Go 2252, Go!

EHOVE’s Team Mavericks at the competition

They only had six weeks, but they made it work. EHOVE Career Center Engineering Technology students built a robot with guidance from EHOVE Instructors Jim McIntyre and Steve Spriggs, and Engineer Mentors Alex Yeckley of Sierra Lobo, Rich Evans of NASA Plum Brook, and James Draper of BGSU Firelands/Lorain County Community College. They put together a winner.

On Saturday, at the ninth annual FIRST Buckeye Regional Robotics Competition held at the Wolstein Center of Cleveland State University, the EHOVE team, #2252, walked away with the top prize. Their regional win qualifies them to attend the national FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) championship at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Georgia on April 15-17. The competition this year included over 60 teams hailing from Ohio to New York to Wisconsin.

FIRST, founded in 1989 by inventor and entrepreneur Dean Kamen, combines extreme sports with engineering and technology to inspire young people’s interest and participation in science, technology and engineering. Sponsored by the NASA Glenn Research Center, the event challenges high school students, with guidance from professional mentors, to design and build a competitive robot to play in a game called Breakaway. The game is played on a 27’ x 54’ field, with two groups of three teams attempting to earn points by collecting soccer balls in goals or suspending the robot in air at the end of the match.

EHOVE Engineering Technology student Alex Prosser, Bellevue High School, said, “The process starts with a kick-off event with an opening ceremony, where we review the rules. Then our next step is brainstorming.”

The members offer up ideas that turn into prototypes that eventually turn into the robot. “The best part is putting it together, then firing it up,” said Prosser. Their method seems to have been right, as the group was also won the Innovation in Control Award, for their gyro control, which allows the robot to move in any direction, regardless of which way it’s facing.

There’s a lot of testing involved too. “We test the code a lot to see if the robot has good reactions and strong components,” said EHOVE Engineering Technology student Aaron Ohlemacher, Norwalk High School. Several of the team members felt they were well prepared. “Our robot was very reliable,” said Ohlemacher.

“Our sponsors have been great. We couldn’t have done it without them,” said McIntyre, who is working to find additional funding for flights and hotels, so the students can attend the National competition. McIntyre and Spriggs have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the process from day one. To them, it’s worth putting in many extra unpaid hours to see their EHOVE students succeed.
SPONSORS
Sierra Lobo—primary sponsor  Riley Contracting  Elektron Forge  John McIntyre Jr.
Schlessman Seed Company  Carol Kuns Family  JBT Foodtech  Smart Consortium
NASA  Martha Holden-Jennings Foundation

EHOVE’s Team Mavericks

SENIORS
Cody Watkins, Western Reserve H.S.  Aaron Ohlemacher, Norwalk H.S.  Alex Prosser, Bellevue H.S.
Shane Martin, Perkins H.S.

JUNIORS
Dustin Bottomlee  New London H.S.  Jason Clevenger, Huron H.S.  Daniel Dechant, Huron H.S.
Andrew Lasnoski, St. Mary Central Catholic H.S.  Theren Vickery, Bellevue H.S.
Taylor Webb, Margaretta H.S.

The big switch
March 31, 2010

Starting next Tuesday, and ending May 13, EHOVE Career Center juniors in the Cosmetology program will take over the salon from the seniors, who will be preparing for their State Board exams. The salon will open Tuesdays-Thursdays at 8:30 am for services like hair coloring, perms, relaxers, etc. Those needing a manicure, pedicure, haircut or wax should come in before 10 am. “The students are doing a great job. They would love to see some familiar and new faces!” said EHOVE Cosmetology Instructor Lynn Keefer.

Cracking the case
March 16, 2010

(L-R) Caitlen Cameron of Norwalk and Bailey Phillips of Lagrange perform a chromatography test with help from Instructor Kelly Bodkin in EHOVE Career Center’s Youth Enrichment class called Who Dun It? Students collect and test evidence to crack the case and catch the villain in this fun class held on Saturdays in February.
Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet . . .

March 29, 2010

L-R Colin Hardman and Kyle Abner of Edison High School; Dehriane Martin of Norwalk, Chelsea Grady of New London and Julie Martin of Norwalk; and Tay Henson of Perkins and Jacob Christopher of Vermilion proudly display their new “I’m In EHOVE!” t-shirt from Thursday, March 25th’s Meet & Greet.

