

For Immediate Release

MATH CONTEST HONORS TRISTATE-AREA STUDENTS FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CUMBERLAND, Md. – The Tri-State Mathematics Scholarship Contest, presented by Allegany College of Maryland, honored top area high school students recently at its 31st annual awards ceremony.

The competition encourages high school juniors to test their math knowledge and earn ACM scholarships provided by the LaVale Lions. This year's event drew 102 contestants from nine high schools in three states.

The contest's top-10 individual finishers, as determined by scores in a written test, were honored at a Cumberland-campus ceremony attended by parents and other family members as well as teachers and school administrators.

In addition, a team award was presented to the school with the highest point total of its top-three individual scorers. Also recognized were the three teams finishing in second through fourth places.

Jie Zheng of Allegany High School posted the highest score while the second-place award went to Casey Johnson of Bedford (Pa.) Area High School. Wenxin Li of Bishop Walsh High School rounded out the top three finishers.

Michael Falter and Linhan Li, both of Bishop Walsh, took fourth and fifth places, respectively. Frankfort High School's Lily Cessna won sixth.

Three students tied for seventh place: Jiayu Jin and Eden Li, both of Bishop Walsh, and Andrew Beck of Allegany High. Rounding out the top 10 was Allegany's Evan Hostetler.

With Bishop Walsh students finishing third, fourth and fifth, respectively, their school won the team competition. Allegany High won second-place team honors. Bedford and Frankfort, with aggregate scores one point apart, took third and fourth places, respectively.

Contest results are based on individual student performance in a 50-minute algebra/problem-solving test developed and scored by faculty members in ACM's Mathematics Division.

ACM scholarships of \$1,000, \$500 and \$250 were awarded to the first-, second- and third-place finishers, respectively, for their achievements. Each of the seven other students recognized at the ceremony was awarded a \$100 scholarship.

The LaVale Lions Club's longtime support of the math contest reflects its commitment of service to the community. The scholarships, made possible by the club's various fund-raising efforts, are administered by the ACM Foundation.

The recipients may use their ACM scholarship monies for Early College studies while in high school or as regularly enrolled ACM freshmen.

Speakers at the ceremony congratulated the students for their achievement and urged them to pursue mathematics or math-related majors.

Also praised at the ceremony were math teachers, who were commended for the quality of their instruction, and parents, who were praised for their support and encouragement.

Dr. Mark Shore, ACM professor and Mathematics Division chair, and Dr. Stacey Boggs, ACM professor of mathematics, spoke at the ceremony, as did Dr. Cynthia Bambara, ACM president; and David Jones, ACM vice president of advancement and community relations and executive director of the ACM Foundation.

The students and others were hosted to refreshments at a reception that followed the awards ceremony.

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TOP-FINISHERS==Allegany College of Maryland honored top finishers in its 31st annual Tri-State Mathematics Scholarship Contest. The students, juniors at area high schools, were recognized at a Cumberland-campus ceremony and awarded ACM scholarships sponsored by the LaVale Lions Club. In the front row, from left to right, are: Jie Zheng of Allegany High School, first place; Casey Johnson of Bedford (Pa.) Area High School, second place; and Bishop Walsh High School's Wenxin Li, Michael Falter and Linhan Li, who won third, fourth and fifth places, respectively. In the back row, also from left, are Lily Cessna of Frankfort High School, sixth place; Jiayu Jin and Eden Li, both of Bishop Walsh, and Andrew Beck of Allegany High, who tied for seventh place; and Allegany's Evan Hostetler, who was 10th.



TOP TEAM==Bishop Walsh High School won top honors in team competition by posting the highest point total from the combined score of its top-three finishing students. Pictured in the front row, from left to right, are students Zhiqi Lyu, Jiayu Jin and Wenxin Li. Behind them, also from left, are classmates Eden Li, Linhan Li and Michael Falter. Also pictured are BW math teachers Carl Watson, left, and Charles Falter. The scores of Wenxin Li, Michael Falter and Linhan Li, who won places 3-5 in the contest, combined to bring Bishop Walsh the overall team award.