

ACADEMIC GAMES LEAGUES OF AMERICA

# **SOLUTIONS**

# 1996 ACADEMIC GAMES NATIONALS



SENIOR SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS DETROIT RENAISSANCE



MIDDLE SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS CURTIS A - NEW ORLEANS

Fellowship, process, and learning highlighted the 1996 Academic Games National Tournament in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, April 21 - 25. 1996. Over 1,000 students and teachers participated.

Many old friendships were renewed and new ones established during the four days of competition and fun. Even though the academic battles were spirited, it seemed that each player and coach took the time to get to know and enjoy others from Michigan, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, West Virginia, and North Carolina. The area with the greatest growth rate was Georgia, which sent nearly ten times as many participants as ever before. The play was intense, but the human interactions were mellow.

Champions -- both team and individual -- were crowned in six different Academic Games -- EQUATIONS and ON-SETS (Math); LINGUISHTIK and PROPAGANDA (Language Arts); WORLD EVENTS and PRESIDENTS (Social Studies). Competitions took place in four different Divisions -- Senior (11-12), Junior (9-10), Middle (7-8), and Elementary (4-6). One of the Tournaments -- Elementary EQUATIONS -- attracted 310 players, necessitating seven Sub-Divisions and qualifying nine teams (7 winners and 2 wild cards) for the playoffs.

During the course of play, favorite strategies appeared and often prevailed. Players unfamiliar with certain strategies quickly learned the new concepts and ideas, often incorporating them into their own play in later rounds. Players created incredible mathematical expressions and set names, authored amazing sentences, detected subtle propaganda techniques, uncovered presidential identities from sketchy clues, and researched volumes of knowledge about the economic depression in the United States. Most players competed in three or four of the contests; some rose to the challenge of all six.



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# Message from the AGLOA Board

The 1996 Academic Games National Tournament was the first in history to accomodate more than 1,000 participants. While the growth over 1995 was modest (about 100), ascending to a thousand enthusiastic participants is a landmark. Even more important, the growth at the National Tournament is reflective of healthy Leagues throughout the Academic Games community. Local competitions are bigger and better than ever.

The Baton Rouge site was delightful. Nearly perfect weather greeted everyone for the duration of the tournament. Most groups chose a side trip to see the greater New Orleans area -- French Quarter, Mississippi Riverfront, historic plantations -- in all of its splendor. Local cuisine and the Mardi Gras atmosphere were special touches.

With growth comes some growing pains. For the first time, the 1996 Tournament could not be housed in one location because it was too large. The Junior/ Senior Divisions occupied a separate hotel and playing space from the younger Elementary/Middle Division students. Much of the split was positive. The high school students clearly had different social and energy needs than the middle and elementary students. Managing smaller numbers was easier, though two management teams were necessary. Separate awards presentations were pleasantly shorter and thus more meaningful.

The **AGLOA Board** is committed to serving an increasing number of Academic Games students and teachers in the future. Sites near Charlotte, NC, and Indianapolis, IN, have already been investigated to add to our existing repertoire of possibilities. Social chairpersons have emerged to enhance the non-competition aspects of each annual event. Forms and administrative procedures are being refined according to suggestions of past participants. Future National Tournaments promise to be outstanding.

**AGLOA** is also committed to helping new areas begin Academic Games Leagues. Consultants are available at little or no cost to assist in the founding stages of a League. The process is becoming easier and easier. Any interested educator need only call the **AGLOA** office. The future of Academic Games looks bright, indeed.

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When questions about judgements arose, an orderly process followed. Students felt comfortable asking for second opinions and felt assured that fair and impartial decisions were reached. One of the visiting School Board members commented that much more than academic learning was taking place as he observed the appeals process. Students grew in confidence as they realized that their own questions and concerns were dealt with in an orderly, democratic way. Teachers and coaches became positive role models for their students.

The 1996 Academic Games Nationals was a huge success. All groups are savoring the 1997 version in the Orlando, Florida, area.



DING-A-LING KURT WILSON WITH MATTHEW WILBRATTE

### **DING-A-LINGS Do No Damage!**

Goofy, clumsy, awesome, incredible, hilarious, and/or dumb. The winners of the 1996 **Ding-A-Ling** awards were some or

all of the above. No award winner is ever recognized for anything dangerous or harmful or intentional. In other words, these folks just bungled into this most prestigious award by sheer misadventure. At the Junior/Senior level, Kurt Wilson of New Orleans coasted to a clear Ding-A-Ling title, ably assisted bv Matthew Wilbratte. Among the Middle/ Elementary contingent, Anthony Perry of RESA II, WV, was the most dingy.



