Meet the Graduating Class of...
Purdue Computer Science...

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Purdue CS is proud to host the TopCoder competition with generous help from The Motorola Foundation.
Founder's Message

On behalf of TopCoder, I’d like to welcome you to our very first High School Tournament.

Six years ago, we held our first TopCoder Collegiate Challenge, with just over 200 college students competing. Back then, I couldn’t imagine that we would ever have thousands of competitors from all over the world. I certainly couldn’t imagine that students in secondary schools would have the same level of interest and desire to learn along with peers.

I’m very pleased to report that I was wrong.

Whether they’re here as individual competitors, or as part of a team, the high school students in this competition have demonstrated as much talent and determination as we’ve seen in any tournament, at any level. Their success in such a difficult arena, at such an early age, bodes well for their futures.

Of course, they haven’t done it without help. They wouldn’t be here without the support of their parents and teachers, their mentors and coaches. I thank you all for everything you’ve done to help nurture this new generation of talented individuals, and for joining us at the event.

I’d also like to thank our gracious host, Purdue University. With one of the top computer science programs in the United States, and a wonderful new facility in the Lawson Building, Purdue is truly the ideal partner for an event like this.

Finally, I’d like to thank the TopCoder staff who have planned and orchestrated this event. Without their hard work, none of this would be possible.

I’m looking forward to the final rounds of the 2007 TopCoder High School tournament. Thanks again to everyone for attending, and best of luck to the competitors!

Jack Hughes
Founder, TopCoder, Inc.
AnonnymousT
Tom Morgan

What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer Science**
What college/university would you like to attend? **MIT**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Gaming most likely.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Doing other contests.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize?
**Solving the problems.**

AS1_PML30
Arseny Smirnov

What do you wish to study after high school? **Math, Computer Science**
What college/university would you like to attend? **St Petersburg SU**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Metal (music).**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Writing SRMs and trains.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I don’t know yet.**
**Burunduk2**

Yury Petrov

What do you wish to study after high school? **Mathematics**.
What college/university would you like to attend? **SPb SU**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Music**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **At the university training center**.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **No idea - just win**.

**Burunduk3**

Davydov Oleg

What do you wish to study after high school? **Mathematics or maybe Informatics**.
What college/university would you like to attend? **St. Petesburg SU**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Listening to music or going to concerts (mostly Metal)**.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **As usual: writing SRM’s and contests in my country**.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I didn’t think about it**.
**fhoward**

Fred Howard

What do you wish to study after high school? **Biomedical Engineering.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Cornell.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Basketball.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **I did old SRMs.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Mug the person who wins it and run like hell.**

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**fpavetic**

Filip Pavetic

What do you wish to study after high school? **Mathematics and Informatics.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **FER Zagreb**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Playing the guitar and basketball**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **I have competed in TCHS SRMs and I have practiced for the Croatian national competition.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **My strategy is made of three steps: 1) solve Easy 2) solve Medium 3) solve Hard.**
gurugan1
Prashanth Guru

What do you wish to study after high school? Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science.
What college/university would you like to attend? MIT, University of Waterloo.
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Anime, Reading books, Watching Movies.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Attending SRMs, and other competitions like the USACO.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Practice, relax.

hmao
Haitao Mao

What do you wish to study after high school? Math and/or Computer Science.
What college/university would you like to attend? Harvard, MIT, Princeton, Stanford, Caltech.
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? I have a lot of hobbies and no one favorite.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? The normal way.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Hope the 250 is trivial; everybody screws up on a corner case on a doable 500, and a 1000 which nobody solves.
hupo001

Botao Hu

What do you wish to study after high school? **Algorithm, but I prefer Art and Design.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Tsinghua University**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Assemble toy models, or graphic design.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Learn C++ language more carefully.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Pay for the trip cost, buy a laptop for myself, and donate the remaining money to the school or others.**

jarrah

Jarrah Lacko

What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer Science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **UNSW or MIT**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Public Speaking/Drama**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **I didn’t!**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **None - that goal is impossible for me.**
**Joshik**

Sergey Poromov

What do you wish to study after high school? **Math, programming, computer science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **SPbSU ITMO**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Playing computer games, soccer.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Contests writing and SRMs writing. School training camp for Russian Olympiad.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I don’t know.**

**kevintao**

Kevin Tao

What do you wish to study after high school? **I love science. Physics, chemistry, biology, engineering, computer science… these are all great things! Maybe I’ll study bio-engineering or something.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Duke University.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Either math competitions or track.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **50 push-ups and 75 sit-ups a day.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I will use my muscular brawn to intimidate the competition.**
klopyrev

Konstantin Lopyrev

What do you wish to study after high school? Computer Science
What college/university would you like to attend? University of Waterloo
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? One of my favorite hobbies is R/C Airplanes. I haven’t actually flown one yet, but I will get a chance this summer.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? By reading several algorithm books, going over Computer Science tutorials on the TopCoder website and by solving many questions on the UVA online judge.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? To study, study and study. The more algorithms I know and the more techniques I learn, the better my chances are of winning.

