

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE**  
**CONTEST 6 – MARCH 2008**  
**ROUND 1 ALG 2: SIMULTANEOUS EQUATIONS AND DETERMINANTS**

**ANSWERS**

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_

C) (pizza, sub, spag) = ( \$\_\_\_ , \$\_\_\_ , \$\_\_\_ )

- A) The system  $\begin{cases} y = 2x + 1 \\ Ax + By = -9 \end{cases}$  represents a pair of perpendicular lines that intersect at  $\left(\frac{1}{2}, 2\right)$ .  
Determine the ordered pair  $(A, B)$ .

- B) Find all real values of  $x$  for which  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & x & -3 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 \\ -3 & 2x-3 & x \end{vmatrix} = -7$

- C) After the math meet, the bus stopped at the Pythagoras House of Pizza.  
The mathletes noticed the following:  
3 pizzas and 2 meatball subs cost \$4 more than 5 spaghetti with meat sauce.  
Twice the cost of “one meatball sub and one spaghetti with meat sauce” would be \$2 less than 3 pizzas.  
The combined cost of one meatball sub and one spaghetti with meat sauce is \$3 more than the cost of one pizza. Find the cost of each item.

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008  
ROUND 2 ALG1: EXPONENTS AND RADICALS**

**ANSWERS**

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_

C) ( \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ )

A) Given:  $N = 2x^{-2/3}$

If  $x = 64$ , find  $y$ , where  $N = 4^y$ .

B) Simply  $\sqrt{4 + \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^2} \cdot \left(\frac{x}{3} + \frac{1}{3x}\right)^{-1}$  so that your answer is free of radicals and/or negative exponents.

C) Determine the ordered pair of positive integers  $(A, B)$  for which the quotient  $\frac{\sqrt{49 - 8\sqrt{3}}}{\sqrt{21 + 12\sqrt{3}}}$  may be expressed as  $\frac{A - B\sqrt{3}}{3}$ .

MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 – MARCH 2008  
ROUND 3 ALG 2: POLYNOMIAL FUNCTIONS

ANSWERS

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_

C) \_\_\_\_\_

A)  $x^3 + kx^2 - 13x + 6$  divided by  $x - 2$  produces a remainder of  $k$ . Determine the value of  $k$ .

B) When the polynomial  $p(x)$  is divided by  $(x - 1)$ , the quotient is  $Q(x)$  and the remainder is 1. When  $p(x)$  is divided by  $(x + 1)$ , the remainder is 7. Find  $Q(-1)$

C) Find the cubic equation whose roots are 1 less than the reciprocals of the roots of

$$2x^3 - 5x^2 - 4x + 3 = 0.$$

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008  
ROUND 4 ALG 1: ANYTHING**

**ANSWERS**

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_

C) \_\_\_\_\_

A) Solve for  $x$ . 
$$3 = 1 + \frac{2}{3 + \frac{1}{x}}$$

B) On a true false test, Claude, who is never prepared for tests, guessed the answers to all the questions and managed to get 24 out of the first 75 questions correct. Thereafter, he answered 2 out of every 5 correctly. Overall he answered 35% of the questions correctly. How many questions were there on the test?

C) Find all ordered pairs of positive integers  $(x, y)$  such that  $2x - 5y = 1$  and  $10 < x + y < 20$ .

MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008  
ROUND 5 PLANE GEOMETRY: ANYTHING

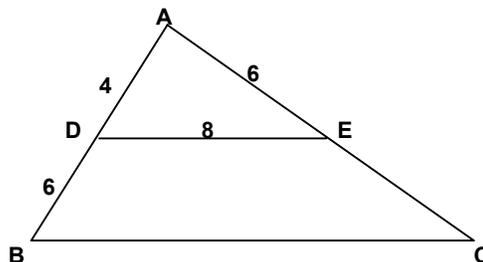
ANSWERS

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_

C) \_\_\_\_\_

- A) Given  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $AD = 4$ ,  $AE = 6$ ,  $DE = 8$ ,  $DB = 6$  and  $\overline{DE} \parallel \overline{BC}$   
Find  $BC$ . Diagram is not drawn to scale.



