



THE NUTS AND BOLTS

POST-REGIONAL ISSUE

Carmel High School—Rolls-Royce
TECHHOUNDS TEAM 868

www.techhounds.com



TECHHOUNDS REGIONAL RESULTS

FIRST Robotics Competition
Issue 3.3
March 24, 2010

*The TechHOUNDS are well into the competition season! With two Regionals under our belts, we are on our way to the **Atlanta International Championships** on April 15—April 17, 2010 at the Georgia Dome. This issue of The Nuts and Bolts highlights our impressive performance at the **Greater Kansas City Regional** and the **Boilermaker Regional**.*

Kansas City, MO

GREATER KANSAS CITY REGIONAL

March 4—6, 2010

The TechHOUNDS first showcased its robot on the playing field at the Greater Kansas City Regional. With a total of **sixty** teams present, our robot proved to be a robust competitor, improving after every match. During the first day of qualification matches, we were **nearly undefeated** and built a reputation as an **effective, consistently-scoring robot**. Ultimately, with a **6-4-2** win, loss, tie record and a high score of 9 goals, Team 868 was part of the **Top 8 alliances** that made it to the final matches, along with **Teams 234 and 1982**.

Although we only made it up to quarterfinals, we did earn two awards: the **Rockwell Automation Innovation in Control Award** (for our programming associated with our distinctive mechanical component, our flywheel kicker) and the **Website Award** for www.techhounds.com—this award recognizes excellence in student-designed, built, and managed FIRST team websites.

After starting off competition season with an impressive showing, the TechHOUNDS were eagerly looking forward to the Boilermaker Regional. *See Page 2 for professional pictures of this event taken by Mr. Shawn Spence.*



BOILERMAKER REGIONAL

March 18—20, 2010

Purdue University

Presenting...

2010 BOILERMAKER REGIONAL CHAMPIONS



The TechHOUNDS Robotics Team has once again brought home the gold! Team 868 was crowned **2010 Boilermaker Regional Champions** for the **second year in a row** as it competed with **forty** other teams at Purdue University. The TechHOUNDS were part of the **Top 8** alliances as the **second-seeded alliance**, comprising of two additional teams: **Team 45**, the TechnoKats from Kokomo, Indiana, and **Team 2171**, the RoboDogs from Crown Point, Indiana.

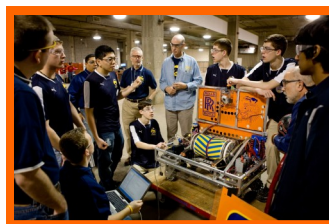
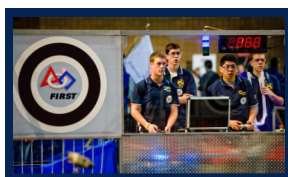
Team 868's robot, with drivers **Charles Nepomuceno and Stephen Spence**, human player **Austin Miller**, and coach **Mr. George Giltner**, proved once again to be an intense competitor, consistently scoring goals from all zones of the playing field throughout qualification matches, emerging with an **8-3-0** record. Ultimately ranked as number seven going into finals, the TechHOUNDS were matched with **Team 45** and **Team 2171** as the second-seeded alliance.

We plowed through quarterfinals and semifinals, and were against the **powerful alliance** of **Team 234**, **Team 2856**, and **Team 2081** in the final matches. With the opposing alliance winning the first match (*continued on Page 2*)





The TechHOUNDS with Dr. Woodie Flowers, professor at MIT and Executive Advisory Board Chairman of FIRST.



BOILERMAKER REGIONAL

(continued from Page 1) and our alliance winning the second match, the decision-making game came to the third match. As heated as ever, this match resulted in nine goals for both teams until the last few seconds, where the TechHOUNDS scored the **game-winning point!**

A special thank you to all supporters who cheered on Team 868 at the Boilermaker Regional!

Our robot also earned the **Xerox Creativity Award**, which recognizes creative design, use of a unique component, and effective strategy of play. Not only were we successful on the playing field, but our **student-constructed pit** once again drew positive attention and interest from public spectators.



SEE MORE PICTURES
AND VIDEO AT
www.techhounds.com!

WOODIE FLOWERS AWARD SUBMISSION

Mr. George Giltner, Faculty Team Leader of Team 868 and an Industry Technology teacher at Carmel High School, was this year's nomination from the TechHOUNDS for the Woodie Flowers Award, a prestigious recognition that acknowledges the significant impact a certain coach has made on his team members. Below is the essay submitted to FIRST; it is clear to see that he continually inspires our team members and greatly deserves much gratitude for all of his efforts.

