

2006 Trivia Kickoff

Note: February 25, 2006

Greetings All!

So it's that time of year when I have to start thinking about thinking about doing trivia stuff. As the lengthening days elicit hopeful feelings of anticipation toward the upcoming year, so does the beacon of glory slowly bring trivia into its light. So, no, I don't possess the superb lexical abilities of Raygor "Bones" Raygor, but I'm pretty darn excited to get this trivia newsletter out of the way... oh and trivia too. Yes, I got to pop Raygor's Facebook wall cherry, and it was everything I thought it could be. It almost makes up for the fact that he 'sent it to' his boss (Tanya) on V-day. So down to business.

Why not start with a name? What's in a name? Here are a few of the better suggestions Wayne and I have compiled. Remember there are 21 char after the semicolon to use, for 36 char total.

NS: Celibate Diversity
NS: BYO Sheets
NS: Send it to her
NS: Cheney. Eww.
NS: Not enough Nudes
NS: Rar Tany Rar Rar Rar
NS: Turning Sand 2 Pearls
NS: Making Dark Men Blush
NS: Ansie in our Pansies
NS: Say NO to Oleo
NS: Awol with da Sawzall
NS: Superb.
NS: Facebook Friendly
NS: Reunion at Partners
NS: Ben Ben gf Ben Ben
NS: Go face hunting

It seems that Celibate Diversity had the bigger fan base in the Google group forum. You know, perhaps reply to all was all the forum we ever needed. Anyhow the other ideas were take offs on Cheney and that one about Norwigan Studs for Truth. It seems to me though that to have a name like that we'd all have our clenched fists in the air wearing black gloves. So we'll probably default with celibate diversity, but make your voice known in the google group. That way I'll know what name to put down when I register our team this year. Ha Ha Ha. I'm glad to pass that responsibility to someone else. It would be superb if Steve's dad would do it. Also, I'd like to thank Dan for getting our google group list started. It's definitely a good idea. Plus we get to spam all those people's mailboxes we tricked into signing our guest book, because that's where I

got the email list from. :) Also, if you'd like to join the group, just email dan at dan@algenta.com. He's administrating the email list.

This year we had the ability to run a half or full page 'ad' in the trivia times. It would cost either \$100 or \$200 depending on what we did, and I think it would be an excellent statement to the trivia community; however, the problem seems to be more coming up with a image or 'ad' worth running. We don't want people to think we're idiots (well any more than they already do). If someone would like to consider designing something for next year, that would be superb. Talent Wanted.

There have been a couple ideas in the running for the float this year. You'll hear them discussed in the group. I wouldn't want to say too much about them in this public online document, as rival groups might want to capitalize on our ideas. One idea in particular could be superb if we properly construct it. I could mention though that this ideal float name does have a double meaning, and we are looking at dispensing appropriate candy. My only holdback to this idea is its complexity. I hope we can make something relatively simple, yet still look aesthetically pleasing and have people at least understand what it is supposed to be. I would also like to spend some time doing the outfits this year. That is normally an aspect that gets left by the wayside. I've discussed the possibility with Dan of renting costumes. Kid Reck seemed to do just a great job seeking out clothing ideas last year; his managing that aspect this year would be superb. Also, Wayner has discovered a quite interesting moving billboard that might nicely accompany our float. We'll have to see if that pans out, in any case... more to come on that topic.

Breaking News... We have to thank Meaple for acquiring all the answers from Team Thicko last year. It seems a member of their team suffered a treasonous punishment for handing them over to us. Photographic evidence at www.teamthicko.com/pics/2005index.php (look at the bottom... Recognize the envelope?) Superb.

If there was any doubt, trivia will be here at dads again, unless someone would like to offer up a different place? That's pretty much same old, same old. We'll probably have a little laptop party in StudsNOC again, and remember, the one thing we are always short of is chairs. Food will be about the same, however my aging teeth require I switch to diet soda, so more of that. I know Raygor would think that superb. :) Any food suggestions, just email me adam0068@umn.edu. I'd guess Meaple will have ballz available for consumption. I'd like to shift a little more toward the healthier side, ie. Subway instead of chips. As always, 3am brats for those who are awake. If you were there last year, we postponed the Sunday 3am brats to noon since no one was awake. There'll always be those portesi pizzas to eat though, in case anyone is having problems with their bowels.

