinstein, Coach Carolyn Gerhardt.

We started off the year strong, though hardly the force we hoped to be. As the season progressed, we had many ups and downs, but things started looking up in February with our second-place finish at Washington University's tournament. We followed this up a week later with our year's first first-place at Fenwick's Octangulars, and a month later, had the pleasure of playing wildcard Maine South in both the Masonic Regional and State championship matches.

With two tossups left at Masonic State, Coach Reinstein called a time-out and walked up to us with his scorebook, challenging us, "Do you want to win a state championship this year? Then

either answer one of the next two tossups, or win our next nine IHSA matches." I guess we made our choice by losing Masonic State by five points. (Or perhaps the deal was sealed when Nick pulled us aside before the IHSA State championship match and offered to shave his head if we won.)

I would like to thank Coaches Reinstein, Gerhardt, and Yang for all the time they have invested in our team, especially as I know what an intolerable group we are on long van rides. They have supported the team in all of its crazy endeavors, especially junior year when Nick and I asked whether we could host a tournament; though our coaches were dubious at first, we managed to write all the questions, send out all the invitations, and manage logistics as tournament directors. We drew 20 teams our first year, and 36 the subsequent year; the praise we received after our first tournament encouraged us to write questions more often; with Loyola's JV coach Matt Laird, we formed Aegis Questions, Inc. to further the cause of pyramidal questions.

Seniors Carlo Angiuli and Nick Matchen will be headed off to Indiana University, where they plan to restart Indiana's college bowl team and maintain contact with Illinois quiz bowl through Aegis Questions. Nick will be entering the Kelley School of Business, while Carlo plans to study science with future aspirations for research. Teammate Sohaib Qadri will attend Loyola University Chicago, while Jeff Hirschey will continue his studies at Johns Hopkins University. Robert, Jonah, and Ben will be returning to New Trier next year for another fulfilling year of Scholastic Bowl.

### Decatur Lutheran School Association HS Profile by Coach John White

*IHSA Class A Champions*

On Saturday, 17 March 2007, the LSA HS Scholastic Bowl Team won the Illinois State Class A Championship in Peoria by defeating teams from Fairfield, Beardstown, Chicago Latin and Columbia. The match against Latin was especially significant, since they were the defending state champion and number one team three years in a row.

The State Championship capped a highly successful year for the Lions, who finished with a record of 61-4 and were ranked #1 in the State in the final Coaches Poll. Their only losses came to Class AA schools including Bloomington High School, ranked #1 in the Coaches Poll the whole season. The Lions' two year record was 121-11.

The LSA tournament record this season included firsts in the LSA Kickoff Tourney, Math Science Bowl (Concordia University Chicago), PORTA Invitational and Riverton Octangular. The Lions were second in the Masonic, Phi Scholars (U. of I.) and Tau Beta Pi tournaments (U. of I.), losing in the finals to much larger AA schools. LSA was Regional Champion for the third and Sectional Champion for the second consecutive years, and finished fourth in the State Championship last year.

Most successful schools win with a single player who excels in a specific category. LSA had two exceptional players, senior captains Jon Ryherd (math and science) and Sam White (language arts--literature and fine arts), and a very strong supporting team of seniors Bradley Day (social sciences) and Jon Lee (American culture), sophomore Patrick Carter (history), and juniors Joren Martin (American culture) and Megan Carter (pop culture). Lucas Farmer (senior), and Jo Ryherd and Gabby Stine (sophomores)

rounded out the State team. Jon Ryherd and Sam White were named to the All-Sectional Team and the All-State Team.

This was quite an achievement for our young school. The LSA began just 6 years ago with a class of 5 students. Our enrollment for the past three years has ranged between 105 and 125 students. To successfully compete against much larger schools is something our school is very proud of. Though we've placed teams in the top four in previous state championships – Scholastic Bowl and Girls Soccer (both in 2006) – this represents our first State Championship.



**The Lions from Decatur Lutheran School Association HS**  
**Seated:** Lucas Farmer, Bradley Day, Co-Captain Jon Ryherd, Co-Captain Sam White, Patrick Carter, Jon Lee.  
**Standing:** Superintendent Brian Ryherd, Coach Ann Ryherd, Megan Carter, Joren Martin, Joanna Ryherd, Gabrielle Stine, Coach John White.

Our senior players have big plans for next year. Lucas Farmer will be attending Richland Community College and then Concordia College Chicago, with plans to become a teacher. Bradley Day will be attending Millikin College and will major in biological sciences. Jon Lee has enrolled at the University of Illinois – Chicago, also to study biological sciences. Jon Ryherd will be attending the Air Force Academy, intending to become an aeronautical engineer and hoping to fly. Sam White enrolled at Northwestern University in Evanston to study writing.

LSA teachers Ann Ryherd and John White coached the Lions this season.

## Certified Moderators!

by David Reinstein, IHSSBCA Chair

To become a certified moderator, the first step is to pass a 50-question multiple choice test with at least a 90% score. The test is open book, and you are allowed to attempt it twice each year. Anybody can become a certified moderator, and we would love to see more coaches take the test.

