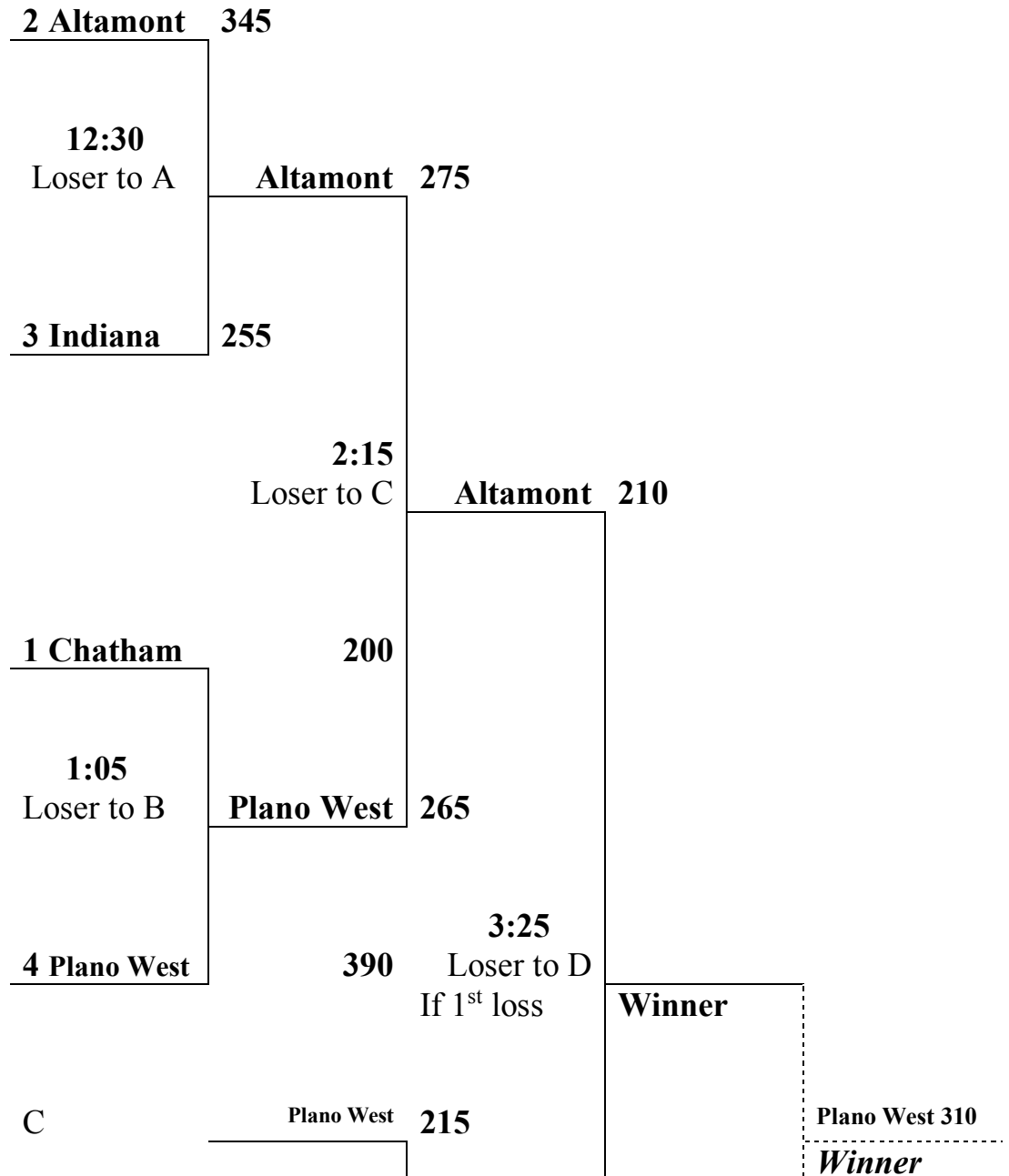
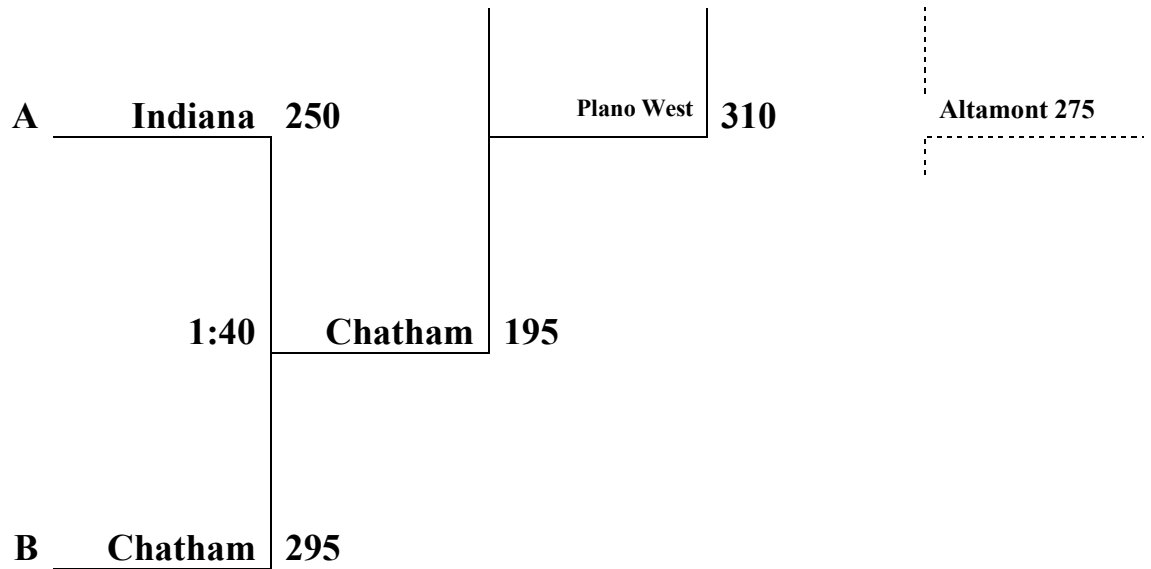


