

# FALL 2006 UAB MATH TALENT SEARCH REPORT

The fifth annual UAB MTS (Math Talent Search) Contest took place on campus on Saturday, October 28, 2006.

Students began arriving at the Campbell Hall at 8:00 a.m. There were 171 students, grades 10 and 11, from 13 high schools participating. With coaches and chaperones, we had a crowd of almost 200 people. Students and guests were treated to donuts and cold drinks as they waited for the contest to begin.

At 9:00 a.m. students began the two hour test which was held in Business and Engineering Complex, and their teachers and chaperones enjoyed the hospitality room.

At 11:00, when the test was over, students and teachers were treated to pizza and cold drinks. The UAB math faculty and students began the challenging task of grading and judging the answers of the 171 students. The graders did an excellent job of determining winners. By 1:15pm the outcome of the contest was decided.

During the grading of the tests, students gathered in the Hill University Center Alumni Auditorium, for two exciting talks given by Arielle Sullivan and Kelli Perry. The Power-point presentation by Pratik Talati gave our guests a good overview of students' life at our Department. A few questions were asked and answered.

The Awards Ceremony began at 1:45 with prizes presented by Dr Blokh as Dr Mayer read the list of winners. Schools who won the contest received trophies while the student winners received certificates and books about mathematics.

The following individual prizes for top scores were awarded:

10th grade Individual Winners

1st place: Alex Crichton (Vestavia)

2nd place: James Morris (Spain Park)

3rd place: Alex Ovalle (Vestavia)

School Winners in the 10th grade

1st place - Vestavia

2nd place - JCIB

3rd place - Spain Park

11th grade Individual Winners

1st place: Daniel Hollinghead (Altamont), Chris Parks (Altamont)

2nd place: Liangsha Xu (Vestavia) (Vestavia)

School Winners in the 11th grade

1st place - Vestavia

2nd place - Hoover High

3rd place - Altamont

Schools trophies were awarded based on the composite score of all the participants.

All in all, it was a full day of activities for student visitors and the UAB Math Department.

Our thanks to the sponsors of this event: Dean Wenger (who supported our efforts in all respects from the very beginning) and our chairman Dr Weikard (who encouraged us and helped us all along in our efforts to run the contest).

Our thanks also to all the students, members of our Department, and members of their families, who helped this year's MTS Contest succeed.

Until UAB MTS 2007,

Best wishes,

Nirali Patel, Coordinator

Alexander Blokh, Outreach Director