

News

County robotic teams prep for last competition before finals

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By Diana Dillaber Murray
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TROY — More than 75 robotics teams will compete at Troy and Livonia Churchill high schools today and Saturday — the final meet before the Michigan FIRST Championship Competition a week later.

Several Oakland County teams were among the high performing teams at the recent FIRST Robotics District Competitions in Ann Arbor and Niles.

Taking first place at Ann Arbor was an alliance with neighboring Grand Blanc High School Team 2337 and Goodrich High School Team 494 with Willow Run High School Team 66.

Waterford Kettering Team 3098 and Berkley High School Team 247 won second place in the Ann Arbor meet on a three-team alliance with Northville High School Team 548. Brother Rice and Marion high schools' Team 3548 were on the third-place alliance.

Oakland County teams to win special awards at the Ann Arbor Meet were: Rockwell Automation Innovation in Control Award — Lake Orion High School Team 302; Motorola Quality Award — Brandon and Holly high schools Team 68; Johnson & Johnson Gracious Professionalism Award — Northville High School Team 548; Chrysler Team Spirit Award and Website Award — Brother Rice and Marion high schools' Team 573.

Taking first place at the Niles district competition was an alliance made up of Hopkins High School & AAESA Tech Center Team 2054; Lake Michigan College Team 2474; and Wyoming High School Team 858.

Novi High School Team 503 was part of the third-place alliance and won the District Chairman's Award at the Niles event, where only a few Oakland County teams competed.

Special awards that went to other Oakland County teams were: the General Motors Industrial Design Award — Waterford Mott High School Team 2612; Imagery Award — Southfield High School Team 94; and Judges Award — Team 1506 made up of students from Kettering University, and Oakland and Genesee county high schools.

The final district championships at Troy Athens and Livonia Churchill high schools are free and open to the public. They start at 10:30 a.m. today and Saturday, and run to 7 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. Troy Athens is at 4333 John R Road and Churchill High School is at 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

The Michigan FIRST Robotics Championship Competition will be held at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center in Ypsilanti.

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