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Adding up to victory

Math team first in state

By Amy Ryan
Everest Herald

WESTON -- Last year when the D.C. Everest Senior High Math Team took first place in Division 1 at state competition, the junior members on the team swore they would have an overall victory this year. And that is exactly what they did.

The team took first place in the Central Wisconsin Mathematics League's annual competition, beating 52 schools and more than 600 students in advanced math, algebra and geometry. The results were announced May 10 at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

"It's a pretty neat accomplishment to be one of the top schools in Wisconsin for math," said team adviser Jeff Strick.

The team was down 71 points below the top school going into the last meet in March, but the students were able to pull out a victory.

"Our algebra kids really brought us up," Strick said.

Senior team members Ryan Feathers and Adam Gewiss competed last year. They said the tests seemed easier this year. To compete, students take a series of three tests in November, January and March.

"I don't know if they were actually easier or if we just know more math this year," Feathers said.

Team members who competed for the first time were surprised by the size of the competition.

"It wasn't at all what I expected. I couldn't believe how many people were there," said sophomore member Joey Lukasik.

"You really don't realize how big it is until you get there and see all the people," added sophomore Jordyn Prell. "I really thought it was a smaller thing."

For Lukasik, the competition also confirmed he was on the right career path.

"They talked to us about job opportunities for math and science majors at the competition," he said. "I was thinking about majoring in math and this reaffirmed it."

Additional Facts

2010 D.C. Everest Senior High Math Team

Geometry: Luke Merchant, Ben Gorichs, Bryce Matheson, Ramsey Bielke

Algebra: Joey Lukasik, Jordyn Prell, Rachel Gewiss, Mitchell Lassa

Advanced Math: Ryan Feathers, Adam Gewiss, Bob Petts, Sam Stranz