Loner

Dong Zhou

What do you wish to study after high school? Computer science and economics.
What college/university would you like to attend? Purdue University
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Math, basketball and music.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Since I will take part in CTSC (China Team Selecting Contest) and TCHS finals, I will do some exercises to improve my programming skills.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? I will use the money to buy books or other things.
LynValente

Jacob Steinhardt

What do you wish to study after high school? **Mathematics.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **MIT.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Chess.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Other Computer Science contests.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? I will solve the problems quickly and correctly, and perhaps pre-write some useful code.

MB

Marcin Babij

What do you wish to study after high school? **CS, algorithms.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Wroclaw University.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Cycling, basketball.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **I did not prepare.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I don’t know.**
**msg555**

Mark Gordon

What do you wish to study after high school? Computer science. I haven’t chosen any specific aspect though.

What college/university would you like to attend? Undecided.

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Coding, but outside of that I like to play different sports like swimming, tennis, frisbee, roller skating, and bike riding.

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Completing the USACO training gateway. That has helped me get to where I am now. I also practice problems on TopCoder and on various online judges.

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? I am going to solve as many problems correctly as I can as quickly as I can and hope that I beat everyone else.

**neal_wu**

Neal Wu

What do you wish to study after high school? I’m not sure yet, but possibly computer science or mathematics.

What college/university would you like to attend? Maybe Harvard or MIT.

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? I also enjoy mathematics and participate in many mathematics competitions.

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I started programming competitions just this year, and what has helped me the most is the USACO (USA Computing Olympiad) training pages. Both USACO and TopCoder has given me experience and helped me to solve problems.

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Try to solve all the problems, and then maybe gain a few points during the challenge phase.
reiten

Daniyil Neyter

What do you wish to study after high school? **Mathematics, computer science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **MIT.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Reading books, listening to music.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I am preparing for both TCHS finals and IOI. So I’m competing in SRMs, learning specific algorithms, and solving challenging problems. I also take part in USACO Olympiads, COCI competitions, Test-The-Best and other online contests.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Thirst for the victory.**

rlp

Rafal Jozefowicz

What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **I didn’t decide yet.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Karate.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I solved over 1000 problems while preparing for this and many other competitions, mostly in www.spoj.pl.rlp
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I’ll try not to stress too much and solve problems as quickly as I can. Maybe it’ll be enough.**
shravas
Shravas Rao
What do you wish to study after high school? Computer Science.
What college/university would you like to attend? Stanford.
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Music.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Previous TCHS and TopCoder Matches, USACO training.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Do all the problems I am able to do, and challenge only when I’m sure of it.

sluga
Ivo Sluganovic
What do you wish to study after high school? Computer Sciences.
What college/university would you like to attend? FER, Zagreb
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Football, inline skating, mathematics...
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I solved many SRMs and many other competitions. It was all part of preparation for the national contest and, hopefully, for the IOI 2007.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? A lot of knowledge and concentration. And of course, speed.
t3hg0suazn  
Jonathan Wang

What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer science and/or physics.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Harvard/Stanford/Princeton/MIT**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Playing tennis.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Doing TopCoder practice rooms.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Doing extensive practice to raise my skill level before the on-site tournament and working well with my teammates to win the team contest.**

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TokarR  
Timur Abishev

What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer Science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Stanford University.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Mathematics.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **I solved many problems.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Solving, Solving, Solving.**
tranquilliser

Jack Murray

What do you wish to study after high school? If I had the time and energy I’d study computer science/pure mathematics and medicine/psychiatry.

What college/university would you like to attend? Melbourne University is the first candidate that comes to mind.

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? I play piano/keyboard (depending on the style of music). I like writing music, improvising and covering other people’s work. I enjoy playing in a band and also in solitude.

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I used orac.amt.edu.au, the USACO training program, and past SRMs.

