

HELENA HIGH WINS RMC COMPUTER SCIENCE TOURNEY  
MISSOULA FINISHES SECOND; BILLINGS SKYVIEW THIRD

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BILLINGS -- The Sixth Annual Rocky Mountain College computer programming competition wound up with the eastern region competition and final Nov. 8, 2008 at the RMC campus.

More than 40 competitors from 12 high school teams participated, representing high schools from Helena, Missoula, Billings, Laurel and Powell, Wyoming. The competition combines an eastern region competition and a championship round that includes winners of the western region competition that was held on Oct. 6, 2008, at Helena High School.

After a morning competition involving all teams, the top three teams entered into a final round to determine the 2008 Champions. This year, a team from Helena High School, consisting of Steve Dighans, Talon Daniels, Jake Schwartz, and Colton Hash, won the championship round; the team advisor is Buffy Smith.

Second place honors went to Missoula Sentinel High School. Their team, coached by Dave Hamilton, consisted of Tarl Croufal and Brandon Shannon.

Third place in a two-tiered competition involving 17 teams and nearly 60 competitors was taken by Billings Skyview High School, whose team members were Greg Peterson, Aaron Light and Logan Perreault and team advisor Karen Harrington.

Teams of high school juniors and seniors compete by solving computer-programming tasks. Three top teams from preliminary rounds in the morning compete in sudden death "compute-off" in the afternoon.

Advanced students from the computer science department at RMC and professionals from the business community provide judges for the competition. Prizes include scholarship opportunities.

For further information contact K. Stuart Smith, RMC associate professor of computer science, 406-238-7381.