Douglas Mathletes win local contest

By the Star Tribune staff

CASPER — A team of Mathletes from Douglas Middle School won the local MATHCOUNTS competition, held at Kelly Walsh High School on Saturday, Feb. 23. The top individual was Jacob Croppe from Douglas Middle School.

Members of the winning team are Jacob Croppe, Ethan Deming, Tanner Annetts, Jacy Busboom and coach Carsten Phillippi. The second place team was from Casper's CY Middle School. Members of this team are Cole Goodman, Natasha Forney, Kaith Johnson, Andrew Solberg and coach Jann Keller. Both teams will now advance to the state competition.

The top five individuals from this competition will also advance to the state competition. The top five finishers were Jacob Croppe (Douglas), Ethan Deming (Douglas), Tanner Annetts (Douglas), Kai Sexson (Glenrock) and Raina Cederburg (Glenrock).

The state competition will be held in Laramie on Saturday. The top four individuals and the coach of the winning team at the state level will receive an all-expense paid trip to represent Wyoming at the 2013 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS National Competition in Washington, D.C., May 9 to 12.

In our increasingly technological society, those students who do not begin developing strong problem solving, logical thinking and analytical abilities in middle school will face an uphill battle later in life if they wish to pursue a medical, scientific, mathematical, engineering or technical career. As a national math enrichment, coaching and competition program designed to improve math skills among U.S. students, MATHCOUNTS prepares students for future career opportunities and success. More than 7 million students across the U.S. have participated in the MATHCOUNTS program.

The state program is sponsored by the Wyoming Society of Professional Engineers. Leadership of the local MATHCOUNTS program is provided by members of the Central Wyoming Chapter of WySPE.