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? I try not to think about any rewards to reduce pressure. I generally code more efficiently when I’m relaxed.

valich

Valentin Fondaratov

What do you wish to study after high school? Programming and physics.

What college/university would you like to attend? I don’t know.

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Play some command sports especially soccer. Listening to Metal.

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Taking part in TC SRMs.

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? I don’t know. Maybe upgrading my home desktop computer or smth. like that.
viclei
Victor Lei

What do you wish to study after high school? Commerce and Law.
What college/university would you like to attend? Melbourne University
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Graphics/Web design, sports (badminton) and music.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Going through TopCoder articles and past problems in the arena. Reading books such as “Algorithms in C++” by Sedgewick and “Programming Challenges: The programming contest training manual” by Skiena and Revilla. I also used the USACO training website for practice.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Hoping for a miracle.

vlad_D
Dumitriu Vlad

What do you wish to study after high school? Computer Science.
What college/university would you like to attend? MIT, Purdue, or something else. Right now I applied for Cal State East Bay (I intend to transfer after awhile)
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Playing guitar, playing soccer, riding bike, talk and go out with friends, trips...
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? TopCoder arena, books and other sites with problems...
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Prepare as much I can and hope I will do the best.
Jiangwei Yu

What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer Science & Technology.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **TsingHua University**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Chess (ELO rating 2221, Chinese National Master).**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **As a member of the IOI2007 China Training Team, I worked through our homework as well as developed my TC-skills.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I’ll purchase my own laptop computer.**
**cheater_no1**

**Peter Ivanov**

What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer Science + Physics (Optics or Mechanics).**

What college/university would you like to attend? **Depends only on quality and price.**

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Going to the forest, Cycling, Running.**

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Reading TC tutorials and coding in the arena.**

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I’ll save up the money for a good university.**

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**exod40**

**Rumen Hristov**

What do you wish to study after high school? **Math and Computer science.**

What college/university would you like to attend? **MIT.**

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Playing soccer and computer games.**

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **With solving many tasks and reading a lot of books.**

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **To solve all problems quickly and correct.**
mi6091
Mihail Kovachev
What do you wish to study after high school? Informatics.
What college/university would you like to attend? MIT
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Football (sports), having fun, tourism.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? At home and at A&B, Shumen Private school.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Well I am not going for the prize. I am going to see what I can and meet new people.

blindcoder
Vasile Tofan
What do you wish to study after high school? I’d like to continue with computer science, so in my best interest are the study of mathematics and computer languages.
What college/university would you like to attend? Babes Bolyai Universitii, Cluj Napoca
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Reading
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Solving problems from the Topcoder archive.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Code.
**Spiri**

Spiridon Alexandru

What do you wish to study after high school? I would like to continue my studies in informatics.

What college/university would you like to attend? Stanford University.

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? I don’t have just one favorite hobby but I could name some: I like to practice sports (football, swimming and skiing in the Winter) and when I have the time I usually spend it reading.

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I trained with my teammates in the arena practice rooms.

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? We don’t have a certain strategy of winning but we will do our best.

**ghostyo**

Radu Toma

What do you wish to study after high school? Software engineering.

What college/university would you like to attend? MIT.

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Experimenting (with phenomena in physics)

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? By simulating TCHS rounds with my teammates, solving different tasks that were necessary for the National Olympiad.

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Stay calm, focused and do the best I can.
**Anton Feskov**

Anton Feskov

What do you wish to study after high school? **Programming, Maths.**

What college/university would you like to attend? **IFMO**

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Music**

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **I slept a lot.**

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I have not thought about it yet.**

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**Valentin Fondaratov**

Valentin Fondaratov

What do you wish to study after high school? **Programming and physics.**

What college/university would you like to attend? **IFMO**

What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Play some command sports especially soccer. **Listening to Metal.**

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Taking part in TC SRMs**

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I don’t know. Maybe upgrading my home desktop computer or smth. like that.**
**AnonymousT**

Tom Morgan

What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer Science**
What college/university would you like to attend? **MIT**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Gaming most likely.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Doing other contests.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Solving the problems.**

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**Joshik**

Sergey Poromov

What do you wish to study after high school? **Math, programming, computer science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **SPbSU ITMO**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Playing computer games, soccer.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Contests writing and SRMs writing. School training camp for Russian Olympiad.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I don't know.**
LynValente
Jacob Steinhardt
What do you wish to study after high school? Mathematics.
What college/university would you like to attend? MIT.
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Chess.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Other Computer Science contests.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? I will solve the problems quickly and correctly, and perhaps pre-write some useful code.