- B) A square wire frame encloses 4 congruent circular disks each tangent to two adjacent sides of the frame and to two of the other disks. A second square wire frame has its vertices at the centers of these 4 disks. If the area of the region inside the smaller wire frame not covered by any of these disks is  $12 - 3\pi$ , what is the area of the region bounded by the two wire frames?
- C) In a regular octagon  $ABCDEFGH$ ,  $AF = 8$ , compute the area of  $\triangle AFC$ .

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008  
ROUND 6 ALG 2: PROBABILITY AND THE BINOMIAL THEOREM**

**ANSWERS**

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_

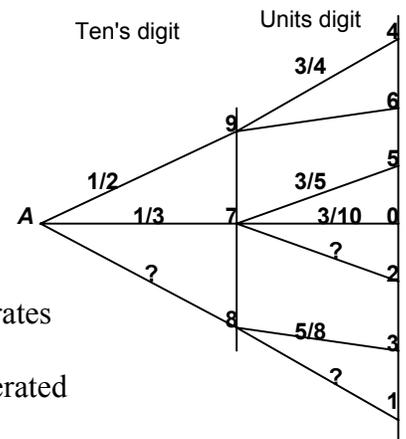
C) \_\_\_\_\_

A) A container has 5 blue balls and 4 red balls. If 3 balls are simultaneously chosen at random, what is the probability that one is blue and two are red?

B)  $(3 + 2i)^5 = a + bi$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  denote real numbers and  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ . Compute  $\sqrt{b-1}$ .

C) Given:

- The ten's digit must be 9, 7 or 8.
- The units digit must be
  - 4 or 6, if the ten's digit is 9
  - 5, 0 or 2, if the ten's digit is 7
  - 3 or 1, if the ten's digit is 8.



The graph at the right, starting at  $A$  and traveling to the right, generates some, but not all, two-digit integers with unequal probabilities of formation. For example, the probability that the number 94 is generated is  $(1/2)(3/4) = 3/8$ .

What is the probability that the number generated is divisible by 3?

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008  
ROUND 7 TEAM QUESTIONS**

**ANSWERS**

- A) \_\_\_\_\_ D) \_\_\_\_\_  
 B) \_\_\_\_\_ E) \_\_\_\_\_  
 C) \_\_\_\_\_ F) \_\_\_\_\_

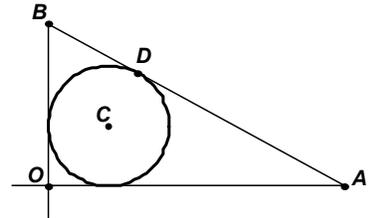
**\*\*\*\*\* NO CALCULATORS ON THIS ROUND \*\*\*\*\***

- A) In a magic square the sum in every column, in every row and along both diagonals is the same. Find the minimum value of  $x$  for which the following is a  $3 \times 3$  magic square of positive integers.

$x$	27	-
15	-	-
-	-	21

- B) Let  $P = \sqrt[3]{C} \cdot \sqrt[6]{C} \cdot \sqrt[12]{C} \cdot \sqrt[24]{C} \cdot \dots$ , where  $C$  and  $P$  are both integers. If  $C > 10^6$  and  $N = P - 10^4 > 10^3$ , determine the minimum value of  $N$ .
- C) Let  $P(x)$  denote the quadratic polynomial  $Ax^2 + Bx + C$  with integer coefficients and  $A > 0$ . When  $P(x)$  is divided by  $x - h$ , the remainder is  $k$ , but when  $P(x)$  is divided by  $x - k$ , the remainder is  $h$ . If  $h$  and  $k$  are positive primes and  $h + k = 9$ , determine the minimum value of  $C$ .
- D) Three clocks  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  are in serious need of a technician, who unfortunately is on vacation.  
 $A$  has been ringing every 2 minutes and 30 seconds.  
 $B$  has been ringing every 3 minutes and 20 seconds.  
 $C$  has been ringing every 4 minutes and 10 seconds.  
 If it's now 2:15 PM and all three clocks just rang simultaneously, how many times earlier today did all three clocks ring together?

