

High School College Bowl Knowledge Tournament held on campus

April 19, 1983

Sixteen high school teams from the San Diego area are scheduled to take part in the second running of the High School College Bowl Knowledge Tournament Saturday and Sunday, April 30 and May 1, at the University of California, San Diego.

The competition, held in conjunction with the UCSD Open House, will take place in room 2722 of the Undergraduate Sciences Building on the Revelle College campus. The preliminary round of the double elimination tournament will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday and will continue through 3:30 p.m. The winners' bracket will continue at 10 a.m. Sunday with the final championship round scheduled for 3 p.m. An awards ceremony with presentations by UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Sunday.

The 16 high schools taking part in the tournament are: Castle Park, Coronado, Educational Dynamics, El Camino, Fallbrook, Helix, Kearny, Mission Bay, Monte Vista, Morse, Patrick Henry, Ramona, St. Augustine, Santa Fe, Sweetwater and Torrey Pines. Last year Coronado High School won the competition beating Castle Park in the final round.

The idea for the contest was developed last year by David Eckmann and James Kohut, both UCSD undergraduates, who worked for almost a year on plans and preparations for the event. Eckmann, a Revelle College bioengineering major, and Kohut, a Muir College chemistry major, were members of the Riverside Polytechnic High School team that won a similar College Bowl contest in that area in 1978.

This year Eckmann and Kohut have enlisted the help of a committee made up, in part, of UCSD freshmen who were members of last year's winning high school teams. The committee has spent the last several months gathering the 600 questions it will take to get through the two-day competition and recruiting judges, a scorekeeper and a timer.

Last year letters were sent to 63 area high schools inviting them to take part in the competition. This year the committee held a lottery to select the 16 competitors from a field of 35 high schools that applied.

Each team will be composed of four persons and two substitutes chosen by the high school. Paper and pens will be provided on the stage for each team but no paper, pencils, pens, calculators or slide rules will be allowed to be brought up on the stage by team members.

Two types of questions will be asked. The first is a "toss-up" question worth 10 points which usually has only one short answer. The second is a "bonus" question which is worth 20 to 30 points. Bonus questions deal with one topic but will have multiple parts to the answer.

Each game will run 20 minutes and there will be no time-outs except at the discretion of the judge.

According to Eckmann and Kohut, the questions reflect college level knowledge but are written with high school students in mind. They will include questions on the general subjects of biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, literature, music, fine arts, economics, mathematics, political science and history. There will also be a miscellaneous category.

The competition is serious but not without its lighter moments. Last year in the championship round the teams were asked who was the Lord of the Flies in the 1955 William Golding novel about a group of shipwrecked youngsters. The first answer shot out after the buzzer was, "Willie Mays."

"We may keep that question in to see what answer we get this year," Eckmann said.

For more information contact: Paul W. West, 452-3120

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