

NEWS

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El Camino College Math Team Places in Top Five in Nation

The El Camino College math team recently brought home its highest score in history, landing in fifth place out of nearly 200 community colleges in round two of a prestigious national math competition. The AMATYC (American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges) Student Math League Contest is the only national math contest devoted solely to community colleges.

The contest consists of two rounds, one each semester. The top five students at ECC in each round make up the team's score.

The El Camino College team's fifth-place finish and team score of 239.0 is its best to date, setting a new school record. The individual ECC winner in the fall was Tu Le, and in the spring there was a tie between Qixin Song and Guan Zhou. The top five ECC students in the fall and spring competitions include: Tu Le (round 1 winner), Qixin Song (round 2 co-winner), Guan Zhou (round 2 co-winner) Yuk Shing Lam, Tuan Nguyen, Jialin Yuan, Jinho Kang, Hyun-Jun Han, and Haifei Yan.

The subject matter includes pre-calculus, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, general logic and number sense, and the questions are very challenging. The test is one hour and it consists of 20 multiple choice questions. Students earn two points for a correct answer, lose half a point for each incorrect answer, and zero points for a blank answer.

To prepare for each contest, weekly open practices are scheduled and a variety of practice materials are available for individual practice.

The El Camino College Math Team is coached by Associate Professor Greg Fry.