This past Sunday, April 28th, The College of Wooster’s Wilson Bookstore, sponsored their first Annual Settlers of Catan Tournament. This tournament was an all-day event, open to all students of Wooster, including faculty, and staff, as well as members from the Wooster community. The event was held in the lounge on the first floor of the Lowry Center.

The tournament consisted of three qualifying rounds, with the top eight players entering into the semi-finals. The top four from the semi-finals played for the championship.

Settlers of Catan is a board game, designed by Klaus Teuber, where, “you control a group of settlers trying to tame the wilds on the remote but rich isle of Catan” (taken from the back of the game box). This game is an international game that has won “Game of the Year” in both Germany and the United States.

The tournament was the idea of Junior student Brian Porrett, who claimed that Settlers of Catan was a very popular game on campus. He and Bookstore Manager Mike Hicks collaborated on and organized the event. The turnout was well received, given the weather, and the eighteen contestants played through the three qualifying rounds of trading and negotiating to offer eight semi-finalists.

After 90-minutes of gameplay, the top four players, with the highest scores, advanced to the finals.
The four players playing for the Championship were Cameron Matesich, Tadd Pinkston, Henry Knecht, and Matthew Kirchner. There was a short break while the configuration of the map was changed and then the finals began. If there was any tension at the table, it was not noticed. These four experienced men played with the ease and confidence of taking a final exam.

The final match lasted about 78 minutes. The First Annual Settlers of Catan Tournament could now be entered into the history books.

The following is the order of finish:

1st Place -- Henry Knecht

2nd Place – Cameron Matesich
Honorable Mentions – Tadd Pinkston and Matthew Kirchner

And in the end, this is what it is all about: