



OM ASSOCIATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

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THE OM WORLD FINALS

The 1984 OM World Finals had 416 teams competing at the University of Akron. Over 4,000 people stayed at Kent State University and the University of Akron for two to four nights. Over 130 people judged, kept score, and helped with general tournament assistance. The competition ran on schedule for the two day event. The facilities provided by the University of Akron for the competition were excellent. The Pep Rally, Award Ceremony and several competitions took place in the beautiful new Health and Physical Education Field House.

THE PEP RALLY

The 8,000 seat gymnasium was filled. Students entered and received continuous applause. It was heart warming to see the participants from Canada march around the arena and to receive a standing ovation their entire way. The hat and banner contests continue to border on the unbelievable. Hats ranged from a team being part of a castle, to whales lazily rolling in the sea and spouting CO₂, to perhaps the longest hat ever made. It seemed to have over fifty people under it. Each of the ten runners-up received a trophy and the overall winner received a special hat trophy.

The banners were equally fantastic. Creative, artistic, beautiful, colorful, wonderful craftsmanship are but a few adjectives to describe them.

LIPPER AWARD PRESENTED

This year's winner of the Lipper Award, presented at the Akron World Finals, was Mr. Charles H. Clark of Kent, Ohio. Mr. Clark is founder and president of Yankee Ingenuity Programs, a firm offering workshops to stimulate creativity and innovation in industry, government, schools, and the voluntary sector.

In addition to writing several articles on management education techniques, Mr. Clark authored *Brainstorming* in 1958 and two privately copyrighted manuals on creativity, *How to Brainstorm for Profitable Ideas* and *The Crawford Slip Writing Method*. Earlier, he had been an editorial assistant to Alex Osborn for *Applied Imagination*. Most recently, he wrote *Idea Management: How to Motivate Creativity and Innovation*, published by the American Management Association.

The Lipper Award is presented annually to honor an individual for outstanding contributions to the development of human creativity.

TRAGEDY MARS WORLD FINALS

Comments made by Robert Geigle, South Dakota OM Association Director at the 1984 World Finals Coaches' Competition.

"Our days are filled with many joys and many exciting, happy moments, and I trust that each of you have had a day just like that.

On the other hand, our days are sometimes darkened by events and happenings which we often can not explain, let alone have the capacity to understand. Today at about 8:30 a.m. one of these things happened that sorrows our spirits. Two judges from Maryland for the competition were seriously injured in a car accident. Both are in the hospital with one in very critical condition.

When tragic events like this happen, it is easy to find fault, to place blame, to get mad and even to take revenge. These actions just make our emotions run high and out-of-control, and thus no productive action is forthcoming. Further, these negative actions cannot change what happened. The tragedy has already taken place. In all aspects of life, we would all like to believe that we are in ultimate control, with these kinds of things demonstrating that it is not true.

So at this time, I want to ask each of you to turn to a positive kind of activity. Because I am aware of the fact that this group has representatives from many different religions, faiths, and beliefs, I am asking each of you in your own way to remember these two individuals in your silent thoughts now and I hope later in your private quarters. In doing this I would ask that you call upon that Spirit that you believe gives vitality, strength, and comfort to your life, and that could give a new purpose and a renewed strength to our two injured friends.

So now I ask you, each student, coach, sponsors, fellow judges and friends to stand for a minute of silence and to think positive thoughts for their recovery.

Thank you."

OM regrets to report the death of Martha Flesch, but is pleased to announce that Amy Powers is on the road to recovery.

COMMODORE COMPUTER PROBLEM

The problem developed by Robert Quigley of Executive Systems, Inc. and sponsored by Commodore Computers was excellent. Commodore supplied computers for scorekeeping as well as sixty computers for the special competition. Ms. Pat Walkington, representing Commodore in the highest professional manner, presented the winning team in each division with a complete computer system for their schools. The system included a computer, monitor and disk drives. Numerous positive comments were made on the quality of the problem and the staff.

OM BOARD BRIEFS

At its October board meeting the OM Board of Directors welcomed three new members. They are Dan Nemode, former OM director for Michigan, Dr. Ron Todd, professor, New York University, and Dr. Jim Pallante, Academic Dean, College Misericordia, Pennsylvania. Elected as chairperson was Carole Micklus and as vice-chairperson, Dr. Al Oliver. A proposal committee was established to develop policies for gifts, grants and contracts. An executive committee consisting of Sam Micklus, Ron Todd, Al Oliver and Carole Micklus was established. A proposal to establish a "Friends of OM" or "Advisors to the Board" group was approved. The U.S. Olympic Committee's decision not to allow OM permission to use the word "Olympics" past this academic year was discussed.

SPECIAL PRIMARY PROBLEM

The Program Governance Committee (Directors of OM Chartered Associations) voted at its meeting in Akron to include in the membership packets a special problem for use with grades K-2. This would be a "Primary Problem" and would not be competitive. It would be used to develop creative problem solving skills in younger children and to prepare them for competition in later years. It would be up to each association as to whether these students would be invited to demonstrate their solution at an association sponsored competition. They will not be included in the World Finals. Division I will still have four problems and will be open for competition to grades K-5.

