

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- We won ARML (again)!
- Good luck to everyone at our national elementary championship on June 11th!
- High school and college students: want to earn some extra cash this summer? Send an email to operations@mathleague.org for more information about writing test questions.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Nationals for High School | 1 |
| INTER ² SECT | 1 |
| Why WWW? | 2 |
| ARML Win! | 2 |
| Kudos | 2 |
| Picture Page | 3 |
| About Us | 4 |
| Staff | 4 |
| Spotlight | |

National High School Contest Report

On May 13th, Tim presided over our 17th annual national high school championship in Kansas City, MO.

We were delighted at the turnout this year. We were happy to welcome a team from Oklahoma; this is the first year that state has participated. Also represented were Arizona, California, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Attendance at this event has been growing steadily for the last several years, and we're happy we delivered another successful contest.

Students qualified to participate in this contest by their scores at their state championships. We issued invitations to the top 10 students in each grade and the

top 5 teams overall per state.

As we expand, we hope to invite students from even more states to attend each year.

The students and coaches of the Iowa City West team celebrate their 1st place finish at our national high school championship.



(INTER)²SECT Report

Last year, we launched (INTER)²SECT, an inter-regional, intermediate (middle school) competition. ("Think nationally but test regionally.") This year, we held contests in Saratoga, CA; Alpharetta, GA; Houston, TX; Lyme, NH; Evanston, IL; Sparks, NV; and Ballwin, MO.

Students gathered at those sites and took test 11616, after which they compared their scores to other students and teams across the country.

While it's always possible to

compare results across sites, this event was special for two reasons. First, 11616 was much more challenging than tests we produced during the regular season, which made it excellent practice for other state or national middle school contests. Second, we're recognizing the top 3 sweepstakes teams nationwide and sending them trophies.

Congratulations to the (repeating!) 1st place team from Redwood Middle School in California, consisting of Brandon Wang, Alex Wang, Nevin Liang,

and Preston Fu. The 2nd place team was Ladue Middle School from Missouri, and the 3rd place team was from the Nueva School in California. Additionally, Brandon Wang repeated with the highest individual score in the nation.

Next year, (INTER)²SECT will be by invitation only, similar to how we do our national elementary and high school contests, based on qualifying scores at our contests in the regular season. Now that it's established, it's time to raise the bar.

“Organizing quality math contests at all levels is worthwhile service for its own sake. It has the happy secondary effect, though, of creating a great talent pipeline for ARML.”

—Tim Sanders

Why Wild Wild West?

The American Regions Mathematics League (ARML) rules call for teams to be formed based on geography. Some areas field teams as a state (like Texas), while others field teams as a city (like Chicago).

At mathleague.org, we sponsor the “Wild Wild West” team, which encompasses Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming,

Arizona, and parts of New Mexico and Nevada.

There are talented students in these areas who love math but who are so spread out that they lack a strong math community. We want these students to participate in ARML and meet mathy peers. We help remote kids connect with each other. Some carpool, bonding on the roadtrip.

At a recent online practice, we were proud of the determination we saw as students tackled super hard problems: even when Tim lost his connection, they kept working without adult guidance.

Hopefully someday each state will have its own ARML team. In the meantime, though, we’re proud to sponsor these “Wild Wild West” students.

We won ARML — again!

The SFBA/Norcal (San Francisco Bay Area and Northern California) A1 team won ARML for the third time in four years, earning the highest score across all sites in the coun-

try. Congratulations to all the teams we sponsor: SFBA/Norcal A1, A2, A3, A4, and Wild Wild West A1, which competed in division A for the first time after winning division B in

2015.

We’re delighted to help bring this great opportunity to these students. Many say it’s the highlight of their high school experience.

Kudos

Congratulations to the middle school students who earned perfect Target scores at our INTER²SECT contests in March. They include:

Brandon Wang and **Nevin Liang** from Redwood Middle School in Saratoga, CA; **Aditya Mehta**, from Thomas Hart Middle School in Pleasanton, CA; **Vittal Thiramulai** from Valley Christian School in San Jose, CA; and **Wentinn**

Liao from Monte Vista Middle School in Tracy, CA.

Congratulations also to **William Chen** from Chadbourne Elementary School in Fremont, CA, who got a perfect Target score on our elementary state championship test, 11625.

Finally, a shout-out to the elementary students at Argonaut Elementary on March 6th, who listened

politely to the proctors despite a huge crowd and no microphone. Thank you all for helping the contest run efficiently. Great job!

Email praise, pictures, and parental permission to publish accomplishments to Gail Berry, reepicheep@mathleague.org. Please remember to include the student’s name, grade, state, and school — and placement, if desired.

Picture Page



Above: Top left: the 3rd grade winners at the Nevada elementary championship. **Bottom left:** the 3rd grade winners at the Texas elementary championship, including Tejini Murthy and Arushi Sadam, both of Austin Area Homeschoolers. **Top center:** the 1st place division 5 team from Creighton's Corner Elementary at the Virginia elementary championship. **Bottom center:** 6th grader Sagar Achladi from Norwood Creek Elementary with a trophy from the California elementary championship. **Top right:** Sam Garvin and Krishan Ghosh (along with absent team members Maverick Hill and Andy Su), all from Scholars Central School, celebrate their 2nd place team finish at the Missouri elementary championship. **Bottom right:** the semi-stealthy "Ninja Spy Bear Gang" stowed away to attend contest. They loved 11625 Team #3. ("We're famous!") Sadly, they didn't get the correct answer. **Below:** Students and parents at the Texas elementary championship, hosted by Fort Settlement Middle School.





**Improving math education
worldwide through
disruptive innovation.**

About mathleague.org:

We are dedicated to helping students from grades 3 through 12 learn math through hands-on problem solving at contests. We also sell old tests for practice and offer online tutoring and classes.

Our questions (fresh every month) go well beyond traditional curricula and are excellent practice for MATHCOUNTS, ARML, AMC, SAT, and other math tests. Because we believe in making each contest a learning experience, we return student answer sheets—plus solutions—so that students can learn from their mistakes.

Our online grading system is fast, fair, efficient, and robust; people are amazed at how quickly we can start an awards ceremony after the last test ends.

Tests tier so that students of all ability levels can find appropriate problems to work on, though we're particularly proud of how well we serve very gifted students.

For more information, please visit:

mathleague.org
why.mathleague.org

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Staff Spotlight:



Jeff Soesbe has been involved in math contests for more than 30 years. He runs the non-profit SACMATH program in Sacramento, CA, which offers contests to students in elementary, middle school, and high school, using licensed mathleague.org tests. He also coaches a middle school math team in his neighborhood.

As a high school student in San Antonio, he participated in many math contests including being a member of the Texas ARML in the early 1980s. In 1983, he placed 3rd individually at ARML while his team placed 4th.

Jeff has also been involved for many years as an assistant coach of the extraordinarily successful mathleague.org-sponsored San Francisco Bay Area/Northern California ARML teams. Although he's sad he can't attend ARML this year, he has still been involved in staff planning and preparing students for the contest. He has also written tests for mathleague.

A Stanford alum, he now works as a software engineer for a subsea robotics company. He also likes reading and writing science fiction, doing logic and crossword puzzles, fitness, and playing Australian Rules Football.

Visit Jeff's sacmath website: <http://www.sacmath.com/> to check out his program.