This year, for the first time, moderators who had passed the certification test could get coaches to fill out cards after matches to get feedback. Moderators who got positive ratings from ten coaches became Match Certified. We now have 16 Match Certified moderators:

**Boeke, Matthew** (Winnebago)  
**Egan, Tom** (Park Ridge)  
**Fay, Kati** (Winnebago)  
**Fay, Les** (Winnebago)  
**Greene, Linda J** (Rockford)  
**Grierson, Rob** (Evanston)  
**Groesch, Cathy** (Springfield)  
**Houlding, Brent Jonathan** (Winnebago)  
**Kociubinski, Natalie** (Chicago)  
**Laird, Mathew** (Chicago)  
**Laudermith, Michael** (Bensenville)  
**Price, Jeff** (Barrington)  
**Reinstein, David** (Winnetka)  
**Robinson, Barron** (Springfield)  
**Say, Jim** (Sterling)  
**Van Howe, Karen** (Rockford)

We also have 13 people who have passed the Certification Test but have not yet gotten Match Certified. They have one more year to work on their Match Certification:

**Adkins, David** (Springfield)  
**Baricevic, Sister John** (Belleville)  
**Drummond-Cherniwchan, Lori** (Rockford)  
**Fenton, James** (Carlinville)  
**Hinton, Michael** (Deerfield)  
**Huckelberry, Phil** (Normal)  
**Matchen, Nick** (Winnetka)  
**Melzer, Roelof** (O'Fallon)  
**Peterson, Greg** (Park Ridge)  
**Robinson, Donna** (Springfield)  
**Stankevitz, James** (Wheaton)  
**Stroup, Martin** (Chicago)  
**Zimmer, Doug** (Wheaton)

Anyone interested in becoming a certified moderator can print out the test from our website and follow the directions for sending in their answers.

Sums are not set as a test on Erasmus  
 Are we not drawn onward, we few, drawn onward to new era?  
 Go hang a salami; I'm a lasagna hog!

## IHSA All-State Academic Team

At least four Scholastic Bowl participants are among the 26 Seniors named to the 2007 All-State Academic Team by the IHSA Board of Directors. Those we are aware of are:

**Jonathan Ryherd, Decatur (Lutheran)**  
**Brooks Smith, Oak Park (Fenwick)**  
**Ken Knuppel, Petersburg (PORTA)**  
**Kenneth Moore, Moweaqua (Central A&M)**

The IHSA chose one boy and one girl from each of the seven IHSA regions, plus twelve at-large selections, from among 400 nominations. Those chosen were honored at a Recognition Banquet in Bloomington on April 24, 2006. Another 50 students earned Honorable Mention. Each IHSA member school may nominate one male and one female. Nomination forms are mailed to the Principals in November each year. A 3.5 out of 4.0 GPA after their 7th semester of high school, participation in two or more IHSA activities, and outstanding citizenship are among the criteria. For a complete list of winners see <<http://www.ihsa.org/initiatives/allstate/index.htm>>.

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## 2nd Annual IHSSBCA Banquet

by David Reinstein, IHSSBCA Chair

IHSSBCA held its 2nd Annual Banquet on April 21 at the Circus Room at Illinois State University. We had about 170 people in attendance-it was great to have so many people join together who are used to being competitors.

The Banquet opened with a speech by Rob Grierson about why people get so involved with Scholastic Bowl, and everybody got to listen to a quintet from Bloomington High School as they ate.

There were many people honored at the IHSSBCA Awards Banquet. Foremost among the honorees were the four people inducted into the Hall of Fame this year.

**Cheryl Christianson**, who no longer teaches at Sterling but still coaches the team, was introduced by Nick Pitz, the coach at Moline. Nick spoke about his many experiences attending Cheryl's tournaments and the fact that everybody always knows that she will do what is best for everybody even if it means more work for her. She said that she never expected any great honors but had enjoyed working with many wonderful students over the years.



Nick Pitz and Cheryl Christianson

**Tom Holbrook**, who no longer is a head coach at University High in Normal but still teaches there, was introduced by his son Tim, who once captained his father's team to a state championship. Tim spoke about how well-prepared and supporting his father was to everybody on his teams. Tom said that he is still involved in Scholastic Bowl-this year, he helped one of his former students take over the team.



Tom and Tim Holbrook

**Ken Johnson**, who coached at Sullivan, was introduced by Nancy Kuhns, one of his former players. Nancy spoke about how Ken was a pioneer in Scholastic Bowl and brought a lot of success to a small school in a rural area. Ken always brought a lot of energy and organization to his job, bringing out the best in many students over many years.



Nancy Kuhns and Ken Johnson

**Bud Lachel**, who coached at Cary-Grove, was introduced by former Crystal Lake Central Coach John Sayles. John said that it was nice coaching in a conference and region with Bud around because Bud would always step forward whenever work needed to be done. He also spoke about how much class Bud and his teams always demonstrated, saying that playing against them was a good experience even though he often lost.



John Sayles and Bud Lachel

### Our 2007 Hall of Fame Sponsor was ZeeCraft Tech

After the four Hall of Famers got their plaques, Rob Grierson introduced Durwin and Pam Nigus, the recipients of the Rob Grierson Friend of Scholastic Bowl Award. Durwin and Pam, who run buzzersystems.com, formerly known as Novel, were lauded for the great service they always provide and their continuous support of Scholastic Bowl in a variety of forms. Durwin explained how he got started in the business, sitting down with Brenda Bratcher to make sure he understood what was needed for a buzzer system. He also said that he has sold systems to people in 49 states and several foreign countries.



Rob Grierson and Durwin & Pam Nigus

Tom Egan then introduced the All-State students at the Banquet. There were 26 out of the 40 students in attendance—a great turnout considering how far many people had to drive from the Northern or Southern corners of our state. The students were accompanied by family members, coaches, and/or teammates.