**Final Four**

*This year's four-team double-elimination event took all seven games:*

**2018  
National  
Academic  
Championship  
Final  
Four**





Indiana vs. Alabama vs. New Jersey vs. Texas!

### First Game

The game between University High of Indiana and Altamont was won in the Bonus Round. Indiana swept a visual bonus:

You're going to see part of the sheet music from the opening of an orchestral work. In each case, give me the title of the work and the name of its composer.

5

Ans. Beethoven's Fifth Symphony 1389

10 Give me the common German title for this work, and its composer.

Ans. Mozart, Eine Kleine Nachtmusik 1390

15

Ans. Haydn, Surprise Symphony (No. 94).1391

But Altamont swept three!

## DONALD TRUMP

5 Who received his full security clearance after more than a year of delay and controversy, removing a key hurdle to his continued services as a key White House adviser to his father-in-law Donald Trump?

Ans. Jared Kushner

10 Trump says he wants what country to be part of the G7 group of industrialized nations?

Ans. Russia

15 President Trump held a roundtable discussion to discuss the MS-13 gang, a violent gang originating from which Central American nation?

Ans. El Salvador

## LATIN PHRASES

(5) What Latin term meaning “after death” refers to an analysis of something after it has happened?

Ans. Post-mortem

(10) Philosopher John Locke used what two-word Latin phrase meaning “erased tablet” to describe the mind as a blank slate at birth?

Ans. Tabula rasa

(15) Directly after shooting Abraham Lincoln, John Wilkes Booth jumped onto the stage at Ford's Theatre and yelled what three-word Latin phrase?

Ans. Sic semper tyrannis

## MOONS

(5) Name Saturn's largest moon.

Ans. Titan

(10) Name both moons of Mars.

Ans. Deimos and Phobos

(15) Name all four Galilean moons of Jupiter.

Ans. Callisto, Europa, Ganymede, Io

Altamont took the first game, 345-255.

## **Second Game**

Key to the second game was Plano West's sweep of these two bonus series:

### **GO FOR BAROQUE**

(5) What Italian composer whose masterpiece was *The Four Seasons* died penniless and almost forgotten?