The biting wind and sleet last Thursday made it feel like we were going back into winter, instead of just starting spring. That didn’t stop the crowds from coming to EHOVE’s Meet & Greet. The event welcomed a huge turnout of next year’s new students and their parents, who toured EHOVE to get a good look at the high school of choice and its programs, staff and current students.

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Top 21 for Educators

Fabulous speakers from the Discovery Channel and Ghana, and interesting, helpful sessions for educators about how to make the most of technology in the classroom. Nice, but it gets better. It’s free! Top 21 is EHOVE Career Center’s free technology workshop for teachers, principals, librarians, college professors and other educators.

There’s something for every type of educator in this workshop. Interested in learning from a Discovery Channel speaker about services provided by Discovery Education, like online streaming video, lesson plans, interactive learning games, and much more? Or maybe you’d be more interested in a live video connection into a Ghana classroom, where participants will be amazed to hear about the Ghana’s changing education system? Not sure? That’s okay! There are plenty of other session topics: royalty-free online materials, SmartBoard recording and hints, PowerPoint tips and tricks, Educator Licensure updates, student involvement, and 3D Lessons.

Top 21 is Thursday, April 15 from 3:30-6 pm at EHOVE Career Center, 316 W. Mason Road in Milan Township. Reserve your preferred session online at top21apr2010.eventbrite.com before they’re filled!
Partners spread Goodwill

March 30, 2010

EHOVE students in the Manufacturing Technology and Auto Body students have teamed up with Leadership Erie County to provide Goodwill in Erie County with five new clothing drop boxes. Leadership Erie County’s Class of 2009 initiated the project as part of their training and community service project.

Leadership’s group members evaluated several needs in the community and settled on helping Goodwill with their drop box problem. Their current wooden drop boxes have short life spans with the high levels of wear and tear and the Ohio weather they must endure. The Leadership Erie County group members noticed another organization’s metal drop boxes seemed to fare much better in the same conditions. So, they came up with a plan to provide Goodwill with new steel drop boxes that will cost about $1000 each. “We especially liked this project because the donations put into these new boxes will stay right here in the community,” said Leadership Erie County member Michele Hall. Her fellow member, Susan Glenn agreed and added, “It is through an entire community’s efforts that projects like the new donation boxes for the Sandusky Bay Area Goodwill Industries can be accomplished.”

The group is financing the project by money earned through fundraisers and grants received from the Wightman-Wieber Foundation and the Mylander Foundation. They purchased pre-cut materials from Mac Iron at a reduced rate. EHOVE Career Center students will construct, paint and letter the boxes, free of charge, one at a time under the direction of Manufacturing Technology Instructor Skip Frost. “This is great opportunity for EHOVE to show the community just what the school is capable of doing. It is also a great way for EHOVE to give back to our community,” said Frost.

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Pay it forward

Admit it. Those prom dresses and formal dresses that you only wore once are still in your closet. Are you ever really going to wear them again? Free up some closet space and donate the dresses to EHOVE Career Center’s Student Council Prom Dress Drive.

EHOVE Carpentry student and Student Council President Robin Miller, Western Reserve High School, started the effort last year after hearing about similar drives in the Cleveland area. Something about it clicked for her. She and her friends have traded dresses and saved their parents a good chunk of money. With tough financial times for many, she felt a prom dress drive was a good way for many of us to pay it forward.

“Student Council and our advisors, Mrs. LaFollette and Ms. Fife, all work hard to put this together,” Miller said. “We’re looking forward to being able to offer a new selection of donated dresses. Last year, we collected almost 150, but we definitely need more.”

Collection starts at 5 pm on Thursday evening at EHOVE’s March Meet & Greet, an open house for next year’s new students and their parents to explore EHOVE and meet current students and instructors. “Numerous students were able to have an affordable way to attend prom last year, and we hope to be able to make that happen for more again this year,” said LaFollette.

The collection ends next week Thursday, because that’s Rental Day, where interested EHOVE students may try on dresses and make a selection. A minimal rental charge is based on the student’s ability to pay, and used only to cover dry cleaning costs. The dresses will be dry cleaned over Spring Break and ready for pickup when students return to school.

For more information, please contact EHOVE Student Council Advisor Lisa LaFollette at 1-866-256-9707 x318.
Retail Careers students in top ten
March 30, 2010

L-R EHOVE Career Center students Courtney Hennig, Margaretta High School and Liz Nesser, Danbury High School

Congratulations to EHOVE Career Center students Liz Nesser, Danbury High School and Courtney Hennig, Margaretta High School, for placing in the top ten at the Ohio DECA Career Development Conference in Columbus this past weekend. Nesser brought home a second place trophy, and Hennig nearly was awarded a trophy with her fourth place finish.