**All-State Scholastic Bowl Players 2007**

David Riley then introduced Team Illinois, which will compete in Florida in June. Three of the five players were in attendance.

Tom Egan, coach of the Masonic State Tournament Champions, Maine South, spoke with gratitude about the wonderful support the Masons have given to teams over many years. Dale Thayer, in his third year as Director of the Masonic Tournament, attended.

Dr. John White introduced the IHSA Class A Champions Decatur LSA. He spoke about the many wonderful students on the team and the great support his school has given them. The school has a great team even though they only have a little bit over one hundred students to draw from. Many of the team members and their families were in attendance.



**Students and Family Members from Decatur Lutheran**

David Reinstein introduced the IHSA Class AA Champions New Trier. He spoke with great pride about the wonderful students on his team.

We are looking forward to our 3rd Annual Banquet next April.

## Quizzing Around the USA

by David Reinstein, IHSSBCA Chair

Scholastic Bowl varies from state to state. For one thing, most states refer to the activity as Quiz Bowl rather than Scholastic Bowl or Scholars Bowl.

Last year, I hosted a meeting at the NAQT National Tournament for coaches interested in talking about the current overall status of Scholastic Bowl, and David Riley hosted a similar meeting at the PAC National Tournament. I followed up with surveys to learn about Quiz Bowl in other states, and the results are posted at <http://www.ihssbca.org/resources/SurveyResponses.htm>

The amount of Scholastic Bowl varies greatly from state to

state. In Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Maine, Nevada, North Dakota, and Rhode Island, there may be no Scholastic Bowl at all. In Kentucky, Missouri, and Virginia, there is wide participation by the vast majority of schools as in Illinois. Many other states, such as Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia are very active even though many smaller rural and urban schools do not have teams.

One unique state is Florida. Instead of students representing their school, they represent their district, which usually contains their entire county. Additionally, their format is similar to the Panasonic format—there are several teams playing in a room at once, teams lose points for incorrect answers, and there are no bonus questions.

The Kentucky Association for Academic Competition may have the highest participation rate in the country. Ninety-four percent of Kentucky high schools participate, and there are also very active programs at the elementary and middle school level. Kentucky awards the Governor's Cup each year based on their academic competition. The competition includes Scholastic Bowl, which they call Quick Recall, in addition to Future Problem Solving, Composition, and written contests in several academic areas.

Our neighbor Missouri is similar to Illinois in a lot of ways. The Missouri Academic Coaches Association (see their website at <http://www.moaca.org/>) is analogous to IHSSBCA, and MSHSAA is analogous to IHSA, running a State Championship that usually finishes in May. It's a shame that teams from our two states don't play each other more often—my team usually crosses the border once each year to play at Washington University in Saint Louis, and we have a great time.

Other neighboring states have less active circuits, but they do have a few good teams. Phil Blessman sometimes gets a few Illinois teams at his tournaments in Culver, Indiana, and there used to be a few Wisconsin teams that came down to compete in Illinois.

As in Southern Illinois, there are many areas with big televised tournaments. The biggest may be It's Academic in the DC area and in Cleveland. Other examples are Quiz Kids in San Francisco, Matchwits in Colorado, High Q in Georgia and Pennsylvania, Brain Game in Indianapolis, Face Off Minnesota, Granite State Challenge in New Hampshire, and the New Jersey Challenge. The High-Five Challenge features weekly competitions between Washington and Oregon.

In some states, there is a bigger focus on national tournaments. NAQT questions are used throughout the country, and they host a national tournament at the end of the school year for teams that do well on their questions. For the past three years, the tournament has been in the Chicago area. This year's tournament will attract 160 teams from over 30 states, including six from Illinois. Some of the states that had schools near the top of the field last year are California, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia. Last year's field also included teams from Canada and China.

PACE also hosts a national tournament; they change locations each year. It will be at the University of Michigan this year and will attract close to 50 teams, including several of the same teams that compete at NAQT's Championship.

As a representative of Illinois, I have a lot to be proud of when I compare our state to others. We have a strong organization that makes it easier for coaches to get involved, broad participation, and lots of tournaments. We also have a lot to learn from our cohorts across the country.

## How To Write Good Questions

by David Reinstein, New Trier HS, Winnetka

The most important part of any Scholastic Bowl Tournament is the questions. Many students spend hours preparing for Scholastic Bowl, on their own and during practice, and question writers play a major role in determining whether or not that preparation time is worthwhile. If you want to write questions, the pressure is on you.

I just completed my 10th year writing questions for my school's Student Faculty Match and my 6th year writing questions for the New Trier Scobol Solo. I have written approximately 3000 questions, and they can all be found on the New Trier Scholastic Bowl website. The judgement of what constitutes good questions is subjective, and some people think my next good question will be my first, but I am proud of my output and willing to offer plenty of free advice here and at SchoBowlFest on September 29th in Bloomington.

The first step to writing good questions is deciding what constitutes a good question. If you want to become a writer, pay attention to questions that other people have written and decide what you like or dislike about them. You will never get rich writing for Scholastic Bowl Tournaments—the only valid reason to do it is for the good of the Activity and the students, and you will only fulfill that reason if your questions are good.

To me, a good question rewards students who are more knowledgeable about important topics. This means that the subject of the question must be something that I want students to know more about and that they should have heard of. It also means that I have to structure questions in such a way that very knowledgeable students will answer the questions first—I want knowledge to be more important than thumb speed or luck.

