

## THE CREAM OF THE CROP Toughest Tournament in the Nation 2003-04



By Al Fontes

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**F**or the past several years, there have been many speculations to what High School tournament is the toughest in the nation. Two major tournaments, which have battled for the supremacy, as the Elite tournament of

the land are separated by thousands of miles. The Beast of the East located in Newark, Delaware, and Reno Tournament of Champions held near the neon lights and casinos of downtown Reno, Nevada, are among the toughest in the land. More

recently, the Ironman Invitational in Ohio has emerged back on the scene since the early nineties as one of the toughest one-day events in the country. Of the three elite level events, the Ironman only fields twenty-four teams, compared to the Beast and