- E) Right triangle  $ABO$  has circle  $C$  inscribed in it.  $A(24, 0)$ ,  $B(0, 18)$  and  $O(0, 0)$ . Circle  $C$  intersects the hypotenuse  $\overline{AB}$  at  $D$ . Find the coordinates of point  $D$ .



- F) In how many ways can you walk up a stairway that has 10 steps if you must take 1 or 2 steps at a time?

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 – MARCH 2008 ANSWERS**

**Round 1 Alg 2: Simultaneous Equations and Determinants**

- A) (-2, -4)                      B) 2, -11/2                      C) (\$8, \$5, \$6)

**Round 2 Alg 1: Exponents and Radicals**

- A) -3/2                      B)  $\pm 3$                       C) ( 27 , 14 )  
(both answers required)

**Round 3 Alg2: Polynomial Functions**

- A) 4                      B) -3                      C)  $3x^3 + 5x^2 - 4x - 4 = 0$   
 $(x - 1)(x + 2)(3x + 2) = 0$   
or equivalent

**Round 4 Alg 1: Anything**

- A)  $-\frac{1}{2}$                       B) 120                      C) (8, 3) and (13, 5)

**Round 5 Plane Geometry: Anything**

- A) 20                      B) 36                      C)  $16\sqrt{2}$

**Round 6 Alg 2: Probability and the Binomial Theorem**

- A)  $\frac{5}{14}$                       B) 11                      C)  $\frac{101}{240}$

**Team Round**

- A) 7                      D) 17  
B) 1025                      E) (9.6, 10.8)  
C) 23                      F) 89

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 – MARCH 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 1**

A) The slope of the first line is 2  $\rightarrow$  slope of the second line =  $-\frac{A}{B} = -\frac{1}{2} \rightarrow B = 2A$

Thus,  $A\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 2A(2) = -9 \rightarrow A = -2 \rightarrow (A, B) = \underline{\underline{(-2, -4)}}$

B) Determining the determinant using the weaving technique,

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & x & -3 & 1 & x & \\ 2 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 0 & \rightarrow [1(0)x + x(-1)(-3) + -3(2)(2x-3)] - [-3(0)(-3) + (2x-3)(-1)(1) + x(2)(x)] \\ -3 & 2x-3 & x & -3 & 2x-3 & \end{array}$$

$$\rightarrow 3x - 12x + 18 - 2x^2 + 2x - 3 = -7 \rightarrow 2x^2 + 7x - 22 = (2x + 11)(x - 2) = 0 \rightarrow \underline{\underline{-11/2, +2}}$$

C) Let  $(x, y, z)$  denote the cost of (pizza, sub, spaghetti)

Then (a)  $3x + 2y = 4 + 5z \rightarrow 3x + 2y - 5z = 4,$

(b)  $2(y + z) = 3x - 2 \rightarrow -3x + 2y + 2z = -2$

(c)  $x = y + z - 3 \rightarrow x - y - z = -3$

(a) - (b)  $\rightarrow 4y - 3z = 2 \rightarrow 4y - 3z = 2$

3(c) + (b)  $\rightarrow -y - z = -11 \rightarrow -4y - 4z = -44 \rightarrow -7z = -42 \rightarrow z = 6, y = 5$  and  $x = 8 \rightarrow \underline{\underline{(\$8, \$5, \$6)}}$

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 – MARCH 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 2**

A) Suppose  $N = 4^y$ .