The next step to writing good questions is getting organized. Before I start writing actual questions, I figure out how many questions I will need in each category and how to make sure that my questions in each category will be diverse. For example, questions in United States History should cover the birth of our nation, the period leading up to and including the Civil War, our rise to becoming an international force, and our continued international presence. They also must cover themes central to our history, such as race relations, expansion, the two-party system, and our three branches of government. You have to think about these issues before you start writing questions, because it is not appropriate to ask ten questions in the same tournament about 19th Century Presidents, even if each question is good on its own merits. This organization process often leads to a list of answers I want to use for my questions.

If you are writing questions in Illinois by IHSA rules, make sure you read Terms & Conditions VIII.O. so that you are aware of what categories and distributions you are supposed to use.

Being organized also means having a timeline. Good sets of questions are not written in a day—they take a lot of time. If you are writing all the questions for an all-day tournament, I recommend having your structure in place at least three months before the tournament and pacing yourself so that you are always on target to finish a draft of the questions at least one month before the tournament. That is, you should have at least half the questions written two months before the tournament. Students do not want to play on questions that were finished at the last second—it might be exciting to pull an all-nighter at the end to finish everything off, but

you won't write your best questions that way. Finish writing with time to spare so that you'll be able to edit them several times over and so that you won't be in such a rush at the end that you'll just write anything that enters your head.

The next step is actually writing the questions. Keep in mind that if your questions are used in a lot of matches, there is a good chance that every single question you write will affect the outcome of at least one game—every question should fit into your concept of what makes a good question. For each question, you should decide what the answer is first and then research the topic. While doing research, evaluate the reliability of the sources you use—many sources on the internet contain bad information and are only useful if you verify that information elsewhere. Your research should lead to at least three, and hopefully more, good facts about the answer.

It is important to use facts that are academic in nature. If you look somebody up in an encyclopedia, you will find the names of their parents, their birthday, and other pieces of information that have little to do with why the person was important. Try to ignore those clues. If you are writing a question about an author, focus on their books and characters. If you want to include biographical information, only do it if you can explicitly tie that information into what made the person famous.

The beginning of a tossup is the chance for a student to do something very impressive—buzz in before many of the clues have been given. To give students a chance to excel, make sure the opening of a tossup gives information that is unique about the answer and clearly states what kind of answer students are supposed to give. For example, if you are writing a question on Joe McCarthy, it is better to start with, "Early in his Senate career, he was known as the Pepsi Cola Kid," than to start with, "A lot of interesting people have come from Wisconsin." The first example allows students who know about him to answer, while the second example does not. Also, the beginning should have difficult clues; otherwise the question tests how quickly students can use their thumbs rather than what they know. This opening can then be followed by information that is more commonly known.

The middle part of the tossup should give additional clues about the answer without being obvious. As with the opening, it is important to stick with clues that are unique to the answer. While the opening should generally have information that fewer than five percent of teams know, the middle part should contain several facts that an increasing number of teams will know as it goes on. This is where you want top teams to be able to answer more often than not and weak teams to be able to answer occasionally.

The last part of the tossup should give the most commonly known pieces of information about the answer. If there is nothing about the answer that is commonly known, then you should consider making it one part of a bonus question or not using it at all. You want most of your tossup questions to get answered eventually even when there is a match between two weak teams.

Computational tossups are different than regular tossups. You still want to be clear at the beginning of the question as to what piece of information you want, but it is not necessary to give a lot of clues about the answer. In a computational tossup, it is very important to explain the problem clearly so that students can understand it without seeing it and so that there is only one possible correct answer.

When you write bonus questions, you do not have to follow the same structure as tossups. It is no longer important to start out with the most difficult pieces of information, and there is nothing wrong with a bonus part that gives only one clue. The most important thing to keep in mind is that the number of points a team earns should be dependent on how much the team knows. It should be possible to sweep a bonus, but only if the team is very knowledgeable in the subject. Similarly, it should be possible to zero a bonus, but only if the team lacks knowledge that the vast majority of teams have.

Written questions need to be put into rounds. When putting questions into rounds, make sure that you follow the distribution requirements. It is also important to pay attention to links between questions—if you have several questions about Spain or several questions about the 18th Century, put them into different rounds even though one is a Literature question and another is a History question. Additionally, don't put a lot of difficult tossups together into a round.

Once questions are written, they need to be edited. Mortal humans do not produce their best work on the first try, so don't think that your questions do not need editing. Word processors have made editing easy to do, so take advantage of them.

Before I get into editing, here's another piece of free advice: When you write questions, write them as though they will not be edited. If you tell yourself that you are going to start off with a bunch of weak questions and fix them later, you will never produce your best questions. Tell yourself that you are going to use the questions as written even though it's a lie. Later, when you go to edit the questions, tell yourself that you purposely put flaws into them so that you would have something to do during the editing process. In other words, lie to yourself again.

Editing is a very important part of the writing process. Go through every question and ask yourself how it could be better. Does the opener of the tossup accomplish its task? The middle? The giveaway? Make the questions better. If you read through a lot of questions and don't see anything in need of improvement, it is almost certainly due to your weakness as an editor rather than your strength as a writer. It is also helpful to get other people to edit your questions. Hopefully, you will be able to find several people to make suggestions who are brave enough to point out where questions need improvement.

Go through each question and ask yourself if there are any alternative answers that students are likely to give, and give instructions to the moderator so that they know whether to accept, prompt, or deny those alternative answers. Keep in mind that students sometimes answer questions about things from foreign countries in the native language of the country. Women sometimes have married names and maiden names. Conflicts often have separate names from the two sides involved. Nobles often have alternative names.

