



Math League News

■ **Our Calculator Rule** Our contests allow both the TI-89 and HP-48. You may use any calculator without a QWERTY keyboard.

■ **Use the Internet to View Scores or Send Comments** to comments@mathleague.com. You can see your results at www.mathleague.com.

■ **Upcoming Contest Dates & Rescheduling Contests** Contest dates (and alternate dates), all Tuesdays, are February 12 (February 19) and March 12 (March 19). If **vacations, school closings, or special testing days** interfere, please reschedule the contest. Attach a brief explanation, or scores will be considered unofficial. We sponsor an *Algebra Course I* Contest and contests for grades 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. Get information and sample contests at www.mathleague.com.

■ **2013-2014 Contest Dates:** We schedule the six contests to be held four weeks apart (mostly) and to end in March. Next year's contest (and alternate) dates, all Tuesdays, are October 15 (Oct. 22), November 12 (Nov. 19), December 3 (Dec. 10), January 14 (Jan. 21), February 11 (Feb. 18), and March 11 (Mar. 18). Have a testing or other conflict? Now is a good time to put an alternate date on calendar!

■ **What Do We Publish?** Did we not mention your name? We use everything we have when we write the newsletter. But we write the newsletter early, so sometimes we're unable to include items not received early enough. We try to be efficient! Sorry to those whose solutions were too "late" to use.

■ **T-Shirts Anyone?** We're often asked, "are T-shirts available? The logo lets us recognize fellow competitors!" Good news — we have MATH T-shirts in a variety of sizes at a **very** low price. Use them as prizes for high or even perfect scores, or just to foster a sense of team spirit! The shirts are of grey material and feature a small, dark blue logo in the "alligator region." A photo of the shirt is available at our website. There's one low shipping charge per order, regardless of order size. To order, use our website, www.mathleague.com.

■ **Contest Books Make A Great Resource** Have you seen our contest books? Kids love to work on past contests. To order, use our website, www.mathleague.com.

■ **General Comments About Contest #4:** Fred Harwood said, "I like the contest ... Thank you for another great lunch period!" Henry Valencia said, "Great questions!!!" Timothy Baumgartner said, "Thank you for another set of very interesting questions." Paulette Sirakos said, "Students found this to be a particularly challenging contest."

■ **Question 4-5: Comment** Jenne Gregor and Greg Sand said, "On problem 5, the problem states that the center of the circle does not lie in the interior of the trapezoid. Did you consider if the center lies on the trapezoid? It didn't seem clear that 'not in the interior' meant 'exterior to the trapezoid.'" Interesting thought, but even if the language may not have been clear, the given numbers would not allow for the center to lie on the trapezoid. Clearly the center could not fall on the base of length 10, or the base of length 18 would be too long to be inscribed. If the center were drawn on the base of length 18, the radius of the circle would have to be 9. The radius of 9 is not possible, however, as in that case the perpendicular to the center of the base of length 10 would form a right triangle with legs of 4 and 5 and a hypotenuse of 9; such a triangle cannot exist.

■ **Question 4-6: Comment** Fred Harwood said, "Only 10% got the last question. I was going to cover the factor theorem in my next unit with my Gr. 11's. Sigh."

Statistics / Contest #4

Prob #, % Correct (all reported scores)

4-1	84%	4-4	27%
4-2	76%	4-5	11%
4-3	72%	4-6	14%