

Oakland robotics champs!



Photo: OCCRA

The alliance of Team 245 from Rochester Adams and Rochester Hills Stoney Creek and Team 255 from Madison Heights Lamphere pose with their OCCRA trophies.

Adams/Stoney Creek, Lamphere alliance earns county title

The alliance of Team 245 from Rochester Adams and Rochester Hills Stoney Creek and Team 255 from Madison Heights Lamphere won the Oakland County Competitive Robotics Association (OCCRA) Championship Saturday, Nov. 20, at Holly.

The teams beat the alliance of Team 33 from Pontiac Notre Dame Prep and Team 2960 from Birmingham Seaholm and Birmingham Groves in the championship final.

Team 51 from Pontiac, Team 43 from Holly, Team 9 from Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep, and Team 1 from Oakland Schools Technical Campus Northeast reached the semifinals.

Other tournament awards:

Top Seed: Team 51 Pontiac

Beautiful Bot Award: Team 43 Holly

Spirit of the Competition Award: Team 51 Pontiac

Technical Excellence Award: Team 33 Pontiac Notre Dame Prep

Strategic Design Award: Team 245 Rochester Adams/Rochester Hills Stoney Creek

Quality Award: Team 573 Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice/Bloomfield Hills Marian

Simple Solutions Award: Team 255 Madison Heights Lamphere

Most Improved Award: Team 203 Novi Detroit Catholic Central

Judges' Awards: Team 469 Bloomfield Hills International Academy and Team 2 Birmingham Roeper

VEX Award: Team 9 Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep

This season's OCCRA game is called "Wall Ball Fall Up & Over." The aim of the game is for student teams to have robots maneuver 10-inch playground balls onto their opponents' playing field. The two sides of the field are separated by a chain-link fence with a single opening for robots to move from side to side.

Robots can either carry balls to their opponents' field or toss the balls over the fence. Teams can also score points by having their robots hang from steel bars in the middle of the game field. The tournament structure randomly pairs robots from two different schools in an "alliance" against two robots from an opposing alliance. In addition to the large robots, smaller VEX robots are also part of the competition.

The OCCRA awards banquet will be held Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 5:30 p.m. in the Oakland Schools Conference Room.

For more information on OCCRA, please contact Terri Kroll at (248) 209-2432.