Of course, it is also important to check facts and calculations. Most errors with questions are computational, so you cannot check those questions too many times. Also, once you are done editing the questions you should go back and edit them again. Once you've done that, edit them again.

That's what it takes. If you want to write good questions, put in the time and effort. None of these steps are easy, but you want to end up with questions that are worthy for the best high school students around.

Also, once you've followed all these steps and the tournament is over, post your questions on the internet. There are lots of students out there who want to learn from them. I want to learn from them too.

*David is the Chair of IHSSBCA. This is his 13th year coaching the New Trier Scholastic Bowl Team, and his team won its first IHSA Championship this year. His wife Michelle is a pediatrician, and his kids are Paige (age 8), Arielle (5), and Harrison (1).*

## Coaches Poll

by Kevin Palmer, Fremd HS, Palatine

Here are the results of the **post-season** coaches poll. Ten points were awarded for a #1 ranking, 9 for #2, and so on down to 1 point for #10. A total of 11 polls were sent in.

Class A (small schools)	total pts	mentions	# of #1
1. Lutheran S A HS (Decatur)	30	3	3
2. Columbia	23	3	0
3. Latin School (Chicago)	22	3	0
4. PORTA (Petersburg)	20	3	0
5. Fairfield	16	3	0
5. Sidell (Jamaica) Co-op	16	2	0
7. Macomb	15	3	0
8. Morrison	7	2	0
9. Paris	5	2	0
10. Winnebago	4	2	0

Others receiving at least one vote: Beardstown, Byron, Herscher, Illinois Valley Central (Chillicothe).

Class AA (large schools)	total pts	mentions	# of #1
1. New Trier (Winnetka)	77	8	7
2. Wheaton North	67	8	0
3. Maine South (Park Ridge)	62	8	0
4. Bloomington HS	56	8	1
5. Auburn (Rockford)	51	8	0
6. Carbondale	38	8	0
7. St. Ignatius (Chicago)	27	6	0
8. Libertyville	16	7	0
8. Oak Park River Forest	16	4	0
10. Fenwick (Oak Park)	7	4	0
11. Maine East (Park Ridge)	6	2	0
12. Moline	4	2	0
12. Springfield HS	4	1	0

Others receiving at least one vote: Hinsdale Central, Joliet Township, Naperville Central, Sterling, Lincolnshire Stevenson.

To join the panel, email me <kcp1963@yahoo.com>; I'll contact you in late August and ask for your pre-season picks. Any coach or moderator may participate. Panel members are expected to attend tournaments and to follow results on the IHSSBCA website.

*Kevin teaches American Studies and AP European History. Now in his 20th year of teaching and his 17th year of coaching, he will run his 11th annual varsity tournament and his 14th annual frosh/soph tournament this year. The Vikings were IHSA State Champions and repeat Masonic State Champions in 2005-06.*

Special Thanks to **David Boersma**, who has hosted Turnabout tournaments for 8 years, and **Mike Cleary**, who has hosted one of the largest annual tournaments in the state for 17 years. Both are retiring at the end of this year. Best wishes David and Mike!

## Point/Counterpoint: “A” and “B” Team Issues

by Linda Greene, Auburn HS, Rockford

As the number of students participating in Scholastic Bowl in Illinois has increased over the last ten years, it has become more common for schools to enter two teams at a Saturday invitational tournament. Teams from the same school are usually designated by letters – A and B (and C, if a school enters a third team). Some frequently-asked questions relating to this situation are presented and discussed below. The comments are based on conversations I have had with many coaches on several occasions over the past few years.

### **Why enter more than one team at an event?**

The two reasons given by most coaches are (1) to help all of their team members improve through getting competition experience, and (2) to keep all players on the team enthusiastic and interested in the activity. Many coaches find that if a student does not get to play very much in competition, his/her interest wanes, and (s)he may quit the team. Some students stand out as strong players from their first days at practice, but others are slower to develop. These “late bloomers” just need more time and experience to learn the game and show what they can do.

### **What if I don’t have an assistant coach for our second team?**

There are a number of ways to ensure that the second team is not “abandoned”. Some coaches have a fellow teacher accompany the second team; others have area alumni help out. A varsity player can come along to coach a frosh-soph team. In some cases a parent can help out, although one must be careful about putting him/her in a position to decide substitutions involving his/her own child. Some coaches divide their time between the two teams. If you are bringing two teams and do not have a “coach” for the second team, you can let the tournament host know, so that (s)he can be sure to provide a reader in the room(s) that team will be using.

### **Are “B” teams welcome at all tournaments?**

Generally, yes. Some hosts offer a reduced registration fee for the second team. Often the host will ask (on the registration form) if you would like to bring more than one team, and will start a “waiting list” for “B” teams. In other cases, the host will accept registrations for more than one team immediately. Coaches should read the information in the invitation carefully to see which is the case, and if it does not mention this, contact the host to ask.

### **What does the IHSA say about “A” and “B” teams?**

Since the IHSA series allows just one team per school to participate, there is not much in the rules. Rule 5-D-1j in the section on Local Matches and Tournaments Outside the IHSA Series (2007 rules book, p. 22) states simply “An ‘A’ team should always include your better players.” It gives local tournament hosts the latitude to decide the role of “B” teams at their events.

