



The 1st International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics

1st Observation and Practical Examination begins

Students participating in the 1st IOAA 2007 (1st International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics) enjoyed various adventure activities before getting down to the more serious business of their first Observation Examination on Sunday afternoon.

At 1.30 p.m. on 2 December, the enthusiastic IOAA students participated in 10 adventure activities of various kinds at the Learning Centre of King Bhumipol's Philosophy of Economic Sufficiency located in Tambon Mae Sa, Amphur Mae Rim. Afterwards, the students enjoyed some free time for rest and relaxation before starting to review their astronomy knowledge.

The 1st Observation Examination started at 8.00 p.m., fortunately with a very clear sky appropriate for viewing. The participants were divided into 3 groups. Each group had to answer 2 questions with the answers having to be submitted within 20 minutes. This examination was designed to test the students' ability to use a telescope to locate specific stars and to observe objects in the sky. The mark accounted for percent of the total marks for the competition.

On Monday afternoon, the students then had their Practical Examination (Data Analysis) at UNISERV, building in Chiang Mai University. There were 2 examination rooms each room was for 45 students. The examination paper comprised 3 questions which had to be answered within 3 hours.

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<http://ioaa.info/ioaa2007/>