If you are considering just stopping by for a couple hours, consider doing it in the middle of the night. Yes, you'll have to disrupt your sleep schedule, but you'll certainly help the team more, plus it's always exciting arrive in the middle of the night to an

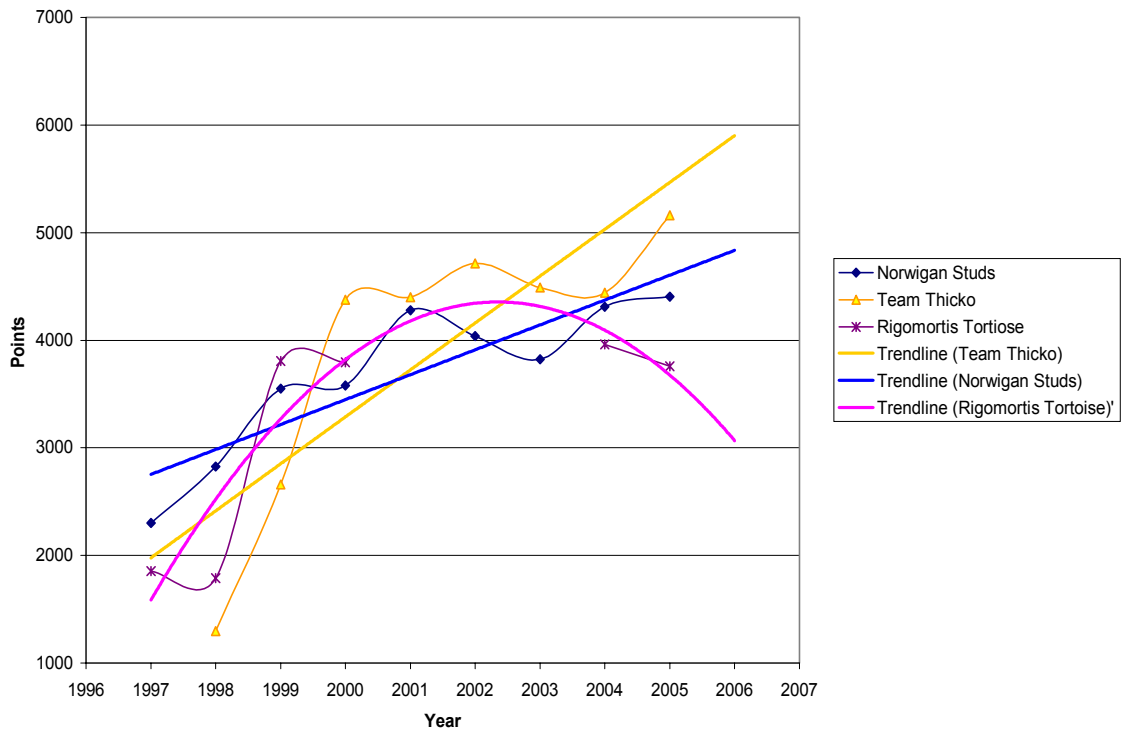
environment that is lively. People do seem to be rather quirky in the overnight, even though it does sometimes feel like the big fade. Remember, Tany's horniest between 1 and 5 am. Which reminds me...

We have new arrivals this year. First, we'll welcome Alec back to the group, as he joined us only in spirit last year. Also, the word is his friend Shaina Dee will be gracing us with her appearance as well. Don't worry Dine... she'll take good care of us! I hope that Raygor will be willing to make the appropriate work schedule adjustments so he can join us. It should be no problem... he'll just ask his boss. We're getting older too... I don't think there are plans for anyone under 18 to be here... just us old souls. Tany'll probably agree to stop by and not, like she has the last 4 years, but even she's 19 now.

So I haven't really discussed money this far. I don't like doing it. I don't think we should charge anything this year, just have people give what they think appropriate. Twenty bucks seems so small compared with what many people donate to the team. I know kid Reck spent a bunch on parade costumes last year, and Tyler and Ryan put just as much towards gas chasing around the trivia stones. There are many other donations that I have kept poor track of, but I know are out there. We'll probably funnel 200 or 300 into the float this year, along with costumes, and food and drink for everyone. I've noticed it does seem tacky for us to nail everyone that just stops by for cash, so I'd like to stop it. If people feel motivated or guilty enough to donate, then that would be superb. Otherwise, I'd like people to just be able to stop by, have fun, enjoy themselves, and a brat or soda. Kinda a quest to be a good host? As always, let me know.

Wayne and I have done some statistical analysis of our point scoring for the past few years in relation to our rival Rigomortis Tortoise and archrival Team Thicko. Exciting news, last year we finished 65th, second best of all time (60th in 2001), but with the highest point total ever of 4405. Given the trend for average decreasing question point values as more people tend to get answers correct with the internet, I'd say we have quite the accomplishment. Here is a graph we produced:

Trivia Teams Points per Year



This shows the last 9 years of team point values for Norwigan Studs (blue), Team Thicko (yellow), and Rigomortis Tortoise (Purple), along with their corresponding trendlines. Predictions for 2006 are 4800 points for us, 5900 points for thicko, and unfortunately only 3000 points for the tortoise. We can also expect about a mid-fifties finish, compared to a thirties finish for thicko. Just to raise our hopes, the tortoise is projected to finish about 160th. I thought this might be exciting news we'd like to hear about.

Well, I think I've probably rambled on for long enough now. In the words of the ever popular Andrew Jackson, "There is no pleasure in having nothing to do; the fun is having lots to do and not doing it." That doesn't relate to anything I've said, but since when have I been coherent? I know my grammar isn't always up to par, but it's a damn poor mind that can't think of at least two ways to spell any word. Take that Raygor. See you in a month, and stay cool, stay cool forever.

Ben