



Competition draws mathletes

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The Ohlone College Student Math League met March 2 at 4:44 p.m. Why 4:44?

"It's easier to remember," said Vice President Jun Fang. Every year, Ohlone hosts a national examination competition. The exam is given with the help of the Math League and Mathematics Instructor Geoffrey Hirsch, the adviser.

The Student Math League was established in 2005 by students who participated in the competition and sought more participation and excitement over the exam. There are approximately 12 to 15 active

members, but the club grows every year. Many of the members have taken the exam more than once.

Some might wonder why anyone would subject themselves to an unassigned math exam. "There are two reasons why someone would compete," said Fang. "Each student is included in a national rank and of course, the cash prize." The five best scoring students in the competition will form a team and represent Ohlone in a national competition. In previous years, Ohlone ranked ninth in the Western Region as well as 13th in the nation. The Student Math League has also received many Top 10 Awards.

During the meeting, Hirsch and Math League members reviewed the previous year's test to inform

students of what to expect as well as prepare techniques for taking the exam.

The test examines all levels of math up to pre-calculus. For the club's vice president and even Hirsch, the problems were not an easy task. Throughout the meeting, everyone present struggled through the previous year's problems. However, each test is different and last year's test is used only to give an idea of what might be on this year's test.

Anyone is interested in participating in the competition can visit the website at www.ohlone.edu/org/mathclub or contact Hirsch at (510) 659-6247. The one-hour national exam will be held March 9 at 4:44 p.m. in Room 3201.



Photo by Kevin Protz

Jan Fang helps potential 'mathlete' while Math Club adviser Geoffrey Hirsch looks on.

Local museum comes to Ohlone

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Ohlone, there may also be Navajo kivas and Plains Indian teepees. However, the Fremont District's 213 Native American students will still be able participate in the program. Rodgers said that the tutoring program and cultural classes will continue and will be accessible to more students.

There are also plans in place to recreate a Native American village outside the center that will contain buildings and structures from various cultures around the United States. In addition to buildings of the

Ohlone, there may also be Navajo kivas and Plains Indian teepees.

Rodgers said the cost of the move and expansion of the program will be relatively small since the land for it is already there. Staffing costs will also be relatively small as the center will be run and maintained by student interns.

While still in the planning stages, the museum will most likely be moved by the end of the next fall. However, building the new village and putting together the exhibits will take at least two years.

Questions from the last SML test

The following are questions from last year's Student Math League test to give you an idea of what the competition is like. The answers and more questions are available at www.amatyc.org/SML/. The Mu Alpha Theta website states that the exam lasts for one hour and has 20 multiple-choice questions.

If $f(x) = \cos \pi x$ and $g(x) = 2x$, find $f(g(1)) - g(f(1))$.

How many different four-digit numbers can be formed by arranging the digits 2, 0, 0, and 6?

If ABCD, DCEF, and FEGH are squares with A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H all distinct points, find $m\angle GAH + m\angle GDH + m\angle GFH$ to the nearest tenth of a degree.

I sold a horse for \$200, losing 20%. I bought another horse and sold it for a 25% profit. If I broke even on the two transactions together, what was the total cost of the two horses?

Let $A(m,n)$ be the set of n consecutive positive integers whose least element is m . What is the greatest integer in $A(17,49) \cap A(49,17)$?

Let $a, b > 0$, $M = \sum_{n=1}^k \ln(an) - \sum_{n=1}^k \ln(bn)$, $N = e^M$, and $P = \sqrt[k]{N}$. Then P equals?

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