

PINGRY (NJ) vs LUSHER (LA)
in
VARSITY FINALS

The Pingry School entered the playoffs ranked No. 1 out of 34 teams. Lusher was No. 2. Both teams were undefeated. This was the first time in 38 years that teams ranked No. 1 and No. 2 advanced to face each other in the title match.

Lusher advanced to the finals after defeating A D Henderson (FL) 370-280, Greens Farms (CT) 490-320, Sparkman (AL) in the quarterfinals 460-285, and Edgemont (NJ) 530-295 in the semifinals. Meanwhile, Lusher beat Norris (NE) 410-295, Scarsdale 415-350 in the quarterfinals, and Hastings 415-395 in the Semifinals.

Fast forward to the “Experts” round of the Finals, with Pingry leading by 35.

Pingry scored on ART IN SPAIN ... Begun 1882, it's still unfinished. What's the name of Antoni Gaudi's cathedral in Barcelona?



Ans. Sagrada Familia

Lusher scored on ART IN SPAIN This place in Spain was discovered by an eight-year-old girl in 1879. It's the location of a series of Paleolithic paintings mainly of mammals such as bison, boar, deer, and horses. What is this cave?



Ans. Altamira

Pingry picked up 40 points by stealing Lusher's Elements question and then getting theirs right ...

It's silvery gray, with a Moh's hardness of 3, predominantly found in sulfide stibnite ore. In group 15 of the periodic table of elements, what metalloid is the only element whose English name starts with a, but whose symbol does not?

Ans. Antimony

Nobody has determined the minimum human dietary requirement of this element because nobody has ever had a known deficit of it. Be that as it may, it is essential for life. Without it, there'd be no vitamin B-12. What is this metal between iron and nickel on the Periodic Table?

Ans. Cobalt

Pingry and Lusher, respectively, scored on their MATH problems ...

Find the center and area of an ellipse with equation:

$$9x^2 - 36x + 4y^2 - 24y = -36$$

Ans. Center is at (2, 3) and Area is 6π

A regular polygon has 35 diagonals. How many sides does the polygon have?

Ans. 10

Lusher picked up 40 points by stealing Pingry's JOBS IN THE BIBLE question and then getting theirs right ...

What position did Judas Iscariot hold in the group of Twelve Apostles?

Ans. Treasurer

The Apostle Peter was a fisherman. In what occupation did the Apostle Paul support himself?

Ans. Tentmaker

Pingry and Lusher, respectively, scored on their HISTORY question ...

Consider the Spanish Civil War. About 800 American volunteers were killed fighting for the Loyalists, many as part of a brigade named for which 19th century president?

Ans. Abraham Lincoln

The central image of this speech was used by Abigail Adams in a letter to Mercy Otis Warren; by Sam Houston during the Senate debate over the Compromise of 1850; and, mostly notably, in the Gospel of Matthew 3:25. Abraham Lincoln gave which speech upon accepting the Illinois Republican nomination to run for US Senator against Stephen Douglas?

Ans. The House Divided Speech

Ditto on their LITERATURE question ...

“He doth bestride the narrow world like a Colossus.” Referring to the title character, those words are spoken in which of Shakespeare’s plays?

Ans. Julius Caesar

Part two of *Les Misérables* is “Cosette”; part one is named for this mother of hers. What is that name?

Ans. Fantine

Pingry picked up 40 points by stealing Lusher’s Elements CARPENTRY question and then getting theirs right ...

What is the general term for a strip of material used for final trimming or finishing of carpentry work, often where a wall meets a floor or a ceiling, and often decorative? Examples include baseboard, casing, crown, and wainscoting.

Ans. Molding

In cabinet making, what term is applied to a method of joining two pieces of wood, one of which has wedge-shaped openings cut on its edge, while the other has wedge-shaped projections on its edge?

Ans. Dovetailing

Both teams scored on PHYSICAL SCIENCE ...

Some scientists believe that negative Kelvin temperatures are related to what type of energy, which is thought to be causing the expansion of the universe to accelerate?