Current Rating 1879
Rating Percentile 96.55
Number of Ratings 9
Highest Rating 1879
Country USA

Rating History

teams competition

t3hg0suazn
Jonathan Wang
What do you wish to study after high school? Computer science and/or physics.
What college/university would you like to attend? Harvard/Stanford/Princeton/MIT.
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Playing tennis.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Doing TopCoder practice rooms.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Doing extensive practice to raise my skill level before the on-site tournament and working well with my teammates to win the team contest.

Current Rating 1530
Rating Percentile 86.79
Number of Ratings 8
Highest Rating 1566
Country USA

Rating History
psir

Petar Sirkovic

What do you wish to study after high school? Physics, math or pharmacy, combined with a lot of Computer Science.
What college/university would you like to attend? Cambridge University
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Listening music, listening music, and a bit more listening music, in between some computer game.

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I tried to do TC SRMs regularly, read every editorial, learn new things... TC editorials rule... definitely the best way to learn new things when you are still a beginner :)

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? 2*3 good ideas and fast fingers.

sluga

Ivo Sluganovic

What do you wish to study after high school? Computer Sciences.
What college/university would you like to attend? FER, Zagreb
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Football, inline skating, mathematics...

How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I solved many SRMs and many other competitions. It was all part of preparation for the national contest and, hopefully, for the IOI 2007.

What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? A lot of knowledge and concentration. And of course, speed.
Zuza
Goran Zuzic

What do you wish to study after high school? **Something involving computer science, I don’t know for sure yet...**
What college/university would you like to attend? **FER, Zagreb**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Currently gaming & sailing.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **State championships are coming up really fast so I just prepared for them.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I like to keep it simple. Go there and win!**

blazej
Błażej Osiński

What do you wish to study after high school? **Mathematics and Computer Science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Warsaw University or University of Wroclaw.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Traveling, skiing and playing musical instruments.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Participate in TopCoder events, doing some practice rooms, as well as solving problems at different WebPages.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Be fast, accurate and what is most important calm. A good sleep before the final can also be essential.**
jerzy.kozera
Jerzy Kozera

What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Most probably Warsaw University, Wroclaw University, or Poznan University of Technology.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Biking.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I’ve learned basics of algorithms from books. The TopCoder Algorithm Tutorials were helpful too. The crucial part of my preparations was practicing solving mathematical and algorithmic problems, and implementing the solutions.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Solve some problems during the few weeks before the contest to gain confidence, and try to be well rested just before onsite rounds.**

tomekkulczynski
Tomasz Kulczynski

What do you wish to study after high school? **Mathematics, informatics.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Warsaw University**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Sports.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Participated in qualification rounds.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Just to do my best.**
prideofmagus
David Teng

What do you wish to study after high school? **Life Sciences.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **University of Toronto.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Anime.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Regular practice, no special preparation was done.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Hope I don’t drag down my team members too much.**

SourSpinach
Jacob Plachta

What do you wish to study after high school? **Music, maybe Computer Science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Juilliard School of Music.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Playing trombone/piano and composing.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **I’m a member of Programming Enrichment Group, this helped me prepare.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Speed - try to finish the first program as quickly as possible.**
v3ctor
Hanson Wang
What do you wish to study after high school? **Software Engineering.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **Waterloo.**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Video games.**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **Training.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **I don’t think I’m going home with it.**

bkovacic
Bruno Kovačić
What do you wish to study after high school? **Computer science.**
What college/university would you like to attend? **FER Zagreb**
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? **Bicycles, playing keyboards...**
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? **I prepared myself mostly by solving recent matches from TopCoder.**
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? **Let the best win!**
icanadi

Igor Canadi

What do you wish to study after high school? Computer Science.
What college/university would you like to attend? FER Zagreb, Croatia.
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Dancing.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? I went on regular SRMs, and solved some practice rooms. I'm preparing for Croatian algorithm competition too.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? I'm not sure. What is the grand prize? :)

rmedic

Relja Medic

What do you wish to study after high school? Life Sciences.
What college/university would you like to attend? University of Toronto.
What is your favorite hobby outside coding? Anime.
How did you prepare for the TCHS finals? Regular practice, no special preparation was done.
What is your strategy for going home with the grand prize? Hope I don't drag down my team members too much.
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