

FALL 2009 UAB MATH TALENT SEARCH REPORT

The seventh annual UAB MTS (Math Talent Search) Contest took place on campus on Saturday, November 21, 2009.

Students began arriving at the Campbell Hall at 8:00 a.m. There were 153 students, grades 10 and 11, from 12 high schools participating. With coaches and chaperones, we had a crowd of 190 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, cookies, other snacks, and cold drinks. The UAB math faculty and students began the challenging task of grading and judging the answers of the 153 students. The graders did an excellent job of determining winners. By 12:45pm the outcome of the contest was decided.

The Awards Ceremony began at 1pm with prizes presented by Dr Blokh as Dr Weikard read the list of winners. Schools who won the contest received trophies while the student winners received certificates and books about mathematics. The competition was rather tight, in particular we had a few ties.

The following individual prizes for top scores were awarded:

10th grade Individual Winners

1st place: Soojin Kim (Vestavia Hills)

2nd place: Megan Huntsinger (Vestavia Hills)

3rd place: Tyler Pennington (Spain Park)

4th place: Xizi Xu (JCIB), Andrew Tang (ASFA)

School Winners in the 10th grade

1st place - Vestavia Hills

2nd place - Spain Park

3rd place - ASFA

11th grade Individual Winners

1st place: Xinke Guo-Xue (Hoover)

2nd place: Leighton Wilson (JCIB)

3rd place: Kyle Julian (Vestavia Hills); Eugene Wu (Hoover)

4th place: Mengui Shi (Vestavia Hills)

School Winners in the 11th grade

1st place - Hoover

2nd place - Vestavia Hills

3rd place - JCIB

Schools trophies were awarded based on the composite score of the three top scorers.

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 2010,

Best wishes,

Alexander Blokh, Outreach Director