Ans. Dark energy

They are slower to travel and cannot pass through Earth's molten outer core. What are these late arrivals to seismographs?

Ans. S-waves

Both teams scored on FRENCH COMPOSERS

His opera *Les Troyens* [lay twa-YAHN] is seldom performed because of its lavish production demands. *The Damnation of Faust* is his dramatic legend in five acts, first performed in Paris in 1846. *Harold in Italy* is based on a poem by Lord Byron. I'm talking about the works of which composer?

Ans. Hector Berlioz

Franz Schubert composed the most often-performed version of *Ave Maria*, but which French composer wrote one to be superimposed over a Bach prelude?

Ans. Charles Gounod

Pingry won by a final score of 485-415. Their record in the tournament was 11-0.

A Fond Farewell

Jayme Clifton Howland is retiring. She's the only person to have coached teams from three different schools (all from Oklahoma) at Nationals. We've known her since 1995, when she brought the Bishop Kelley Academic Team to Dallas. She won three Oklahoma state championships with Bishop Kelley. She then created the Academic Team program at Holland Hall, winning seven Oklahoma state championships with teams from that school and led them to the National Academic Championship title in 2005. She coached Matt Pargeter, inducted in the Hall of

Fame in that same year. In 2011 Ms. Howland moved to Booker T. Washington, leading teams to six state championships. Always in the playoffs, Booker T. Washington won the JV division at New Orleans in 2014 under her leadership. Her colleagues among coaches have included Andy Zaller, Mark Hames, and Diana McGinnis-Fields.



Jayme Clifton Howland

Rookie of the Year

South Burlington (VT) was named Rookie of the Year. They were the highest-ranked first-weekend team and finished fifth in the nation after playoff wins over Clinton (SC) 345-265, Plymouth (NH) 445-265, before falling to Hastings (NY) 380-490. The only other rookie among Quarterfinalists was Essex, also from Vermont, finishing seventh in the nation.

Scoring Leaders

We're always interested in how a team's points per game average correlates with their tournament final rank. Seldom does a given team win both, but this year Pingry did, winning the national title, finishing 11-0, with a No. 1 average of 423 ppg. Hastings A, which fell to Lusher in the Semifinals

415-395, came in second at 384; Lusher finished third at 383. For the second year in a row, Scarsdale (NY) finished fifth, improving this time to 358.

Kentucky

Kentucky was at it again! Two Kentucky teams, Brandeis and Winburn, faced each other in the Elementary finals. Three of the quarterfinalists in Junior Nationals come from Kentucky: Edmonson County, Winburn, and Danville Bate.

Vermont

The Green Mountain State, seldom seen at Nationals, was impressive this year. Four of the five Vermont teams made the playoffs; with South Burlington finishing 5th, Essex 7th, and Burlington 12th. The latter improved its record from 1-5 last year to 6-2 this year.

Westchester County

Westchester County, NY was resurgent this year. White Plains, Hastings, and Edgemont all made the quarterfinals, with the latter two finishing third and fourth, respectively. Scarsdale finished fourth in the nation in points.

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, with their best team ever, won it this year for the sixth time.

Hall of Fame

The first 37 years of the National Academic Championship saw only 23 players elected to the Hall of Fame. A Hall of Famer must have excelled for at least two years at Nationals and led his team to at least one national title. We have to make an exception this year. Pingry's Brian Li not only made the Hall of Fame in his only year at Nationals, he's a Top-Tier Hall of Famer. Knowledge is of course important, but wisdom is more significant, Brian Li has those qualities in abundance, making him one of the best captains we've ever seen.



Brian Li

Qualifying for 2021 Nationals

Keep in mind that all 2020 playoff teams have automatically qualified for NAC XXXIX. 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.

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)
- Brian Li (Pingry, 2020)
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• • WINNERS OF OUR 38 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)
- 2019 -- University of Detroit Jesuit (MI)
- 2020 -- Pingry (NJ)