

# MATHCOUNTS

NORTHEASTERN CHAPTER OF THE NEBRASKA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

## NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

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## LOCAL STUDENTS “MATHLETES” COMPETE IN CHAPTER MATH CONTEST

(Columbus, NE) - Teams of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student “mathletes” from northeastern Nebraska schools competed in the Northeastern Chapter contest of the national MATHCOUNTS program on February 5, 2011 at Central Community College - Platte Campus. The contest was organized by the Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers (NeSPE) - Northeastern Chapter to recognize achievement in mathematics skills among junior high and middle school students.

Teachers and students had been preparing for the chapter competition since registration packets were mailed out last September. The approximately 97 students from 14 schools attending the chapter competition were tested on such topics as probability, statistics, linear algebra, and polynomials. The program consisted of individual, team, and fast-paced written tests.

The top two schools from the written competition that will be representing our chapter at the state competition in Lincoln, NE on March 19, 2011 are:

- (1) Columbus Middle School - Team Members; Ryan Ernst, Cole Beiermann, Laura Lecuyer, Tim Hazlett, coached by Lindsay Bakko.
- (2) North Bend Central Public Schools – Team Members; Nick Rasmussen, Katy Muller, Jack Post, Dylan Emanuel, coached by Terri Jelinek.

In addition the top four individuals not on the above teams also representing our chapter at the state competition will be:

- (1) Brian Crabtree, Saint Johns Lutheran School
- (2) Alex Borchers, South Sioux City Middle School
- (3) Jessica Swantek, Twin River School
- (4) Alex Hollmann, Verdigre Public School

MATHCOUNTS is a combination math coaching and competition program designed to answer the problem of declining math skills among U.S. students.

The Northeastern Chapter of NeSPE would like to especially thank Hy-Vee, Pizza Hut, Dusters, Little Ceasars, Subway, Dairy Queen, Nebraska Public Power District, Central Community College, Boulevard Lanes, Valentinos, and the Northeastern Nebraska Chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers for their continued contributions to the MATHCOUNTS program.