

# FALL 2005 UAB MATH TALENT SEARCH REPORT

The fourth annual UAB MTS (Math Talent Search) Contest took place on campus on Saturday, November 12, 2005.

Students began arriving at the Campbell Hall at 8:30 a.m. There were 191 students, grades 10 and 11, from 18 high schools participating. With coaches and chaperones, we had a crowd of more than 200 people.

At 9:00 a.m. students began the two hour test which was held in both Campbell Hall and 15th Street Classroom Building, and their teachers and chaperones enjoyed the hospitality room.

At 11:00, when the test was over, students and teachers were treated to pizza, donuts and juice. The UAB math faculty and students began the challenging task of grading and judging the answers of the 191 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 a motivating movie "The proof", devoted to the story of Fermat's Last Theorem and its recent proof. The movie lasted for about an hour and gave the students an opportunity to see and hear first hand how great results in mathematics are obtained. We hope that the movie was enjoyed by all the viewers.

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: Ben Bourgeois (Vestavia)

2nd place: Steve Kim (Grissom), Wei Yan (Vestavia)

3rd place: Chang Sub Kim (Indian Springs)

School Winners in the 10th grade

1st place - Vestavia

2nd place - Grissom

3rd place - Hoover

11th grade Individual Winners

1st place: Ryan Muller (Vestavia); Evan Zhao (Vestavia)

2nd place: Zhenya Kaliberova (Vestavia); Seva Tchernov (Vestavia)

School Winners in the 11th grade

1st place - Vestavia

2nd place - JCIB

3rd place - Spain Park

Schools trophies were awarded based on the composite score of 3 highest individuals.

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 2006,

Best wishes,

Carolyn Wailes, Coordinator

Alexander Blokh, Outreach Director