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## And the Winner is... High Schoolers Receive Awards at Illinois Wesleyan Math Contest

Bob Aaron  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

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March 17, 1997

Contact: Bob Aaron, 309/556-3181

And the Winner is . . .

## High Schoolers Receive Awards at Illinois Wesleyan Math Contest

**Editor's Note:** Please check this story for individual student and high school award winners in your area.

Locals  
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BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--One hundred fifty students from nine central Illinois high schools competed this month for trophies and certificates at Illinois Wesleyan University's third annual Math Contest.

Winners represented Bloomington High School, Normal Community High School, Normal Community West High School, Central Catholic High School (Bloomington), Metamora High School, Canton High School, Sacred Heart-Griffin High School (Springfield), Lexington Community Unit #7, and Urbana High School.

Students took one of two 30-question multiple choice tests. Ninth and tenth graders competed by taking an exam geared toward pre-algebra and algebra. Eleventh and twelfth grade students tested their math skills in pre-calculus and geometry.

Plaques were awarded to high schools posting the top three scores in each division. The winners are:

- **In the ninth grade:** Urbana, first place, 54 points; Central Catholic, second place, 41 points; and Sacred Heart-Griffin, 38 points.
- **In the tenth grade:** Sacred Heart-Griffin, first place, 47 points; Urbana, second place, 47 points (lost on a tie breaker); and Normal Community West, 46 points.
- **In the eleventh grade:** Bloomington, first place, 48 points; Urbana, second place, 47 points; and Normal Community West, third place, 44 points.
- **In the twelfth grade:** Normal Community, first place, 60 points; Lexington, second place, 47 points; and Metamora, third place, 46 points.

The winners in the next eight categories received certificates. The winners are:

- **Students who scored in the top 20 percent in the ninth grade division are:** Jeremy Etzhorn, Sacred Heart-Griffin; Aaron Becker, Sacred Heart-Griffin; John Herman, Central Catholic; and Paul Force, Metamora.

(more)

## **IWU Math Contest Winners/2**

- **Students who scored in the top 10 percent in the ninth grade division are:** Mark Meadows, Central Catholic; Jakub Nedbal, Urbana; Charles Chung, Urbana; and Yun-ang Choi, Urbana.

- **Students who scored in the top 20 percent in the tenth grade division are:** Shawn Lord, Sacred Heart-Griffin; Matt Dalsante, Sacred Heart-Griffin; Chris Nichols, Normal Community West; Will Kinsella, Normal Community; and Robert Kliethermes, Lexington.

- **Students who scored in the top 10 percent in the tenth grade division are:** Tyrus Dejarnette, Urbana; Annamarie Lim, Sacred Heart-Griffin; Emily Wang, Normal Community West; Carl Buoy, Sacred Heart-Griffin; Julie Lally, Central Catholic; Joe Adams, Central Catholic; and Jee-Hyun Kim, Urbana.

- **Students who scored in the top 20 percent in the eleventh grade division are:** David Gu, Urbana; Jared Boltorff, Bloomington; Billy Oatman, Canton; and Jennifer Belletete, Bloomington.

- **Students who scored in the top 10 percent in the eleventh grade division are:** Katie Snyder, Normal Community; John Cherry, Normal Community West; Shi Chao Zhang, Urbana; and Helen Dick, Bloomington.

- **Students who scored in the top 20 percent in the twelfth grade division are:** Tony Carapella, Bloomington; David Crutcher, Urbana; Tony Mong Kolsmai, Normal Community; and Darin Gravlin, Metamora.

- **Students who scored in the top 10 percent in the twelfth grade division are:** Brad Rawlins, Normal Community; Sam Morrison, Lexington; and I-hsiang Shu, Normal Community.

Trophies were awarded winners in the next four divisions. The winners are:

- **The three highest scores achieved by ninth graders are by:** Charles Chung, Urbana, first place; Jakub Nedbal, Urbana, second place; and Yun-ang Choi, Urbana, third place.

- **The three highest scores achieved by tenth graders are by:** Jee-Hyun Kim, Urbana, first place; Emily Wang, Normal Community West, second place; and Julie Lally, Central Catholic, third place.

- **The three highest scores achieved by eleventh graders are by:** Katie Snyder, Normal Community, first place; John Cherry, Normal Community West, second place; and Shi Chao Zhang, Urbana, third place.

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### IWU Math Contest Winners/3

• **The three highest scores achieved by twelfth graders are by:** Brad Rawlins, Normal Community, first place; Sam Morrison, Lexington, second place; and I-hsiang Shu, Normal Community, third place.

IWU President Minor Myers, jr., awarded trophies, plaques, and certificates to Math Contest winners.

Commenting on the benefits of the Math Contest, Avani Khandhar, a mathematics major and secondary education minor from Elmhurst, Ill., said: "Its a good opportunity for high school students to do math. The more math you do, the better you get at it.

"Math is important," Khandhar explained, "since it provides students a way to learn how to solve problems and that's applicable to anything they will do in life. It also helps them to learn logically and systematically."

Jamie Mills, a mathematics and physics double major from Park Ridge, Ill., said: "The annual math contest helps to expose high school students to a college campus and show them a little about how a college math department operates. It also shows them what college-level math is like. "The Math Contest," Mills added, "helps students and teachers make comparisons to other schools."

Khandhar and Mills, both juniors, serve as co-president of IWU's Mathematics Society, a student group established in 1992, which organizes, runs, and sponsors the Math Contest each year.

About 20-30 members of the IWU Mathematics Society participated in the contest. Their roles include writing the test questions, serving as test proctors and graders, administering the Math Contest program, and working as campus guides. The Math Contest took place on March 8.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 1,900 students in a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. A \$15 million athletics and recreation center opened in the fall of 1994; and a \$25 million science building opened in the fall of 1995. The \$4.6 million Center for Liberal Arts--a facility housing 60 faculty offices, six classrooms, and other facilities for social science, humanities, business and economics, and interdisciplinary studies' faculty--is slated to open next August, as well as a new \$6.8 million residence hall. The Carnegie Commission for the Advancement of Teaching promoted Illinois Wesleyan to a "Baccalaureate I" institution in 1994, a classification that places it among 161 highly selective National Liberal Arts Colleges in the annual *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges*, another respected college guide, rated IWU "highly competitive (+)" in its latest edition. --30--