### **How do I decide which players to put on each team?**

In the past, when there were no written rules or guidelines about this, some coaches tried to divide their players into two approximately equal teams. However, that violates the current IHSA rule and the recently-adopted IHSSBCA guidelines regarding “A” and “B” teams, which state that the “A” team should be composed of the best *team* of five that can be assembled from the players present that day. It may not necessarily be the five highest scoring

players, especially if there is great overlap in some of the players’ knowledge. Another way to describe the make-up of a “B” team is “a team composed of any players who do not regularly start on the varsity first team.” Some schools may have a few players who compete on the “B” team at one event, but on the “A” team at another tourney, due to the absence of starting players on some dates and/or improvement shown during the season by the player (e.g. moving up from # 7 to #5 in the team lineup). Another factor in dividing the teams is the type of questions used at the event. Your best team for short-answer questions may have one or two different players than your best combination of players for longer pyramid-style questions.

### **Can players change teams (or teams recombine) in the afternoon playoffs?**

If both teams advance to the playoffs, each team must keep the same players it had in the morning. If only the “B” team advances, the general practice is that “A” team players may not move down to the “B” team for the playoffs. The reasoning behind this is that the players who earned the right to advance are the ones who should reap the reward for their performance, and continue to play in the afternoon.

A less clear-cut situation occurs when the “A” team advances, but the “B” team does not. It is at the host’s discretion to allow (or not) a “B” team player to play on the “A” team in this case. **Coaches are advised to check with the host** if nothing was written or said earlier about this. One can argue that it is reasonable to allow a “B” team player, one who would normally get some playing time as a substitute if the school had only one team entered, to join the “A” team for the afternoon. This argument is in the spirit of giving as many players as possible as much competition experience as possible. On the other hand, one can argue that only the players who earned the right to advance should get to play.

Some coaches feel that any alteration in the team’s make-up can change the team’s chemistry, sometimes for the worse, and so do not make any changes.

There will probably continue to be spirited disagreement on many of the issues related to “A” and “B” teams. I invite your comments on this article, and I urge those with additional opinions and suggestions to write an article for a future newsletter.

*Linda has been teaching Spanish for over 30 years at Rockford Auburn HS, and coaching for 14 years. Her teams have won IHSA regionals for 9 of the last 10 years and have finished in the Final Four at IHSA State for the past six years. The Knights have also placed first in the state in 12 of the last 13 Knowledge Master Open contests, finishing first in the nation in spring 2006. When she’s not busy teaching or coaching, Linda enjoys reading, music, writing poetry, and traveling.*

## Puzzle Corner

What does AMBER stand for, as in “AMBER Alert?”  
**America’s Missing Broadcast Emergency Response**

Three men walk into a hotel and rent a room for \$30, paying \$10 each. Later, the hotel manager realized the room should have been only \$25 so he sent the bellboy to give \$5 back to the men. The bellboy gave each man \$1 but kept \$2 for himself. So, each man paid \$9, 3 times \$9 is \$27, and the bellboy has \$2 in his pocket. Where did the missing dollar go?

## IHSSBCA Meeting Minutes

The IHSSBCA steering committee held its spring cybermeeting on Saturday, April 28, 2007. The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by chairman David Reinstein.

Members participating: David Reinstein, Linda J. Greene, Mathew Laird, Susan Martin, Mike Laudermith, Debbie Voorhees, and Cheryl Christianson.

**Ombudsman & Chairman for All-Sectional/All-State Team Selection** – Tom Egan has asked to take a year off from these duties, and the committee approved his request. David Riley was appointed and approved to serve in these positions for one year, and Matt Laird will assist him with the All-Sectional/All-State programs.

**SchoBowlFest** – This event will be on Saturday, September 29, 2007, at Bloomington HS. The registration fee will be \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members, plus the cost of lunch. It was decided to have September 22 be the registration deadline. The invitation was approved. It was suggested that there be a brief welcome speech before the workshops. More details about the event are in an article elsewhere in this newsletter.

**Moderator Certification** – Rob Grierson submitted a five-part proposal to streamline and expand the moderator certification process next year: (A) The on-line test will be programmed for immediate scoring, including rules feedback for wrong answers. Test-takers will be given a unique password allowing them to get their results, and to access test version B to take if they did not pass the first time. (B) The IHSSBCA urges all coaches to take the test and become test-certified. (C) If only one coach is certified, the IHSSBCA recommends that (s)he read for the whole match in situations where coaches are asked to moderate. (D) The IHSA will include moderator rating cards in the boxes of questions for its Regionals and Sectionals, with instructions to the tournament director. (E) Secretary Linda Greene will continue to process the rating cards, provide feedback to moderators based on the cards, and report those who have become performance-certified to be listed on our website. Parts (A), (B), (D), and (E) were approved.

**Moderator Recertification** – The committee voted to start recertification of moderators in the fall of 2008. The period of certification will be two years (three if a person took the test one year, but did not become performance-certified until the next year). L. Greene will send an e-mail update on new rules to all certified moderators each fall.

**Definition of Varsity, JV, and Frosh-SophTeams** – Noting that these terms are not used the same way by everyone involved in this activity, Linda Greene suggested that the IHSSBCA define these terms for Illinois competition, and proposed a description of each level. After discussion, it was condensed to the following definitions:

**Varsity** – The school's strongest/best team; it may include players from any grade.

**JV** – Includes students in any grade who do not start on the varsity team regularly.

**Frosh-Soph** – Includes any freshmen and sophomore students on the team, unless the tournament director specifies "No varsity starters" in tournament information.

**Ethical Standards** – The group briefly discussed the standards for hosts, officials, and players, making minor revisions to the proposal prepared earlier by Tom Egan. The coaches' standards were ap-

proved in February; these additional standards will be presented for final approval at the August meeting.

