

Math Team Concludes Highly Successful Season

Trumbull High School's Mathematics Team earned the highest score among all Connecticut schools competing in the American Mathematics Competition's 2006 AMC12 (B) competition.

The AMC 12 is a 25 question, 75 minute multiple choice examination in secondary school mathematics containing problems which can be understood and solved with pre-calculus concepts. Calculators are allowed.

Because the AMC 12 covers such a broad spectrum of knowledge and ability, there is a wide range of scores. The National Honor Roll cutoff score, 100 out of 150 possible points, is typically attained by 5% of all participants.

There are two tests offered, equal in content, format and level of difficulty, because not all schools nationwide are in session on each of the winter days offered. This year the competition was offered on March 7 and March 21. Trumbull High competed on March 21 (B exam) because more time was needed between the Fairfield County Math League competition on March 1 and the AMC exam.

Among the 46 Connecticut schools competing in the AMC12 B exam, Trumbull led all with a score of 364.5.

A team score is the sum of the top three student scores. At Trumbull, Scott Rogoff led all participants with a score of 132.5. His score was the highest score among all 1,508 students competing in Connecticut. Dmitry Kalinin, a junior, followed with a score of 120.5, 13th highest among all competitors, and Bragadeesh Selvarajan scored 111.5, tied for 53rd best.

Also competing for Trumbull and earning a Certificate of Distinction were senior Michael Dunn, 105.5 points, and Stephanie Greene, a freshman, with a score of 104.5. Miss Greene's performance was especially noteworthy when compared with the average score of 90.5 for all ninth graders competing.

In other competition this year the Trumbull Math Team, under the guidance of advisor Jay Rosco, ranked fifth among 18 schools competing in the Fairfield County Mathematics League. Also, individual honors went to Mr. Kalinin and Mr. Rogoff for their outstanding performances in the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME).

All students who took the AMC 12 and achieved a score of 100 or more out of a possible 150 are invited to take the AIME. The AIME is intended to provide further challenge and recognition, beyond that provided by the AMC 12, to the many high school students in North America who have exceptional mathematical ability.

The AIME is a 15 question, 3 hour examination in which each answer is an integer number from 0 to 999. The questions on the AIME are much more difficult and students are very unlikely to obtain the correct answer by guessing. As with the AMC 12, all problems on the AIME can be solved by pre-calculus methods. The use of calculators is not allowed.

Dmitry Kalinin scored 7 and Scott Rogoff 4 on the AIME.

Finally, Trumbull's outstanding Mathematics trio of Rogoff-Kalinin-Selvarajan have been invited to compete with Team Connecticut in the 31st Annual American Regional Mathematics League competition at Penn State University in University Park, PA, during the weekend of June 2.

The ARML competition brings together the nation's finest students. They meet, compete against, and socialize with one another, forming friendships and sharpening their mathematical skills. Since its inception in 1976, ARML has snowballed, burgeoned, and mushroomed into a national program, involving almost 2,000 students and teachers from almost every state.

Simply put, ARML is the World Series of mathematics competitions. The contest is written for high school students, although some exceptional junior high students attend each year. The competition consists of several events, which include a team round, a power question (in which a team solves proof-oriented questions), an individual round, two relay rounds (in which a contestant solves a problem and passes his/her answer to another team member, who uses this answer to solve another problem), and a super relay.

Mr. Rogoff will be attending Cornell University in the Fall. Mr. Selvarajan will be at Purdue and Mr. Dunn will be at Harvard. Mr. Kalinin will be at Trumbull High for his senior year and Miss Greene at Trumbull for her sophomore year.