$$N = 2(64)^{-2/3} = 2(4)^{-2} = 2^{-3} = 4^y = 2^{2y} \rightarrow 2y = -3 \rightarrow y = \underline{\underline{-3/2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{B)} &= \left( \sqrt{4 + x^2 - 2 + \frac{1}{x^2}} \right) \left( \frac{x^2 + 1}{3x} \right)^{-1} = \left( \sqrt{x^2 + 2 + \frac{1}{x^2}} \right) \left( \frac{3x}{x^2 + 1} \right) = \left( \sqrt{(x + x^{-1})^2} \right) \left( \frac{3x}{x^2 + 1} \right) \\ &= \left( \sqrt{\frac{(x^2 + 1)^2}{x^2}} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{3x}{x^2 + 1} \right) = \frac{x^2 + 1}{|x|} \cdot \frac{3x}{x^2 + 1} = \frac{3x}{|x|} = \underline{\underline{\pm 3}} \end{aligned}$$

C) In order to extract the square roots in both the numerator and the denominator, the radicands must be perfect squares. Therefore, let  $49 - 8\sqrt{3} = (A + B\sqrt{3})^2$  and  $21 + 12\sqrt{3} = (C + D\sqrt{3})^2$ .

Multiplying out and equating rational and irrational parts we have,

$$\begin{cases} A^2 + 3B^2 = 49 \\ AB = 4 \end{cases} \rightarrow (A, B) = (-1, 4) \text{ and } \begin{cases} C^2 + 3D^2 = 21 \\ CD = 6 \end{cases} \rightarrow (C, D) = (3, 2)$$

$$\text{Thus, } \frac{\sqrt{49 - 8\sqrt{3}}}{\sqrt{21 + 12\sqrt{3}}} = \frac{-1 + 4\sqrt{3}}{3 + 2\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{3 - 2\sqrt{3}}{3 - 2\sqrt{3}} = \frac{-3 + 2\sqrt{3} + 12\sqrt{3} - 24}{-3} = \frac{27 - 14\sqrt{3}}{3} \rightarrow \underline{\underline{(27, 14)}}$$

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 – MARCH 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 3**

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \quad k \quad -13 \quad 6 \\ A) \quad \quad \quad \underline{2 \quad 2k+4 \quad 4k-18} \\ 2 \mid 1 \quad k+2 \quad 2k-9 \quad 4k-12 = k \rightarrow k = \underline{4} \end{array}$$

B)  $p(x) = (x - 1)Q(x) + 1$  and  $p(x) = (x + 1)Q_2(x) + 7$ , where  $Q_2$  is also unknown to us.  
Substituting  $x = -1$  in the second equation,  $p(-1) = 7$ . Even though  $Q_2$  is unknown to us, it is being multiplied by zero!  
Substituting,  $x = -1$  in the first equation  $\rightarrow p(-1) = -2Q(-1) + 1 \rightarrow 7 = -2Q(-1) + 1 \rightarrow Q(-1) = \underline{-3}$

C) Method 1 (brute force):  
Using synthetic substitution, find the roots of the original cubic equation

$$\begin{array}{r} \quad \quad \underline{2 \quad -5 \quad -4 \quad 3} \\ -1 \mid 2 \quad -7 \quad 3 \quad 0 \\ 3 \mid 2 \quad -1 \quad 0 \\ 1/2 \mid 2 \quad 0 \end{array}$$

Thus, the original roots are -1, 3 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  and the corresponding roots of the new equation are -2, -2/3 and 1 producing factors of  $(x + 2)$ ,  $(3x + 2)$  and  $(x - 1)$ .

