

UC Berkeley team claims quiz bowl national championship

St. Louis, Missouri - On April 2 and 3, a team of UC Berkeley students from the Quiz Bowl Club won first place in the open division of the National Academic Quiz Tournaments' (NAQT) Intercollegiate Championship Tournament (ICT). By adding the NAQT crown to the Academic Competition Federation (ACF) National championship the club won last year, Quiz Bowl has now won both of the two most prestigious national championships in as many years. A second team took 9th place in the novice division.

In the open division, David Farris, Jeff Hoppes, Jon Pennington and Seth Teitler competed against other teams of graduate and undergraduate students. After winning all their preliminary matches, including matches against Harvard, Yale and University of Michigan, they defeated University of Florida, 395 - 295, to take the open division title. In the novice division, Martha Matsumoto, Chris Nguyen, Paul Reverdy, and Lev Trubov competed against teams of other novice players, defeating teams from such academic powerhouses as Columbia, University of Pennsylvania and Emory. With a final tournament record of 11 - 3, they placed 9th in the field of 32 contestants.

The ICT is a selective, invitation-only event, the most prestigious tournament on the national quiz bowl circuit. Over one hundred teams play to qualify for each division at sectional tournaments held throughout the nation in February, with the top 32 in each division being invited to the intercollegiate tournament.

Success at nationals is a tradition for the Berkeley Quiz Bowl Club; last year the club took second place in the open division and won the novice national title. This weekend, the club will be attending this year's ACF National championship at University of Maryland - College Park to defend their current ACF national crown.

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