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Math Students Make History During Mathematical Association of America Conference

April 3, 2014



Team one earned third place in the final round of "Math Jeopardy" at the the Mathematical Association of America's 93rd Annual Southeastern Section meeting. From left: Chasen Smith (advisor), Michael Ackerman, Micah Jackson, Katelyn Yeomans, Anthony Coggins (co-advisor) and Matt Cullens.

Students in the Department of Mathematical Sciences made history at the Mathematical Association of America's 93rd Annual Southeastern Section spring 2014 meeting at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tenn. where they competed in "Math Jeopardy," a competition modeled after the long-running North American television program.

"Our Jeopardy team members have worked very hard the past few months, especially in the weeks leading up to the competition," said Chasen Smith, instructor and advisor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences.

During the three-round competition (preliminary, semi-final and final), teams of up to four undergraduate students compete in the preliminary round; the top 12 teams with the highest score from the preliminary round move on to the semi-finals, and the top four teams from the semi-finals move forward to compete in the finals. In each round, the teams are allowed two minutes to respond to the answers (which are all math related) in the form of a question.



The students had two minutes to respond during each round of the competition. From left: Matt Cullens, Michael Ackerman, Micah Jackson and Katelyn Yeomans.

“We have met every week since December practicing Jeopardy questions from previous years so that we would be prepared. I couldn’t be more proud of our students! They represented Georgia Southern University, the College of Science and Mathematics and the Department of Mathematical Sciences very well, and set the bar high for next year’s meeting at UNC Wilmington,” said Smith.

Students on team one included Michael Ackerman, Matt Cullens, Micah Jackson and Katelyn Yeomans. Team two included Nicholas Anderson, Brittney Benzio, Garry Brown and Stephanie Hesse.

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