## CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2008 PROJECT SUMMARY

## Name(s)

Henry R. Solomon

## Project Number <br> J1319

## Project Title

## Is Bingo Random?

## Objectives/Goals

Abstract
My experiment was designed to test whether winning at Bingo is random.

## Methods/Materials

Materials used:

1. 4 different Bingo cards
2. A Bingo Set: a Bingo calling cage, a bingo ball counter, and 75 bingo balls
3. 50 Bingo recording sheets
*Note: All of the Bingo balls were counted to make sure that there where 75 of them.
Experimental Method:
4. Turn the lever on the calling cage one time to dispense ball.
5. Record the following:
a. The number on the ball
b. The column the ball came from
c. The order in which the balls were called.
6. When the game finishes, record the following:
a. How long the game took
b. The amount of calls until a Bingo showed up on a card
c. The five number Bingo sequence
d. Whether the sequence used the FREE space
e. The winning number
f. Whether the Bingo sequence was vertical horizontal, or diagonal
g . The card that had the Bingo.
7. Repeat this process 50 times

## Results

In the winning card test, Card \#2 won $40 \%$ of the time versus the $25 \%$ probability. Similarly, $36 \%$ of the winning numbers were in the O column, versus the $20 \%$ probability. These two tests indicated that winning at Bingo is not random. However, in the FREE space test, $62 \%$ of the winning sequences did

## Summary Statement

My project tested whether winning at Bingo is random.

## Help Received

My family and friends played Bingo with me but I recorded all the data. My dad helped me with the equations to identify the expected probabilities for winning using the free space and winning horizontally, vertically, and diagonally.