**IHSSBCA Awards Banquet** - The third IHSSBCA Recognition Banquet will be held Saturday, April 12, 2008, in Bloomington-Normal. The committee will investigate other venues.

The next meeting will be Saturday, Aug. 18, 2007, at Cheryl Christianson's country home near Morrison.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Greene

IHSSBCA Secretary

## Call For Hosts

### Central Kickoff Central Turnabout

Under the leadership of Debbie Voorhees, Bloomington High School has been hosting the Central Kickoff and the Central Turnabout for a number of years. Thanks, Deb!

We are seeking new hosts for these tournaments in the Bloomington, Springfield, or Decatur area. The IHSSBCA provides the questions and pays for the trophies; the host school keeps the entry fees, which are lower than regular tournaments since the association's membership fees help to subsidize the costs of running these tournaments. If you would like to host the Central Kickoff on November 17 or the Central Turnabout on any Saturday in January, please contact David Reinstein <reinsted@newtrier.k12.il.us>.

## Scholastic Bowl Record Book

compiled by Tom Egan, IHSSBCA Ombudsman

### State Titles

- 8 Aurora IMSA (89-90, 94, 96-99, 01)
- 6 Chicago Latin (94, 98, 02, 04-06)
- 3 Quincy Senior (87-88, 93)
- 3 Wheaton North (02-04)
- 2 Winnebago (93, 95)
- 2 Lincolnshire Stevenson (00, 05)

### Sectional Titles / State Tournament Appearances:

- 16 Chicago Latin (92-07)
- 13 Wheaton North (91, 93-95, 99-07)
- 12 Aurora IMSA (89-94, 96-01)
- 10 Quincy Senior (87-89, 91, 93-97, 00)
- 9 Winnetka New Trier (90, 95, 97-99, 02-03, 06-07)
- 9 Normal University (87, 89, 92, 94-95, 99-00, 02-03)
- 9 Decatur MacArthur (91-96, 98-99, 04)
- 9 Decatur St. Teresa (88, 90, 94, 97-00, 05)
- 8 Lincolnshire Stevenson (92, 96, 98, 00-01, 03-05)
- 8 Winnebago (89, 92-96, 01, 06)
- 8 Homewood-Flossmoor (90-93, 95, 97, 02, 06)
- 8 Fairfield (92-93, 95-97, 02, 04, 06)

## IHSA Scholastic Bowl Advisory Committee Minutes

**Disclaimer:** This article is an edited version of the official IHSA minutes, posted on their website. **This information is unofficial.** The only official documents are those issued by the IHSA: <<http://www.ihsa.org/org/advmin/2006-07/07-scb-minutes.htm>>

The Scholastic Bowl Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office on April 30th. Committee Members present: Tom Egan (Park Ridge Maine South), Susan Martin (Wheaton North), Cynthia Wierzba (Farmington), Jeannine Johnson (Macon Meridian), and Jeff Bryan (Monmouth-Roseville). Others in attendance: Ron McGraw (IHSA), Rob Grierson (State Final Moderator Coordinator), and David Reinstein (IHSSBCA Chair).

### Terms & Conditions

**Changes to the Terms & Conditions must be approved by the IHSA Board of Directors. Check the IHSA website in June.**

- (II-D) Move the State Finals from Saturday to Friday.  
**Rationale:** Peoria hotels have refused to provide housing for Scholastic Bowl teams on Friday night, because they can't then rent the rooms on Saturday night. By moving the tournament to Friday, the IHSA can guarantee Thursday night housing.  
**Note:** The IHSA Board has already approved this change.
- (V) Strike the word "activities" from Policy 19, which sets the method by which bracketed tournaments are grouped and seeded.  
**Rationale:** Scholastic Bowl has unique needs. Sub-Sectionals should only be used in places where they reduce excess travel. Rather than trying to set Regional hosts prior to the Seeding Meeting, Regional hosting opportunities should be offered to the top four seeds, then proceed on down the list, as we used to do.
- (VI-C) Strike the commentary about reseeding at sectionals.  
**Rationale:** There is no reason to include this commentary.
- (VI-F) Modify the time schedule at the IHSA state finals to give 70 minutes for each round and a full hour for lunch.  
**Rationale:** Should help to keep the tournament running on time.
- (VIII-I-1) Retain the 5 minute forfeit rule for teams already present, but allow the start time of a tournament to be delayed by no more than 45 minutes if a team running late phones the host.  
**Rationale:** Provides a reasonable method for handling delays.
- (VIII-M-3) Bonus questions may have a list of allowed answers.  
**Rationale:** Permits the question writer, in certain situations, to limit the range of answers and not have to foresee all variations.
- (VIII-M-15) Within the first few words or within the first clue, toss-up questions should uniquely identify what is being asked.  
**Rationale:** Will help to eliminate bad questions known as hoses.
- (VIII-O-1) Restore "Health" as a minor sub-topic under Science.  
**Rationale:** Health was accidentally dropped between 05 and 06.
- (VIII-O-4) Split the sub-topic "Literature" and combine it with "Mythology" into three major sub-topics as follows: "US Literature," "British Literature," and "World Literature and Mythology."  
**Rationale:** Will result in more literature questions on balance.
- (VIII-O-4) Move the minor sub-topic "Journalism" from the "Language Arts" category to the "Miscellaneous" category.  
**Rationale:** Journalism questions are mostly related to TV, radio, and the Internet and are thus more suitable for Miscellaneous.

