Historical Notes 10

A unique sponsor joined the Olympiad this year: the United States Space Command (USSC) and the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD). General Charles A. Horner awarded certificates to the winners of first through fourth prizes, and invited them (plus Sharon Sherman, the Olympiad Administrator, and I) for a tour of NORAD inside Cheyenne Mountain. NORAD proved to be a no joking matter with the banner “Use of Deadly Force Authorized” above the entrance and an underground labyrinth beyond. It was a unique experience for everyone to see the brain of the defense of North America, which also monitors the space near the Earth. We sat at the huge table in the command room where all critical decisions are made with the NORAD commander on duty, the Canadian Air Force Brigadier-General J. C. M. Robért patiently and humorously answering our many questions. I told him that his exciting job may have some drawbacks. Would he be allowed, for example, to visit France today? “Oh yes,” he replied, “but tomorrow at 700 hours (i.e., 7 in the morning) I will have to be back here on the job.”

USSC and NORAD continued their sponsorship for one more year, I wish it has lasted longer. However, I thank General Charles A. Horner and the many people of the Space Command and NORAD for making these tours possible for the Olympiad winners!

I wish to thank here the four sponsors that have supported the Olympiad all ten years from its inception. Three are high tech companies Hewlett-Packard, Digital Equipment Corporation, and Texas A. Soifer,
In the field of 601 participants, first prize was awarded to senior Jon Hsu from a class of Larry Cattell at Green Mountain High School in Lakewood, Colorado. Jon received the gold medal, a $1,000 scholarship, a Hewlett-Packard graphing calculator, an autographed set of my three books, and University and City memorabilia.

Second prizes were awarded to four young mathematicians: Zach Harris from Fruita/Monument, Kevin Landmark from Coronado High School, Ben Olmstead from Parker Vista Middle School, and Kevin Wiatrowski from Woodland Park High School. Each of them received the silver medal, a $200 scholarship, my book *How Does One Cut a Triangle?*, a Hewlett-Packard graphing calculator, and memorabilia from the City and the University. Ben Olmstead, an *eighth grader*, was also awarded a special prize for creativity.

Third prizes were awarded to three contestants: Mark Friedberg from Palmer High School, Matt Baumgart from Arapahoe High School, and Chris Fry from Air Academy High School. Each of them received the bronze medal, a valuable CASIO overhead graphing scientific calculator, my book, and memorabilia from the City and the University.

We also awarded 6 fourth prizes, 28 first honorable mentions, 27 second honorable mentions, and 78 third honorable mentions. A literary award was presented to the Washington Irving Junior High School bard Dan Wright.

One more time the award presentation ceremony featured the Chairman of the Joint Budget Committee of the Colorado General Assembly, Senator Michael C. Bird, and a letter from Colorado Governor

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1 When these lines were published in the first version of this book in 1994, little did I know that soon Hewlett-Packard would unceremoniously stop its support, and Digital Equipment Corporation would end its very existence.