DIVISION I

STRATEGY STRUCTURE

First Place Tie
Chippewa Valley Team B
Mt. Clemens, Michigan
Coach: Gary Kuszpit
Danielle Binford
Swapna Hingwe
Eugene Moon
Matt Czarnowski
Jason Kuszpit
Kyle Kuszpit

STRATEGY STRUCTURE

First Place Tie
Cedar Park/Edgewood
Selma, Alabama
Coach: Louise Wood
Eddie Campbell
Lida Fitts
Jason Hill
Steven Maples
Chris Jenkins
Amy Roth
Jamie Thomas

STRATEGY STRUCTURE

Second Place
Jefferson Elementary School
Corvallis, Oregon
Coach: Roger Emery
Billy Emery
Tanda Ash
Tamar Kushnir
Matt Fisher
Karl Frick
Thies Schrader
Chris Thanos

STRATEGY STRUCTURE

Third Place
Westerville Elementary Wings
Westerville, Ohio
Coach: Jerry A. Gill
Matt Gill
Trent Trusley
Steve Meno
Andrew Studebaker
Ryan McCue
Kirk Erickson

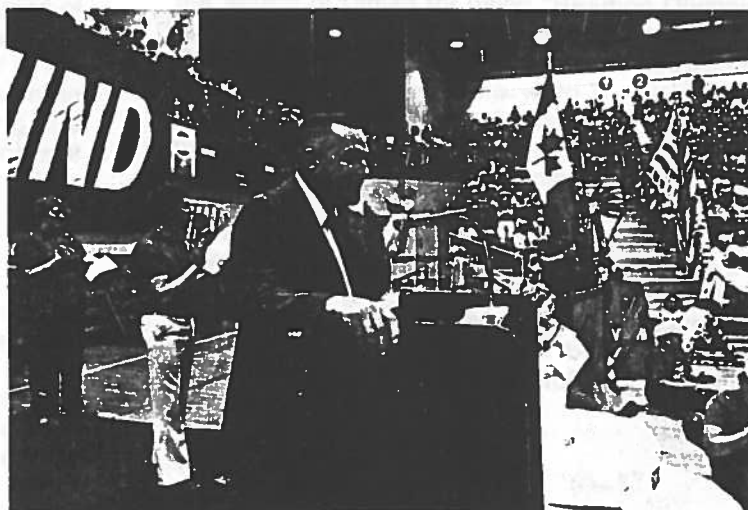
DIVISION II

CHARIOTS OF RESCUE

First Place
Washingtonville Jr. High Scho
Washingtonville, New York
Coach: Lisa R. Wright
Chris Hall
Tom Fulton
Pat Breen
Frank Tschan
Jahn Wolland
Michael Weyant

LAST CHANCE TO OBTAIN OLYMPICS OF THE MIND PRODUCTS

The time is rapidly approaching when the name Olympics of the Mind must be eliminated from our products. If you desire any of these items, ask for a product order form by sending your request to OM Association, P.O. Box 27, Glassboro, NJ 08028.



1985 WORLD FINALS SET FOR UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

The University of Maryland at College Park will be the host for the 1985 OM World Finals competition. The dates are June 5-7, 1985. More information will follow in subsequent newsletters.

NEW OM BOARD MEMBER

At their annual meeting during the World Finals the OM Association Directors elected Dr. Karen Verbeke, Maryland OM Director, to fill a three year term on the OM Board of Directors beginning on August 1, 1984. Leaving the OM Board is Ruth Reynolds, former Delaware Director. Many thanks to Ruth for her help in the formative years of OM and our congratulations to Karen.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If you have not renewed your OM membership for 1984-85 and want to be included in the initial mailing of membership materials in September, we must have your order by August 20. Memberships are processed in the order they are received. After the initial September mailing, allow three to four weeks for processing and delivery. We use the U.S. Postal Service to send out membership materials.

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Karen Verbeke, State Director of Maryland and National OM Board Member, recently made three presentations for OM. These included the National Collegiate Honors Council in Amherst, Massachusetts; the Northern Virginia Council for Gifted and Talented Education in Fairfax, Virginia; and the Baltimore City Schools in Baltimore, Maryland.

Mr. Ronald Dalrymple of the Maryland State OM Association recently made a presentation for OM at the International MENSA Society Meeting in Washington, DC.

Dr. Al Oliver, National OM Board Member and former Pennsylvania OM Director, will make a presentation, "Meeting the OM Challenge," at the National Association for Gifted Children conference in St. Louis, Missouri on November 9, 1984. Dr. Oliver will also be presenting the OM program at the Iowa Talented and Gifted Conference on October 16.

FRIENDS OF OM CREATED

The board of OM has created a new support group called Friends of OM which will provide assistance in encouraging the growth and success of the program. The group will consist initially of William H. Jones, Arthur Lipper III and Paul Torrance, all previous winners of the Lipper Award.

Projects will be assigned to the group by the OM board as problems and opportunities develop. Initially, the group will be exploring opportunities to retain use of the Olympics name and possibilities for industrial sponsorship of scholarships for OM winners.

NAME CHANGE

The U.S. Olympic Committee by virtue of Public Law 95-606 has the exclusive right to use the word "Olympic" and its derivatives. It may grant or withhold permission for its use to whomever it chooses. It brought suit against the March of Dimes for using "Reading Olympics." Our understanding is that it is now about to sue the Para-Olympics (wheelchair group). It has denied permission to OM to continue using the word in our program title, "Olympics of the Mind." It has, however, granted permission to the Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation for use of "Special Olympics." This permission, to the best of our knowledge, is the only one given by the U.S. Olympic Committee for use of the word in a competitive situation.

We will be taking our fight for the name to the media and to congress. However, in the meantime, we must discontinue its use for 1984-85. The program which the OM Association sponsors will be known as the OM program rather than the Olympics of the Mind in the immediate future.

OM BOOKS

Odyssey of the Mind - Problems to Help Develop Creativity by C. Samuel Micklus, Ed.D. (\$12.50) includes both long term and spontaneous problems and has a special section on coaching tips and suggestions. **Problems, Problems, Problems** by Theodore J. Gourley, Ed.D. and C. Samuel Micklus, Ed.D. (\$10.95) is still available. Please add \$1.75 postage and handling for each book ordered. To order send to: OM Association, P. O. Box 27, Glassboro, NJ 08028.