Ans. Vivaldi

(10) Baroque philosophers pondered the significant questions of existence. What French mathematician argued that the mind and body are really distinct, a concept called "mind-body dualism"?

Ans. Descartes

(15) What Italian word indicates a dramatic contrast between light and dark, a painting technique used by Caravaggio and other Baroque painters?

Ans. Chiaroscuro

Identify the angry person in the Hebrew Bible.

(5) Who got angry when his offering was rejected, and murdered his brother?

Ans. Cain

(10) Who got angry when Ham saw him naked, and cursed Canaan?

Ans. Noah

(15) She got angry at a man who would not sell his land, and had him put to death.

Ans. Jezebel

The game was put out of reach after Plano West swept the PHILIP category in 60 Seconds. Final Score: Plano West 390, Chatham 200.

### **Third Game**

This contest was a close one. Again, the crucial round was the Sixty Seconds round, as Chatham swept the FACTORIALS category. The final score was Chatham 295, University 250.

### **Fourth Game**

Plano West led Altamont 95-90 at halftime. In 60 Seconds, Altamont advanced 90-10 on their category, PHYSICISTS. Plano got 60 to Altamont's 40 in SECOND CITIES. Plano West won the "Stump the Experts" round 100-55, but fell short, 265-275 at the end.

### **Fifth Game**

In a close but low-scoring affair, Plano West defeated Chatham 215-195.

### **Sixth Game**

Plano West faced Altamont again. Another win by Altamont would give Alabama its first-ever national championship. A Plano West win would force a final game to decide it all.

West led 60-20 after the Warm Up round, 215-165 after the 60 Seconds round. Plano West scored four impressive 20-pointers in "Stump the Experts" –

Finish this remark by Ronald Hutton concerning a 17<sup>th</sup> century event. "The Irish had precipitated, the Welsh had ensured and the Scots had failed to prevent a conflict that was to go down in history as the..."

Ans. English Civil War

In 1853, a concert tour brought the 20-year-old Johannes Brahms into contact with which German composer, who went on to declare the younger man's genius? Listen.

Ans. Robert Schumann 1595

VISUAL ... TWO ANSWERS REQUIRED. The painting on your right is a reinterpretation of a work by another artist. I want the name of both the artist responsible for this painting and the painter of the original work on which it's based, shown on the left.

Ans. Velazquez and Picasso

Trained as a Jesuit, this Enlightenment philosopher's opinion of religion changed after the death of his sister, reflected in his novel, *La Religieuse*. On his death in 1784, his library was sent to Catherine the Great, his greatest benefactor. Who was this Frenchman, known as the co-founder and chief editor of the *Encyclopédie*?

Ans. Denis Diderot

Impressive! Plano won decisively, 310-210 to force a seventh game.

### **Seventh Game**

The final contest was a lot closer. Altamont led West 35-20 after a low-scoring first period. West swept the SHORT STORIES bonus, but Altamont ran the PRESIDENT TRUMP and, extraordinarily, this visual bonus:

### ARTISTIC DEPICTIONS OF SAINT SEBASTIAN

5 Who painted this unorthodox representation of St. Sebastian as part of the Last Judgment in the Sistine Chapel?

Ans. Michelangelo 1356

10 Which artist moved to Spain in 1577 and shortly after produced a depiction of Saint Sebastian kneeling and bound to a tree?

Ans. El Greco 1357

15 Saint Sebastian Bound to the Column is one of a series of engravings by which artist born in Nuremberg in 1471?

Ans. Albrecht Durer 1358

The Alabama team led at halftime, 150-75. But the Texas team took advantage of the privilege of choosing first in 60 Seconds, accomplishing the most impressive sweep of the entire tournament on the TRIGONOMETRY category. Altamont advanced 70-30 on WORLD HISTORY. Going into the final period, Plano West led 225-220. Finally, a game would be decided where we prefer for it to be

decided: in the “Stump the Experts” round! Plano West quickly increased their lead on Literature and History:

Mistress Quickly said, “a good heart's worth...” this. In *The Merchant of Venice*, the Prince of Morocco selects one of three chests in hopes of winning Portia's hand in marriage, choosing the chest made of what?

Ans. Gold

Henry II’s marriage to Eleanor of Aquitaine produced two future kings of England. They are both prominent in the Robin Hood stories, although usually only one of them is king. Name both of them.

