

Lehigh Valley math team number one in the nation

Posted by [tinauroth](#) May 31, 2009 18:40PM

It's tough for a teen to get excited about math when all the recognition goes to actors, loud bands, athletes and cheerleaders. Enter the Lehigh Valley's own wizards of math who on Saturday earned first place recognition in the [American Regions Mathematics League](#) competition. It's a national competition whose competitors flex their numbers at Penn State University, the University of Georgia, the University of Iowa and the University of Nevada at Las Vegas.

Ben Kraft of Liberty High School was on the winning team.

Regional coordinator [Donald Davis](#), a math professor at Lehigh University, took 65 high school and junior high students -- four teams, plus alternates -- to Penn State where they first faced students from throughout the northeastern United States.

[State Rep. Steve Samuelson](#), whose son was on one of the [Lehigh Valley teams](#), said Sunday the scores from all four regions are compared. Top honors go to the team with the highest score in the nation.

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