

Cal Poly Department of Mathematics

Puzzle of the Week

May 1 - 7, 2009

Seven sprinters line up for the 100 meter dash. Assuming ties are permitted in how many distinct ways can all seven runners cross the finish line? For example: Runners A through G might finish

B first, G second, ACF three-way tie for third, and DE tied for last.

Solutions should be submitted to Morgan Sherman:

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before next Friday. Those with correct and complete solutions will have their names listed in next week's email announcement. Anybody is welcome to make a submission.