Ans. King Richard I (the Lion-Hearted) and King John

Altamont got this Science question:

This observatory found that the Andromeda Galaxy was three times larger than previously thought. The telescopes consist of 36 hexagonal mirrors to form a primary mirror that, with the help of lasers, can adjust itself 2,000 times per second to compensate for distortions caused by Earth's atmosphere. What observatory on Mauna Kea boasts two telescopes with 10-meter primary mirrors?

Ans. Keck Observatory (Prompt on Mauna Kea before it is mentioned.)

Plano West got 15 more on Calculus and 20 more on this visual question:

TWO ANSWERS REQUIRED. The flag of Papua New Guinea, designed by a 15-year-old girl, features what constellation and what bird?

Ans. Southern Cross, Bird of Paradise 923

Altamont answered with 20 points on Foreign Language:

The ethnic group with this name can be found in Uzbekistan, Pakistan and Russia along with other countries. What term denotes an Iranian language spoken in the country between Afghanistan and Kyrgyzstan?

Ans. Tajik

West added 15 on this one:

Various credentials for this profession in the United States are abbreviated CPM, CNM and CM. The World Health Organization and International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics had adopted the standards developed by the group

abbreviated ICM. In the *Dialogues*, Socrates said he has what occupation, the same as his mother, because he assists others in bringing forth conceptions about knowledge?

Ans. Midwife

Altamont got 20 on the last question of the tournament:

Richard II of England was born in this city. It lies on a bend of the Garonne River, some 30 miles from the Atlantic coast. Famous for its red wines, which city is the capital of Nouvelle-Aquitaine, France's largest region by area?

Ans. Bordeaux

The final score: Plano West 310, Altamont 275.

### **Plano West**



*(l to r) back: Avi Ackermann, Ryan Conti, Dr. Phillip Stager  
front: Abhinav Godavarthi, Jaskaran Singh, Anish Yellaturu, Dache Lin*

### **Junior Varsity**

The national championship was too close to call: Detroit Jesuit 8-0, 332 ppg; Johnson Central 6-0, 344 ppg. We're currently trying to arrange a three-game playoff at Detroit in July ...

### **Rookie of the Year**



Scarsdale High (NY) was named Rookie of the Year. They defeated in the playoffs the defending champs, Zionsville (IN), and advanced to the Chicago quarterfinals.

### **Scoring Leaders**

At the NAA, we judge teams not only on tournament progress (how far they advanced in the competition), but also on average points, and seldom does a team lead the league in both. This year, 8-1 Bexley (OH) led the league in scoring, averaging 383 points per game, but were defeated by University School of Indiana 225-270 in the last game of teams coming to Chicago. St. Martin's, finishing 7-1, was second in points at 357. One can review the stats and easily imagine St. Martin's winning New Orleans and Bexley winning Chicago. National Champ Plano West was third in scoring at 336, but likely would have finished second had they not forfeited a game.

### **Texas Rules**

The most impressive state at this year's tournament was Texas, the Lone Star State's finest accolades in decades, with national titles in the Elementary and High School Varsity divisions. Kentucky was a close second, with a national title in the Middle School division, finishing at the top in Orlando Middle School and JV divisions, second in Chicago Elementary, and second in the DC Middle School division. Ohio teams finished third in the Chicago Middle School div., first in Chicago Elementary, and second in Chicago Varsity. New Jersey teams finished first and third in DC Varsity, first in DC Middle School.

Plano West's Dr. Philip Stager coached the first team ever to win both the National Academic Championship and the HSNCT in the same year. He is honored as Coach of the Year.



*Dr. Philip Stager*

### **A Quirky Record**

Plano West is the only school in our 36 years to forfeit a game but go on to win the championship. The reason for their tardiness for one contest remains a mystery.

### **Small-School Champs**

We crown a champion from among the “small schools” that come to Nationals (defined as any school with 500 or fewer students in grades 10-12 and a non-selective admissions policy). Hastings (NY) won it for the fourth time, advancing to the DC Final Four.