DING-A-LING ANTHONY PERRY



# West Virginia Rules the World (Events)

Some matches are made in heaven; others are earned by hard work. Whether divinely guided or energetically obtained, West Virginia has quietly established a solid lock on World Events titles. The individual national champion in all four Divisions was a West Virginian -- three from RESA VII and one from the Eastern Panhandle. In the Junior Division, the first three individuals were from West Virginia. Teams from The Mountain State, headed by RESA II, captured one first, two seconds, and two thirds in a dominating performance. The World (Events) was made for West Virginia.



The **AGLOA** 1997 Academic Games National Tournament will be held in **Kissimmee**, **Florida**, April 27 - May 1.

Many activities -- water theme parks, medieval times dinners, etc. -- will be offered as options for the lucky attendees. Of course, groups will want to plan extended visits to all-day attractions, such as the Disney Theme Park, EPCOT Center, Universal Studios, and Sea World. Fun opportunities abound.

The Tournament itself will take place in three closely spaced hotels along Highway 192 in Kissimmee. The Elementary and Middle Division players will be housed and will play in the Hilton Hotel and the Econolodge Hotel, which are side by side. All players from a group can stay together in one or the other of the hotels. Elementary play will be in the Hilton; Middle play will be in the Econolodge. The Junior and Senior Division players will be housed and will play in the Inn at the Maingate Hotel across the highway from the other two hotels. As in 1996, it will be necessary to have separate chaperones for the older students. Each of the hotels has a first-rate pool and other activities for the students.

A packet of optional activities is being prepared by the **AGLOA** Tournament Committee. That packet will be available, along with preliminary registration forms, in early December 1996.

## Reading Games Themes & Topics for 1996 Tournament

### WORLD EVENTS THEME:

The Crusades
(1095 to 1350)
(Personalities, Routes to
Crusades, Cultural &
Economic Impact,
Religious Conflict)

### PROPAGANDA SECTIONS:

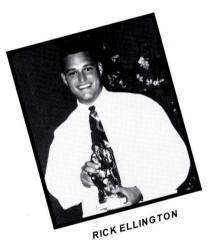
A C D E

### PRESIDENTS:

Elementary & Middle Divisions: 25-42 only Junior & Senior Divisions: 1-42 (all)



# Special Awards Go To



nated by their local groups. These Seniors are inducted into the Senior Player Hall of Fame. The 1996 group of honorees exemplifies the positive qualities of scholarship, service, and dedication that characterize Academic Gamers across the country. Inductees must have enviable competitive records AND also have contributed in exemplary ways to the success of their local Academic Games programs -- helping younger students, being "assistant coaches" to their peers, etc.

The 1996 inductees into the

Senior Player Hall of Fame are:



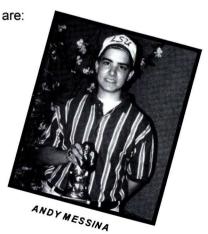
**RICK ELLINGTON** Forest Hill High School Palm Beach County, Florida

**ANDY MESSINA** Br. Martin High School New Orleans, Louisiana

**DOMINIC TAMBER** Mercer Area High School Mercer, Pennsylvania



**MADGE TAMBER & DOMINIC TAMBER** 



JARVIS CARTER



Honorees are selected by the AGLOA Board based upon quality contributions over an extended period of time to their local Academic Games programs, plus a significant contribution at the National Tournament. Induction is a life-time honor.

The 1996 honorees carry on the tradition of service and excellence exhibited by all inductees into the Hall of Fame. These individuals have made a difference in the lives of students.

Julie Becker of Ann Arbor, Michigan, carried on the tradition of following superior Academic Games playing by coaching teams throughout her tenure at the University of Michigan. Through her leadership and dedication, Julie developed championship caliber players and earned the love and respect of her students and fellow coaches.

Ron Midkiff of New Orleans, Louisiana, has been involved as an Academic Games coach for over ten years at Ben Franklin School. His players are wellprepared, determined, but fair competitors. In addition, Ron has helped develop new mathematical ideas and formats and has been a capable judge at many National Tournaments.

Mary Jo Petterson of Palm Beach County, Florida, has spent 13 years in five different schools developing national-level Academic Games players. Quality players emerge wherever Mary Jo coaches, including the nationals math teams for Palm Beach County. She has been head math judge for many years locally, and has been Middle Division EQUATIONS coordinator for several years at the National Tournament. Her sense of humor is upbeat and appreciated.