Expanding the product, the new equation is  $(x + 2)(3x^2 - x - 2) = \underline{3x^3 + 5x^2 - 4x - 4 = 0}$

Method II

The equation with reciprocal roots is  $2(1/x)^3 - 5(1/x)^2 - 4(1/x) + 3 = 0$  and, multiplying through by  $x^3$  to clear fractions, we have  $3x^3 - 4x^2 - 5x + 2 = 0$ . Notice that the coefficients have been reversed. Instead of replacing  $x$  by  $(x - 1)$  and expanding, we'll again use synthetic substitution.

$$\begin{array}{r} \quad \quad \underline{3 \quad -4 \quad -5 \quad 2} \\ 1 \mid 3 \quad -1 \quad -6 \quad \boxed{-4} \\ 1 \mid 3 \quad 2 \quad \boxed{-4} \quad \rightarrow \underline{3x^3 + 5x^2 - 4x - 4 = 0} \\ 1 \mid 3 \quad \boxed{5} \\ 1 \mid \boxed{3} \end{array}$$

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 4**

A) Subtracting 1 from both sides of the equation,  $2 = \frac{2}{1} = \frac{2}{3 + \frac{1}{x}}$

Since the numerators are equal, we can equate the denominators.

$$1 = 3 + \frac{1}{x} \rightarrow \frac{1}{x} = -2 \rightarrow x = \underline{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

B) Let  $5x$  denote the number of additional questions. Then

$$\frac{24 + 2x}{75 + 5x} = 35\% = \frac{7}{20} \rightarrow 480 + 40x = 525 + 35x \rightarrow x = 9 \rightarrow \# \text{ questions} = 75 + 5(9) = \underline{\mathbf{120}}$$

C)  $y = \frac{2x-1}{5} \rightarrow 10 < x + \frac{2x-1}{5} < 20 \rightarrow 50 < 7x - 1 < 100 \rightarrow 7.285\cdots < x < 14.428\cdots$

$$\rightarrow x = 8, 9, \dots, 14$$

Substituting,  $x = 8$  immediately gives an integer result.

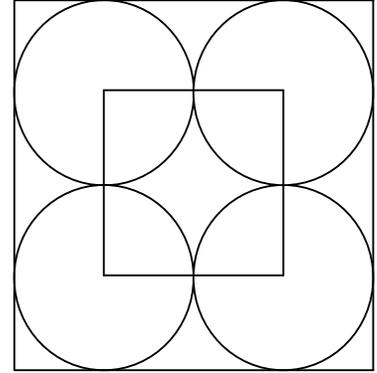
Since the first equation represents a line with a slope of  $2/5$ , incrementing  $x$  by 5 gives the next  $x$  for which  $y$  is also an integer. Thus, **(8, 3) and (13, 5)**

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 5**

A)  $AB = 10, \triangle ADE \sim \triangle ABC \rightarrow \frac{AD}{AB} = \frac{DE}{BC} \rightarrow \frac{4}{10} = \frac{8}{BC}$   
 $\rightarrow 4(BC) = 8(10) \rightarrow BC = \underline{20}$

B)  $4r^2 - \pi r^2 = 12 - 3\pi \rightarrow r^2 = 3 \rightarrow \text{Area}_{\text{small square}} = 12$  and  
 $\text{Area}_{\text{large square}} = 48 \rightarrow \text{required area} = \underline{36}$



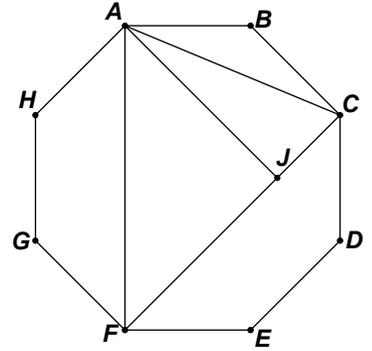
C)  $AF = FC = 8$ . The measure of an interior angle of a regular octagon is  
 $\frac{6(180)}{8} = 135^\circ$ .

$m\angle EFC = m\angle GFA = 45^\circ$ , so  $m\angle AFC = 45^\circ$  also.

