

Canyon Crest Academy's De-Evolution robotics team takes top prizes at tournament

Canyon Crest Academy's robotics team, De-Evolution, was named the winner in the team's first appearance in this season's qualifying matches.

Going into the semi-finals, De-Evolution was ranked Number 1 out of 28 teams from several Southern California counties. The team maintained its top position and remained undefeated at the tournament, held Dec. 14 at Escondido Charter High School.

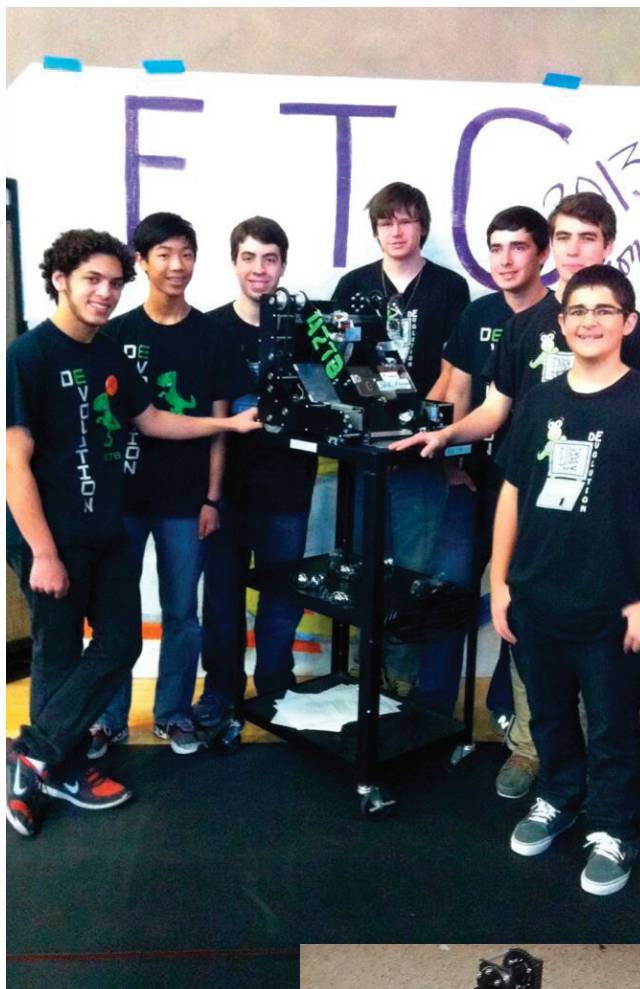
In the finals, the De-Evolution alliance scored the highest points, 256, in any one match of the day.

As the Winning Alliance Captain team, De-Evolution now qualifies to advance to the San Diego regional competition to be held Feb. 15 at Madison High School in San Diego. The winning team at Regionals will advance to the Super-Regionals in Northern California in March. The winner there will compete internationally in April.

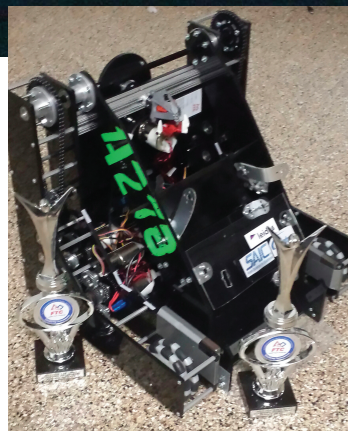
De-Evolution placed second internationally three years ago, as a rookie team. Four members of that rookie team, now CCA seniors, remain on the team.

De-Evolution was also given the Inspire Award, which is considered more prestigious than winning on the field. The Inspire Award is described by tournament organizers as follows:

"The team that receives this award is chosen by the judges as having best represented a role-model FTC team. This team is a top contender for all other judging categories and is a strong competitor on the field. The Inspire Award Winner is an inspiration to other teams, acting with Gracious Professionalism™ both on and off the playing field. This team is able to communicate their experiences, enthusiasm and knowledge to other teams, sponsors, and the judges. Working as a unit, this team will have demonstrated success in accomplishing the task of creating a working



(Above) CCA's winning De-Evolution robotics team members (left to right): Yousuf Soliman, Alex Quan, Tristan Murphy, Noah Sutton-Smolins, Ryan Lee, Kian Sheik, Christian Cooper. [not pictured: Mariella Gauvreau]; (Right) The robot with its trophies!



and competitive robot."

De-Evolution is a FIRST Tech Challenge team, with eight members this year, and is CCA's after-school FTC robotics team. FTC teams are limited to 10 students in grades 7-12.

Based in Manchester, New Hampshire, FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is an international robotics competition founded by inventor Dean Kamen in 1989. A nonprofit organization, FIRST [www.us-first.org] was created to inspire and motivate students to excel and pursue careers in engineering, science and technology.

De-Evolution team members are committed to advancing understanding of robotics in middle and high schools and to spreading the message of the excitement, team spirit and intellectual stimulation that FIRST competitions provide. Any local schools wishing to start a robotics program are encouraged to contact De-Evolution to schedule a visit or demonstration.

On the Web: December's contest is 'Cutest Kid Photo'

December's On the Web photo contest theme is "Cutest Kid Photo." Submit yours today at DelMarTimes.net/Contests for a chance to win a prize.

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