### **Qualifying for 2019 Nationals**

Keep in mind that all 2018 playoff teams have automatically qualified for NAC XXXVII. Return to QUnlimited.com in September, when information on our next QuizNet and 3-2-1 events will be posted. We will also provide details on next year's National Academic Championship.

### **Next Year's Champs?**

Anybody's guess!

### **Hall of Fame**

Induction into the Hall of Fame means joining a very select group. In the past 35 years, only 21 players had made it. This year, Plano West's MVP Jaskaran Singh joined the assembly of immortals.



*Jaskaran Singh*

### ***Hall of Fame***

- **Mike Keller** (Irmo, SC, '85-87)
- **Eric Evans** (Granville, OH, '88-89)
- **Jim Paluszak** (Dorman, SC, '89-91)

- **Matt Bruce** (Booker T. Washington, OK, '89-92)
- **Mark Staloff** (East Brunswick, NJ, '94)
- **Brad Rutter** (Manheim Township, PA, '92-95)
- **Brad Harris** (James Island, SC, '92-95)
- **Amanda Goad** (Governor's School, VA, '93-96)
- **Scott Petty** (Houston Eisenhower '95 and Houston Memorial '96)
- **Justin Powell** (James Island, SC '95-98)
- **Ryan Cooper** (James Island, SC '95-99)
- **Jonathan Hess** (Irmo, SC, 1998-2002)
- **Sara Sheer** (Horace Greeley, 2001-2004)
- **Matt Pargeter** (Holland Hall, OK, 2002-2005)
- **Nate Mattison** (Byram Hills, NY, 2004-2006)
- **Fuhe Xu** (Harrison, IN, 2004-2007)
- **Ariel Schneider** (Harrison, IN, 2004-2007)
- **Dylan Hames** (Booker T. Washington, OK, 2006-2008)
- **Alex Pijanowski** (Harrison, IN, 2011-2013)
- **Max Smiley** (Horace Greeley, 2013-2014)
- **Kevin Yokum** (New Orleans Jesuit, 2013-2014)
- **Luke Minton** (El Paso Coronado, 2013-2015)
- **Jaskaran Singh** (Plano West, 2017-2018)

### **WINNERS OF OUR 36 TOURNAMENTS**

- 1983 -- Walt Whitman (Bethesda, MD)
- 1984 -- Wheelersburg (Wheelersburg, OH)
- 1985 -- Skyline (Dallas, TX)
- 1986 -- Irmo (Columbia, SC)
- 1987 -- Walnut Ridge (Columbus, OH)
- 1988 -- Eleanor Roosevelt (Greenbelt, MD)
- 1989 -- Dorman (Spartanburg, SC)
- 1990 -- Collegiate (Richmond, VA)
- 1991 -- Dorman (Spartanburg, SC)
- 1992 -- Booker T. Washington (Tulsa, OK)
- 1993 -- Torrey Pines (San Diego, CA)
- 1994 -- East Brunswick (NJ)
- 1995 -- Governor's School (Richmond, VA)
- 1996 -- Houston Memorial (TX)
- 1997 -- Edison (Huntington Beach, CA)
- 1998 -- State College Area (PA)
- 1999 -- James Island (SC)
- 2000 -- Manheim Township (PA)

- 2001 -- Irmo (Columbia, SC)
- 2002 -- Irmo (Columbia, SC)
- 2003 -- Horace Greeley (Chappaqua, NY)
- 2004 -- St. Thomas (St. Paul, MN)
- 2005 -- Holland Hall (Tulsa, OK)
- 2006 -- Byram Hills (Armonk, NY)
- 2007 -- Harrison (West Lafayette, IN)
- 2008 -- Booker T. Washington (Tulsa, OK)
- 2009 -- John Cooper (The Woodlands, TX)
- 2010 -- Zionsville (Zionsville, IN)
- 2011 -- Harrison (West Lafayette, IN)
- 2012 -- University of Detroit Jesuit (MI)
- 2013 -- Horace Greeley (Chappaqua, NY)
- 2014 -- Jesuit (New Orleans, LA)
- 2015 -- Coronado (El Paso, TX)
- 2016 -- Daviess County (Owensboro, KY)
- 2017 -- Zionsville (Zionsville, IN)
- 2018 -- Plano West (TX)