### Rule Book Recommendations

- (4-A-3f) and (4-I-2a) A player may inform the moderator of their belief that their own answer was in their opinion incorrect.  
**Rationale:** This is the mirror of the rule that permits a player to inform the moderator that an opponents answer was correct.
- (4-B-8) Change "meets the intent of the entire question" to "is justifiably equivalent to the printed answer but does not match a required form or constraint revealed later in the question."  
**Rationale:** As originally written, this rule opened up the possibility that a remotely relevant but completely wrong answer could be appealed and judged correct. The re-worded rule limits the acceptable answers to those that are "justifiably equivalent" to the printed answer. The intent of the rule is to benefit a player who buzzes in early from having an equivalent answer judged wrong when the desired form or constraint is specified later – i.e. decimal instead of fraction, singular instead of plural, etc.
- (4-C-2) Clarify that "two pieces of information" means "the correct answer and one other piece of information." If one of the two pieces of information is wrong or does not meet a constraint that has already been heard, the answer should be judged incorrect. Also, giving common-sense extra information such as additional geographic specificity, subtitles, additional designations for an act, law, or other historical event – or adding additional information that was given in the question – should be ruled correct.  
**Rationale:** This rule works in harmony with Rule 4-B-8. While we want to allow an intelligent guess on an early buzz and not penalize a player for a minor difference between their answer and the printed answer, we do not want to permit "fishing" or random guessing after the first few words of the question. A player can't recover from giving a wrong answer by also giving the correct answer. Finally, answering "Chicago, Illinois" when the printed answer is "Chicago" should not be judged wrong.
- (4-I-1e) Change the word "two" to "three" for appeal minutes.  
**Rationale:** The number was changed from 2 to 3 last year.

### Administrative Recommendations

1. The Masonic State Tournament has been determined to be one tournament conducted on two separate weekends. Consequently, it is **not** necessary to use two of the 18 dates if a school advances.
2. Regional and Sectional hosts will be asked to distribute and collect moderator evaluation cards. Cards will be returned to the Tournament Manager, who may choose to provide a summary of comments to moderators. This process is intended to provide feedback that will improve the skills of moderators. Certified moderators may request that coaches mail cards in as usual.

### Other Matters Discussed by the Advisory Committee

- Discussion of the conflict between Regionals on Tuesday and Basketball on Tuesday. Wednesday and Monday were considered, but it was agreed that Tuesday is the most reasonable solution.
- Discussion of the five-on-five definition of Scholastic Bowl. The IHSA may decide to remove the words "five-on-five". It was agreed that some academic contests should not be counted as Scholastic Bowl contests. The IHSA may create a specific list.
- Discussion of what contests are legal/illegal out of season.
- Moving the state Finals to the new Grand Ballroom of the Civic Center, and making the Embassy Suites the official hotel.
- Keeping Seeding Meetings on Wednesday, as intended. Some Seeding Meetings, in error, were held on other days this year.



## **IHSSBCA Steering Committee**

### Elected Officers

David Reinstein, New Trier – *Chair, Webmaster, Turnabouts*  
Debbie Voorhees, Bloomington – *Treasurer*  
Tom Egan, Maine East – *Ombudsman*  
Linda Greene, Rockford Auburn – *Secretary, Moderator Cert.*

### Appointed Positions

David Beck, Wayne City – *Conference Reps Organizer*  
Cheryl Christianson, Sterling – *Member-at-Large*  
Ken Dentino, Kaneland, Maple Park – *Member-at-Large*  
Rob Grierson – *Newsletter Editor, Membership*  
Phyllis Kidd, Wheaton North – *Member-at-Large*  
Matt Laird, Loyola Academy – *Publicity*  
Mike Laudermith, Bensenville Fenton – *Member-at-Large*  
Skip Lee, Rock Falls – *Scorebooks*  
Karen Niemeier, Winnebago – *Annual Awards Banquet*  
David Riley, Loyola – *All-State, Kickoffs, Calendar*

### Regional Representatives

Robert Schrempf, Von Steuben, Chicago – *Region 1*  
Kevin Palmer, William Fremd, Palatine – *Region 2, Coaches Poll*  
Susan Martin, Wheaton North – *Region 3, Tournament Results*  
Nick Pitz, Moline – *Region 4*  
Debbie Voorhees, Bloomington – *Region 5*  
Cathy Groesch – *Region 6*  
Sheila Baldrige, Salem – *Region 7*

### Serving the IHSSBCA

Bruce Fitzgerald, Adlai Stevenson, Lincolnshire – *Handbooks*

[www.ihsbca.org](http://www.ihsbca.org)

**Next Issue: September**

*Upcoming Articles*

Reviews of Nationals  
Tournabout “Not Invited” List  
2007-08 Invitational Schedule  
All-Sectional, All-State Process  
IHSA Rule Changes for 2007-08  
IHSA: How Change Occurs

## *Our Mission*

*The purpose of the IHSSBCA is to increase awareness and support of the public, school leaders, and parents for high school Scholastic Bowl competition in Illinois; to provide opportunities for Scholastic Bowl coaches to meet and cooperate in the development and communication of coaching techniques, tournament formats, and other ways of improving the quality of competition with integrity and the highest possible standards; and to promote recognition of participants, coaches, and programs.*

## ***Important Scholastic Bowl News!***

***Direct to Scholastic Bowl Coach or Coordinator of Academic Programs***

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IHSSBCA/Rob Grierson  
235 Custer Av #3S  
Evanston, Illinois 60202-3597