

THE NUTS AND BOLTS

TECHHOUNDS TEAM 868

May 30, 2013

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Team Wins Big This Season!

Boilermaker Regional

- Purdue University
- March 14-16
- Regional Champions

Crossroads Regional

- Rose Hulman
- April 4-6
- Regional Champions

St. Louis International

- St. Louis, MO
- April 24-27
- 4th Seed Alliance Captain

Indiana State Championship

- Perry Meridian High School
- May 18
- State Champions



State champion TechHOUNDS go to IRI

The semester may be over, but the season is not yet finished for the TechHOUNDS. This July, the team will be participating in the Indiana Robotics Invitational (IRI), one of the most elite competitions in robotics.

This off-season competition is an invite-only event for the top 78 FIRST Teams in the world.

In the past, the competition was only for teams in Indiana, but it has since evolved into a global event for which teams all over the world dream of receiving an invitation.

Because the event is not FIRST sanctioned, the rules of the game are often changed. However, this year, due to the quality and popularity of Ultimate Ascent, no rules will be

changed for IRI.

According to Robot Ops lead Evan Chivington, this event is one of the competitions he most looks forward to due to the level of competition and motivation in the teams.

"It's exciting because everyone there is great at playing the game," Chivington said. "Even during the qualification matches."

With two regional wins and a state title, the TechHOUNDS are hoping for a repeat success at IRI. All team members, families, and sponsors are invited to watch the competition and cheer on the TechHOUNDS from July 19 to 20 at Lawrence North High School.

Next Season

"We're excited for new members to join the team, and we're excited to see veteran members lead. Most of all we're excited to see the new game and what we learn."

-Team Co-Leads: Molly Wardlow and Blake Loncharich

2013-14 Division Leads

Programming: David Murzyn

Electrical: Jacob Swiezy

Robot Operations: Evan Chivington

Website: Vincent Mai

Construction: Eric Lentz

Public Relations: Matt Olson

New next year, there will be a "CAD Division" which will take the place of Animation. It will be responsible for creating a visual model of the most up-to-date robot throughout the season.



Season Overview

Boilermaker Regional

The TechHOUNDS season began at the Purdue Boilermaker Regional. The regional lasted three days, and the team won seven of its eight qualifying matches, earning a second seed ranking. The TechHOUNDS were chosen by first seed Team 359, The Hawaiian Kids, and Team 1747, Harrison Boiler Robotics became our third alliance partner. Our alliance won all the elimination matches and went on to win the regional. The TechHOUNDS were also awarded the Industrial Design Award for our robot design.



Crossroads Regional

The Crossroads Regional was the team's second event. We were able to win nine of our ten qualifying matches, finishing the qualifying matches seeded first. For our alliance, we chose Team 234, Cyber Blue and Team 1646, Precision Guessworks. Our alliance only lost one elimination match due to a battery that came unhooked. We went on to win the entire regional with our alliance and celebrated with the "big head" posters of the drive team (see above).

Internationals

The International Competition lasted for three days. We were greeted in St. Louis with an appearance by Will.I.am. During the qualifying rounds, we won all of our matches except for one. We finished seeded sixth and became the fourth alliance captain. For our alliance we picked Team 2590, Team Nemesis and Team 71, Team Hammond. During the quarterfinals, we lost our first match, won the second match, then lost the third, ending our time at Internationals. While we were there, Looking Forward, one of the most well respected organizations in FIRST, named Team 868 the best cyler in the world. Akash, our human player, was also given the title of The Fastest Hands in the World, due to his speed in loading the discs into our robot.



Indiana State Championship

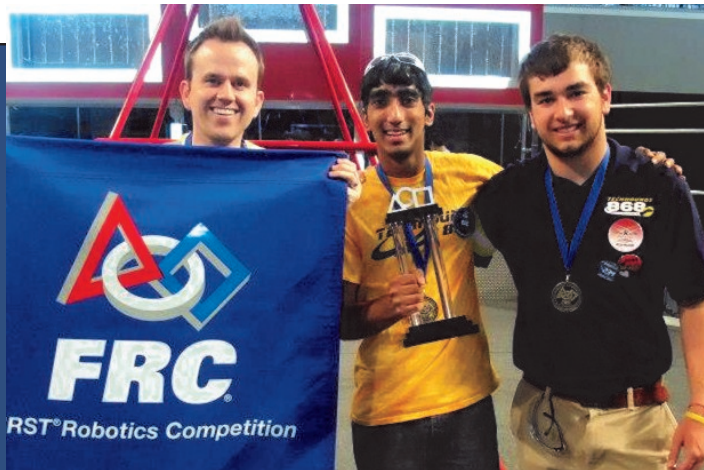
At state, we were seeded second before the competition began due to our season record and awards we had earned. We won all of our qualifying matches during the championship. During alliance selection, we were able to again pick Team 234, Cyber Blue and Team 3487, The Earthquakers. We won all of our quarter and semi final matches. In the finals, we won the first match then lost the second by three points. We were all very nervous for the outcome of the third match because of issues with the robots' climbers, but when the scores were displayed, we had won by three points, allowing us to win state.



Four Year Members

"We had one of the best seasons in TechHOUNDS history. I'm so proud of all we have accomplished. I know the members to continue on the team's legacy and be even more amazing for the seasons to come."

-Akash Shankar
2012-2013 Team Lead
2010-2013 Member



At the end of this year, the team's two four-year-members will graduate from Carmel High School and move on to college. Here are their final thoughts on the team and their advice for future TechHOUNDS.

"You have to work hard and struggle and even fail before you can realize your true potential. It's important to remember that you're never alone in this world, there is always a team behind you."

-Stephen Thompson
2012-2013 Scouting Lead
2010-2013 Member

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