John Wasco of Montour, Pennsylvania, built his high school Academic Games rogram from scratch over five years with dedication and hard work. He has been the catalyst behind the development of his District's research books. In 1996, this effort resulted in his players winning national championships. During John's three years at the Nationals, he has consistently been a Reader and volunteer judge. He is a special spirit who affects people positively.







SENIOR EQUATIONS CHAMPS "TOILET RATS" NEW ORLEANS, LA



JUNIOR PRESIDENTS CHAMPS "CAPT. K & HER 4 HORSEMEN" MONTOUR, PA



JUNIOR SWEEPSTAKES CHAMPIONS DETROIT RENAISSANCE

SENIOR CHAMPIONS				
SENIOR	TEAMS	INDIVIDUALS		
EQUATIONS	Toilet Rats New Orleans, LA	Michael Johnson Detroit Renaissance		
ON-SETS	Renaissance High Detroit, MI	Luke Mayne New Orleans Br. Martin		
WORLD EVENTS	Drinking Age is What? Palm Beach Cty, FL	Dan Nowak Eastern Panhandle, WV		
PRESIDENTS	Skeeter Patrol Elizabeth Forward, PA	Jay Cost Seneca Valley, PA		
LINGUISHTIK	Renaissance High Detroit, MI	Jarvis Carter, Rocco Corsetti, Yvette Ruffin, Det. Ren.		
PROPAGANDA	Riverside/Blackhawk Beaver County, PA	Kelly Kinard PB County, FL		
SWEEPSTAKES	Renaissance High Detroit, MI	Rocco Corsetti Detroit Renaissance		

JUNIOR CHAMPIONS			
JUNIOR	TEAMS	INDIVIDUALS	
EQUATIONS	Renaissance High Detroit, MI	Nathan Monteleone New Orleans Br. Martin	
ON-SETS	Renaissance High Detroit, MI	Nathan Monteleone New Orleans Br. Martin	
WORLD EVENTS	Capt. K & Her 4 Horsemen Montour, PA	Matthew Freier RESA VII, WV	
PRESIDENTS	Capt. K & Her 4 Horsemen Montour, PA	Karen Koller Montour, PA	
LINGUISHTIK	Renaissance High Detroit, MI	Kamal Cowles, Nicholas McClure, Patrice Simpson	
PROPAGANDA	All-Stars New Orleans, LA	Ashley Garaci New Orleans All-Stars	
SWEEPSTAKES	Renaissance High Detroit, MI	Edgar Wayne Detroit Renaissance	



ELEMENTARY SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS "KAMIKAZE KIDS - THE SEQUEL" JEFFERSON PARISH, LA



ELEMENTARY SWEEPSTAKES 3RD "INDIAN RIVER DEUCES" INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FL



ELEMENTARY ON-SETS CHAMPS "BFE GUMMY BEARS" NEW ORLEANS, LA

MIDDLE CHAMPIONS				
MIDDLE	TEAMS	INDIVIDUALS		
EQUATIONS	Curtis A New Orleans, LA	Robert Sun Ann Arbor, MI		
ON-SETS	Martin-Primary-SCS New Orleans, LA	Adam Verrette New Orleans Curtis		
WORLD EVENTS	Doozies RESA II, WV	Raman Santra RESA VII, WV		
PRESIDENTS	Presidential Panthers Divine Mercy, PA	Josh Eaton New Brighton, PA		
LINGUISHTIK	George Ann Arbor, MI	Matt McCall Ann Arbor, MI		
PROPAGANDA	U're Going Down Jefferson Parish, LA	Barry Brunet, A. Verrette, New Orleans, LA		
SWEEPSTAKES	Curtis A New Orleans, LA	Barry Brunet New Orleans, LA		

ELEMENTARY CHAMPIONS				
ELEMENTARY	TEAM	AREAS		
EQUATIONS:	IR Dueces	Indian River County, FL		
ON-SETS:	BFE Gummy Bears	New Orleans, LA		
WORLD EVENTS:	Little Spartans	Montour, PA		
PRESIDENTS:	Kamikaze Kids - The Sequel	Jefferson Parish, LA		
LINGUISHTIK:	Idiots and Co.	Ann Arbor, MI		
PROPAGANDA:	Kamikaze Kids - The Sequel	Jefferson Parish, LA		
SWEEPSTAKES:	Kamikaze Kids - The Sequel	Jefferson Parish, LA		

