MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2013 SOLUTION KEY

Round 3

A) Multiplying by 60, $\frac{2x}{15} + \frac{y}{4} = 1 \Leftrightarrow 8x + 15y = 60 \Leftrightarrow y = -\frac{8}{15}x + 4$

Since the equation is now in y = mx + b form, the required order pair is $\left(-\frac{8}{15}, 4\right)$.

B)
$$4\left(x^2 - 3x + \frac{9}{4}\right) + 4\left(y^2 + 5y + \frac{25}{4}\right) = -18 + 9 + 25 \Leftrightarrow \left(x - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + \left(y + \frac{5}{2}\right)^2 = 4$$

 \Rightarrow Center: $\left(\frac{3}{2}, -\frac{5}{2}\right)$ and radius $2 \Rightarrow \left(\frac{3}{2} \pm 2, -\frac{5}{2}\right) \Rightarrow A\left(-\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{5}{2}, \right)B\left(\frac{7}{2}, -\frac{5}{2}, \right)$

C) The equation of line \mathcal{L} is $(y+2) = -\frac{1}{2}(x-13) \Leftrightarrow x+2y=9$

A radius through the center drawn to the point of contact will have slope +2. Its equation is $(y+2) = 2(x-3) \Leftrightarrow 2x-y=8$

The point of tangency T is the intersection of these two lines.

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y = 9 \\ 2x - y = 8 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x + 2y = 9 \\ 4x - 2y = 16 \end{cases} \Rightarrow 5x = 25 \Rightarrow (x, y) = (5, 2)$$

The radius of this circle is the distance from C to T, namely $\sqrt{(2+2)^2+(5-3)^2}=\sqrt{20}$.

Therefore, the required equation is $(x-3)^2 + (y+2)^2 = 20$.

Alternately, the point-to-line distance formula could have been used to find the radius.

The distance from (3,-2) to x+2y-9=0 is $\frac{\left|3\cdot1+(-2)\cdot2+(-9)\right|}{\sqrt{1^2+2^2}}=\frac{10}{\sqrt{5}}=2\sqrt{5}$ which is the radius of the given circle, resulting in the same equation as above.