6:00 PM – TechHOUNDS members anxiously gather as a Build Season meeting begins, waiting for the arrival of Mr. George Giltner, Faculty Leader of Team 868. Mr. Giltner starts by sharing announcements, reminding the team of pertinent safety practices and addressing the ever-present need for financial support with a “sponsor presentation”. This process, introduced by Mr. Giltner, allows students to highlight their success and strategies in acquiring funds and promoting TechHOUNDS. With an eye on the clock, Mr. Giltner encouragingly dismisses the team with, “Let’s get to work!”



6:10 PM – Mr. Giltner visits the machine shop, where Robot Operations industriously works toward today’s deadline. Through his varied background, including CAD, manufacturing, electronics, and mechanical principles (plus student experience in FRC and mentoring at Purdue University), he seamlessly introduces STEM concepts from the classroom, inspiring students in the Robot Operations, Programming, and Auxiliary Construction divisions. Daily, he shares first-hand experience that rewards, satisfaction, and further opportunities will be reaped through hard work.



7:00 PM – The Website division calls for Mr. Giltner’s valued input. This division, along with Public Relations, understands his expectations and highest standards of excellence. He teaches students to communicate TechHOUNDS’ and FIRST’s missions effectively by example and through varied media, including our renowned newsletter created through his direction.

7:20 PM – As he passes the CAD labs, Mr. Giltner notes the Animation division deep in concentration. He provides input and guidance whenever necessary, yet gives the opportunity to freely design and learn the software, thus fostering student innovation and independent learning.

7:55 PM – Mentors drop by to discuss a potential design. Mr. Giltner insists that the TechHOUNDS be student-led and student-driven, but recognizes the value of their input. His proficiency in communication also extends to the team’s supporters, including our school administrators. Mr. James Langfeldt, his former technology teacher and FRC mentor from Team 135, says, “George could speak to anyone. He could convey his thoughts clearly and professionally.”

8:30 PM – As the team cleans the work areas, Mr. Giltner makes another circuit through the divisions, marking accomplishments and noting potential challenges. Mr. Giltner continually emphasizes the efficiency and safety brought through proper clean-up and tool maintenance.



He also marks his accomplishments for the day from his lengthy to-do list. He teaches three different classes, manages the school’s printing, and maintains strong relationships with the middle school technology departments, often providing assistance in incorporating FIRST principles and programs into the curriculum. Mr. Giltner was pivotal in founding and implementing FIRST, the annual TechHOUNDS-hosted summer camp providing first through eighth graders with hands-on experience in CAD, robotics, and machine tools. With so many responsibilities, he manages to be organized and support the team in countless ways every day.



8:55 PM – The TechHOUNDS re-assemble for the meeting’s closing. After the divisions explain their accomplishments, our Faculty Leader never forgets to praise the team’s efforts and remind members to maintain school grades up to his high standards in order to travel. The team is dismissed until next meeting, but Mr. Giltner’s next day starts early in the morning, when he arrives with new ideas to discuss with team leaders and other tasks to put on his plate. As Mr. Langfeldt states, “George was always where the action was.”

It is clear to see the extraordinary impression Mr. Giltner imparts simply in each three-hour meeting. Although Mr. Giltner is a relatively young mentor and teacher, he delivers the passion and enthusiasm as someone who has been involved in FIRST for double the years of his participation. The TechHOUNDS are indeed fortunate to experience his unique, dedicated leadership and truly special mentorship throughout the year!

You're Invited!

SAVE THE DATE!

What: *TechHOUNDS End-of-the-Year Banquet*

When: *April 29, 2010— 6:00 PM-9:00 PM*

Where: *Carmel High School Main Cafeteria*

Join us at this celebratory event, where we will recognize the accomplishments of this season along with our members, mentors, sponsors, and supporters!



OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

APRIL 15-17, 2010

FIRSTSTEP SUMMER CAMP

WEEKS OF JUNE 14 AND JUNE 21

See www.techhounds.com for more info!

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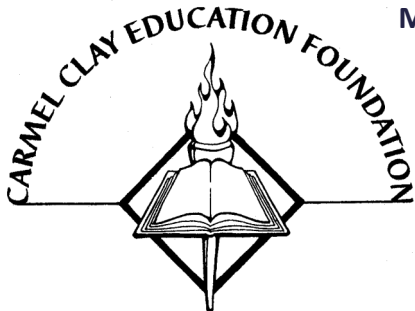


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