

WEIBEL FALL SCHOLASTIC QUADS #2

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By Alan M. Kirshner, Ph.D.

I ran out of trophies at Saturday's Weibel Fall Scholastic Quads (November 19, 2005). How great! Well, maybe not for the 22 players who did not get theirs, but they will arrive in the mail shortly. I might have had enough trophies if I did not have so many Quads with two and three winners. I did have enough medals for those who failed to win a trophy in their Quad. I registered 301 players. With dropouts and no shows, 276 played.

This is the largest crowd I have had in three years. The best news for me was to see T-shirts from every major chess school in the Bay Area. I hope it bodes well for a massive unified State Scholastic Championship on May 20 and 21.

I had 49 players rated over 1000. These competitors got their own rooms with a time control of game in 45. The under 1000 play game in 30. Of course, as most organizers/directors know, in this group as soon as you say shake hands, start your clocks and come out fighting, a couple of arms go up to indicate they have completed their games.

Rohan Agarwal, 7th grade, was the highest rated player at 1705 and he did win Quad #1. Rohan came home with \$2500 this summer from the National Open in Las Vegas for his undefeated first place in the under 1600 category. Rohan had to settle for a draw in these Quads against the lowest rated player in that division, his former teammate from Weibel, Kyle Hui, 11th grade, 1464. I have always believed that the toughest opponents to defeat are your own teammates. Amazingly, these games seem to always end in draws. :0)

Quad #2 saw Rahul Desirazu, 1414, 5th grade at Harker, win all three of his games. Rahul has had some phenomenal success in the last two years. As a novice at the Nationals last year he showed well. We have tried to get him a bit of publicity in the Harker school newsletter, but they are only interested in their Team results—surprise, surprise.

Quads #3 and #4 were a mess due to my decision to allow a player who arrived just after I completed pairing the over 1000 section to join in since his journey from San Francisco had been slow. With the advice of Senior Director Hans Poschmann, I made the two Quads one Swiss with 9 players instead of 5 in one Quad. This upset one parent and it is difficult to say he was wrong—I did what I thought was best for the young man who was a few minutes late and worked the byes based upon Swiss pairing rules. When I have a Swiss at the Quads, I provide trophies for all who tie for first and then call the next spot second and provide trophies there as well. First, with 2.5, went to Andrew Li (1315, 5th grade, Ardenwood in Fremont) and Benjamin Tien (1295, 7th grade, Harker). Second, with 2, went to Kevin Garbe (1365, 5th grade, Saratoga), Daryl Neubieser (1367, 6th grade, Harker) and Puneeth Gadangi (1257, 6th grade, St. Marks). You can view photographs and the rest of the trophy winners at: <http://www.calnortheyouthchess.org/Applications/FallQuads05/RESULTS-11-19-05.html>.

At this time, I do not plan to hold any more Quads until the summer. I know, from past experience, that I will be busy doing the States. I have already received ten entries. Once again, I look forward to seeing player, parents, coaches and other interested parties in May at the States. Until then---

Chess is Forever!

Alan



What is behind the bird? (alan)



A Mickey Mouse event? (alan)



Should I or shouldn't I? (alan)



Can I do it? (alan)