



Bridge Scene

A publication of Unit 241, ACBL

February 18, 2008

www.omahabridge.org

McMillan Scores

Editor:

Leng Hua

Contributor:

Darlene Rischling



Twelve pairs of Omaha's McMillan Magnet Center middle school students competed in the Winter Holiday Tournament. Among a field of 33 pairs, all with less than 6 months of bridge experience, McMillan students were ranked second, third, fourth, fifth, and seventh place. Five pairs ranked in the top twenty among peers with six months to two years of experience.

With the dedicated time and effort of volunteers, school sponsor Liz Figueroa, and Darlene Rischling who oversaw the school games, McMillan students met once a week for one hour and fifteen minutes to learn and play bridge. Students were bussed in from various locations with the majority living in local attendance. Students learned through lessons and actual play with or without predealt hands. The program excited a grandmother so much that she decided to join as well. Parents were welcome to attend as one mother did to learn about her son's attraction to the game. In fact, if his son did well in all his subjects, he was promised a deck of bridge cards for Christmas. No attendance requirements were set, yet the games never fell short of at least sixteen players wanting to learn about bidding strategies, defense, and all the various bridge contracts.

The McMillan Bridge Program is part of the School Bridge League that sponsored the Winter Holiday Tournament. The Bridge League was originally championed by Bill Gates and Warren Buffet who are both avid players and see the game as a way to learn about decision making and communication. To learn more about the League, visit www.schoolbridgeleague.org.