Draw  $\overline{AJ} \perp \overline{FC}$ . Then  $\triangle AFJ$  is  $45^\circ$ - $45^\circ$ - $90^\circ$  and  $AJ = 4\sqrt{2}$

Area of  $\triangle AFC = \frac{1}{2}(FC)(AJ) = \frac{1}{2}(8)(4\sqrt{2}) = \underline{16\sqrt{2}}$

Alternate method:  $\text{Area}(\triangle AFC) = \frac{1}{2}(AF)(FC)\sin(\angle AFC)$   
 $= \frac{1}{2}(8)(8)\sin(45^\circ) = 32 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = \underline{16\sqrt{2}}$



**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 6**

- A) Pick one blue from the 5 available and two red from the 4 available without regard for order. The total number of [possible drawings is 3 from the 9 available also without regard for order. AND  $\rightarrow$  MULTIPLY. Thus, this is simply a ratio of combinations.

$$p = \frac{\binom{5}{1} \cdot \binom{4}{2}}{\binom{9}{3}} = \frac{5 \cdot 6}{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7} = \frac{5 \cdot 6}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5} = \frac{5}{14}$$

- B)  $(3+2i)^5 = 3^5 + 5 \cdot 3^4(2i) + 10 \cdot 3^3(2i)^2 + 10 \cdot 3^2(2i)^3 + 5 \cdot 3(2i)^4 + (2i)^5$   
 $= 243 + 405(2i) + 270(4i^2) + 90(8i^3) + 15(16i^4) + 32i^5$   
 $= 243 + 810i - 1080 - 720i + 240 + 32i$   
 $\rightarrow b = 122 \rightarrow \sqrt{b-1} = \underline{\underline{11}}$

- C) The number must be 96, 75, 72 or 81.

The probability of one of these numbers being generated is

$$\begin{aligned} (1/2)(1/4) + 1/3(3/5) + (1/3)(1/10) + (1/6)(3/8) &= 1/8 + 1/5 + 1/30 + 1/16 \\ &= (30 + 48 + 8 + 15)/240 = \underline{\underline{101/240}} \end{aligned}$$

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

**Team Round**

A) Let the unspecified entries in the square be denoted  $a, b, c, d$  and  $e$ .

Specifically, the square is 
$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline x & 27 & d \\ \hline 15 & b & e \\ \hline a & c & 21 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

→

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{diagonals: } x + b + 21 = a + b + d \Rightarrow a = x - d + 21 \\ \text{col1, row1: } x + 15 + a = x + 27 + d \Rightarrow d = a - 12 \Rightarrow a = \frac{x+33}{2} \text{ and } d = \frac{x+9}{2} \\ \text{col1, row3: } x + 15 + a = a + c + 21 \Rightarrow c = x - 6 \\ \text{row1, col3: } x + 27 + d = d + e + 21 \Rightarrow e = x + 6 \\ \text{row2, col3: } 15 + b + e = d + e + 21 \rightarrow b - d = 6 \rightarrow b - (a - 12) = 6 \rightarrow b = a - 6 \Rightarrow b = \frac{x+21}{2} \end{array} \right.$$

Thus, the magic square becomes 
$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline x & 27 & \frac{x+9}{2} \\ \hline 15 & \frac{x+21}{2} & x+6 \\ \hline \frac{x+33}{2} & x-6 & 21 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Since  $c = x - 6$  must represent a positive integer,

the minimum possible  $x$ -value is 7 → 
$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 7 & 27 & 8 \\ \hline 15 & 14 & 13 \\ \hline 20 & 1 & 21 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

B)  $P = C^{\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{24} + \dots}$  The exponent is an infinite geometric progression.

The sum is given by 
$$\frac{a}{1-r} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{1-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow P = C^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

Thus,  $C$  must be a perfect cube to insure that  $P$  is an integer. Let  $C = x^3$ , where  $x > 10^2$ .

$$N = P - 10^4 = C^{\frac{2}{3}} - 10^4 = (x^3)^{\frac{2}{3}} - 10^4 = x^2 - 10^4 > 10^3$$
 and the minimum  $x$  is 101.

