

The regional 2019 MATHCOUNTS competition was held at Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College in Middlesboro on Saturday.

The top teams were Harlan Middle, first; Bell Central, second; and James A. Cawood Elementary, third.

Top individual scores were Meredith Allen, Bell Central, first; Dillon Scott, Rosspoint, second; Caleb Rose, Rosspoint, third; Marissa Marlowe, Harlan, fourth; Brett Wes Johnson, Rosspoint, fifth; Krisha Sajnani, Harlan, sixth; Bradley Brock, Wallins, seventh; and Josh Pinkley, Cumberland, eighth.

Allen, the sixth-grade daughter of Waylon and Angela Allen, won a full scholarship to the University of Kentucky.

The top two overall teams advance to the state, along with four individuals -- Rose, Scott and Johnson from Rosspoint, and Brock from Wallins.

Dillon Scott won the Countdown Round. Sajnani was second.

Corey Napier, a member of the KSPE Pine Mountain Chapter, said the competition is for sixth, seventh and eighth graders.

Sponsored by the Pine Mountain Chapter of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers, the competition featured schools from Bell County, Harlan County, Harlan Independent and Middlesboro Independent. These included:

Bell Central School Center

Black Mountain Elementary School

Cawood Elementary School

Cumberland Elementary School

Evarts Elementary School

Harlan Middle School

James A Cawood Elementary School

Right Fork School Center

Rosspoint Elementary School

Wallins Elementary School

Middlesboro Middle School

“MATHCOUNTS competition is designed to be completed in approximately three hours. Each competition consists of four parts: the Sprint, Target, Team and Countdown Rounds,” said Napier, a professional engineer for Vaughn and Melton Consulting Engineers Inc.

“The Sprint Round has 30 questions. Students have 40 minutes to complete them,” he said. “The Target Round consists of eight questions, which are distributed to the students two at a time. Students have six minutes to complete each pair of problems.”

In addition, the Team Round has 10 problems for the team to work together within the 20-minute time limit. The top 25 percent of individuals, up to a maximum of 10, proceed to the Countdown Round, an oral round in which students compete head-to-head.”

Napier explained MATHCOUNTS is a national math enrichment, coaching and competition program that promotes middle school mathematics achievement through grassroots involvement in every U.S. state and territory.

MATHCOUNTS is one of the most successful education partnerships involving volunteers, educators and industry sponsors and students, Napier said.

The organization’s mission statement is to increase enthusiasm for and enhance achievement in middle school mathematics throughout the United States, he said. It is supported primarily by the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers, the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics and the CAN Foundation.

For more information visit mathcounts.org.