

# MATHCOUNTS®

## Raytheon MATHCOUNTS National Competition 2009 Fact Sheet

### WHEN

Friday, May 8, 2009

8:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. EDT (Most of the action is from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. EDT)

### WHERE

Walt Disney World's Swan and Dolphin Resort, Orlando, Fla.

### WHAT

Middle school Mathletes® will race to answer such questions as, “The Norman High School Math Club has twice as many male members as female members. Twenty percent of the male members and thirty percent of the female members participated in a math contest. What fraction of those members participating in the math contest were female? Express your answer in a common fraction. (Answer  $3/7$ )

### WHO

- The nation's 228 most talented middle school mathematicians.
- Students represent all 50 states, D.C., U.S. territories and schools from the Department of Defense and State Department.
- Free MATHCOUNTS materials are distributed to over 48,000 schools across the country.
- Approximately 100,000 students from more than 6,000 schools participate in the Competition Program at the school level.
- Winners advance to the local and state levels and the top four students in each state compete at the National Competition.
- More than 250,000 students use MATHCOUNTS materials in their schools.
- More than 6 million students have been reached through MATHCOUNTS since 1983.

### COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- Written Competition: The Sprint, Target and Team Rounds test the ability of individual students and teams to solve complex, multi-step problems with, and without, the aid of a calculator. Results determine the National Team Champions and individual student rankings.
- Countdown Round: Fast-paced, one-on-one oral competition for the 12 top-scoring students in the Written Competition. The winner is crowned the National Champion. [Open to the public]
- Masters Round: Top four students each spend 15 minutes presenting and defending their solution to a topic to a group of judges. [Held on Sat., May 9]

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT

- Strong math skills are necessary for success in a rapidly expanding number of careers.
- U.S. industry faces a dire need for employees with the advanced math abilities required to conduct the leading edge research and design required to remain globally competitive.

## ABOUT MATHCOUNTS

- To secure America's global competitiveness, MATHCOUNTS inspires excellence, confidence and curiosity in US middle school students through fun and challenging math programs.
- Celebrating its 26th anniversary, over 6 million students have participated in MATHCOUNTS.
- The program has received two White House citations as an outstanding private sector initiative and been recognized in White House ceremonies by four presidents.
- MATHCOUNTS relies upon a national network of 17,000 volunteers.
- A 501(c)(3) organization, funding for MATHCOUNTS comes primarily from its National Sponsors; Raytheon Company, Northrop Grumman Foundation, National Society of Professional Engineers, 3M Foundation, General Motors Foundation, CNA Foundation, ConocoPhillips, Texas Instruments Incorporated, and Lockheed Martin. MATHCOUNTS was founded by the National Society of Professional Engineers, CNA Foundation and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

## ABOUT OUR TITLE SPONSOR

- Raytheon Company is the title sponsor of the MATHCOUNTS® 2009 Raytheon National Competition
- Raytheon has made a commitment to serve as title sponsor until 2011.
- Raytheon's support of MATHCOUNTS is a component of its MathMovesU program, an initiative designed to engage U.S. middle school students in math and science through interactive learning programs, contests, events, scholarships, tutoring programs and more.
- Since its inception in 2005, MathMovesU has touched the lives of more than 700,000 students, teachers and parents. For more information, please visit [MathMovesU.com](http://MathMovesU.com).

**For further information or to arrange interviews contact:**

**Barbara Pflughaupt**  
[Barbara@bpmediarelations.com](mailto:Barbara@bpmediarelations.com)  
212-707-8181  
or  
**Amy Gorton**  
[AGorton@towerpr.com](mailto:AGorton@towerpr.com)  
310-578-9943