$101^2 = 10201, \dots, 104^2 = 10816$  fail, but  $105^2 = 11025 \rightarrow N = \underline{\underline{1025}}$

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

**Team Round – continued**

C) If the sum of two primes is odd, then one of the primes must be 2.

Therefore,  $h = 2 \rightarrow k = 7$  (or vice versa)

$$\begin{cases} P(x) = Ax^2 + Bx + C \\ P(2) = 7 \\ P(7) = 2 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} 4A + 2B + C = 7 \\ 49A + 7B + C = 2 \end{cases} \rightarrow 45A + 5B = -5 \rightarrow 9A + B = -1$$

$$\rightarrow B = -1 - 9A$$

Substituting,  $4A + 2(-1 - 9A) + C = 7 \rightarrow -14A - 2 + C = 7 \rightarrow C = 14A + 9$

Since  $A > 0$ , the minimum value of  $C$  occurs when  $A = 1$ , i.e.  $C = \underline{23}$ .

D)  $A, B$  and  $C$  have been ringing every  $\frac{5}{2}, \frac{10}{3}$  and  $\frac{25}{6}$  minutes respectively, or in terms of a

common denominator -  $\frac{15}{6}, \frac{20}{6}$  and  $\frac{25}{6}$  minutes.

The Least common multiple of (15, 20, 25) = 300

Thus, the bells ring together every  $300/6 = 50$  minutes.

The number of minutes since midnight is  $14(60) + 15 = 855$ .

$$855/50 = 17.1 \rightarrow \underline{17} \text{ times}$$

Note:  $855 - 50(1), 855 - 50(2), \dots 855 - 50(17) = 5$

The first simultaneous ringing occurred at 12:05 AM

E)  $AB = 30$ . The radius of circle  $C = \frac{1}{2}(24 + 18 - 30) = 6$

Thus,  $C$  is located at (6, 6). The equation of  $\overline{AB}$  ( $m = -18/24 = -3/4$ ):  $3x + 4y = 72$

$\overline{CD} \perp \overline{AB}$ ,  $m_{CD} = 4/3 \rightarrow \text{Eqn}_{CD}: 4x - 3y = 6$

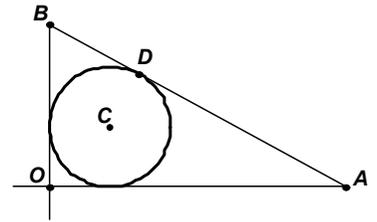
Using Cramer's rule:  $x = \frac{-240}{-25} = \underline{9.6}$  and  $y = \frac{18 - 288}{-25} = \underline{10.8}$

Note: Let  $M(0, 6)$  and  $N(6, 0)$  Then area ( $\Delta MND$ ) =

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 6 & 0 & 0 \\ 9.6 & 10.8 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{64.8 + 57.6 - 36}{2} = 43.2$$

Distance from  $D$  to  $\overline{MN}$ :  $d((9.6, 10.8), x + y = 6) = \frac{20.4 - 6}{\sqrt{2}} = 7.2\sqrt{2}$

Area( $\Delta MND$ ) =  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot 6\sqrt{2} \cdot 7.2\sqrt{2} = 43.2$



**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

**Team Round – continued**

F) These are the combinations of 1 and 2 steps:

		# of different arrangements
11111 11111	→	1
2 1111 1111	→	$\frac{9!}{8!}$ or ${}_9C_1 = 9$
22 111 111	→	$\frac{8!}{2!6!}$ or ${}_8C_2 = 28$
222 11 11	→	$\frac{7!}{3!4!}$ or ${}_7C_3 = 35$
2222 1 1	→	$\frac{6!}{2!4!}$ or ${}_6C_2 = 15$
22222	→	1
Total:		<b><u>89</u></b>