The Retail Careers students each completed a Business Services Project manual for the competition. Their manuals are written projects of about 30 pages on marketing operations of a business. They cover items like the business’ history, structure, chain of distribution, target market and marketing plan. The students learn these concepts in their EHOVE classes, as well as on the job training with local businesses.

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Earnin’ the dough
March 23, 2010

Congratulations to EHOVE Career Center student Hillary Hayes, Norwalk High School. Hayes, a senior in the Culinary Arts program, has received $22,888 in scholarship and grant money for her first year at Ashland University. She has received the Pell Grant—$5500, Ashland University Endowment Scholarship—$3790, Ohio Opportunity Grant—$1848, Academic Competitiveness Grant—$750 and the Provost's Scholarship—$11,000 for her first year and each of the remaining three years of undergraduate study.

Currently a Senior at EHOVE Career Center, Hayes will begin attending Ashland University in the fall and will major in Hospitality Management with a minor in Business Management. Her goal is to earn her degree and also take a few more culinary classes specializing in baking and pastry. “I would ultimately love to open my own catering business or bakery someday,” Hayes said.

EHOVE Chef Instructor Michael Edwards is proud of his student. “Hillary is a dedicated student with strong organization skills that have given her a strong foundation to use while pursuing her career in the hospitality profession at Ashland University. It has been a pleasure teaching her the past two years,” said Edwards.

School is important to Hayes, and she’s glad she made it a priority, noting “Receiving both scholarships from Ashland take a huge financial burden off of myself and my parents. It is going to allow me attend the college of my choice and receive a great education. It does pay to get good grades.”
EHOVE students give back to the community

A recent project of some EHOVE Career Center Career Development students made a big difference for one community organization. The Career Development program was developed to help prepare students for the workforce. They keep busy with much more than the community service project. Exploring different avenues of the industry in which they’re studying, learning financial management and money skills, and developing résumé building skills are some of the areas of instruction they receive.

Utilizing $250 from EHOVE’s Educational Development Corporation Fund, whose sources are monies received from donations, projects built by students in the Carpentry program, and EHOVE’s Trash to Treasures event each spring, the students researched possible outreach projects meant to benefit the community. In the past, the fund has funded projects to feed local families during the holidays or help needy students with supplies to keep them attending school. For this project, the students decided to purchase items for the animals at the Humane Society of Erie County.

Students selected items from the Society’s wish list at www.humanesocietyoferiecounty.org, then researched the lowest prices in the area for each. Through their hard work, they were able to purchase about a half ton of cat litter and over 100 toys for the animals. The students and their instructor, Duane Koch, delivered the donations last week.

“We are so grateful for the supplies. Their timing was perfect,” said Humane Society of Erie County Director Amy Porter. The facility, which is funded entirely by donations by area citizens and businesses, was down to its last bag of cat litter when the EHOVE students delivered the donations.

Porter also said it takes about $300,000 each year to run the shelter and supply donations found on their wish list are welcomed. She said they also need foster families because it’s “kitten season.” Another way to support the shelter is to purchase Easter baskets for pets. More information can be found in the special events section of their website.

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Teamwork builds success at competitions for EHOVE students
March 23, 2010

EHOVE Career Center Interactive Media Tech students spent weeks researching locations, interviewing people and learning new software to assemble comprehensive video productions about their chosen subject matter. The hard work and long hours paid off for three groups of students at recent competitions.

EHOVE Juniors Allyson Smith, Norwalk High School, Alexis Ramage, Western Reserve High School and Salena Gomez, New London High School formed a group who competed at the Business Professionals of America (BPA) State Competition last week. BPA is the leading career technical student organization for students pursuing careers in business management, office administration, information technology and other related career fields.

Their project, “Home Away From Home,” was a marketing plan in the Global Marketing category for a home exchange company, which is where two members agree to exchange homes for a vacation. Their plan and presentation included pricing strategies, promotional ideas, economic information, methods of measuring success and much more was awarded first place in the category. Having Juniors win State as a team is a first in their instructor, Dustin Lowery’s teaching career, and he believes it is possibly a first for EHOVE as well. The group’s win qualified them to compete at the national competition in Anaheim, California in May.

“The magnitude of their first place finish is extremely high. Their work ethic throughout the project was tremendous. They listened and took the recommendations of the teachers guiding them to heart. A special thanks goes to the student teacher I had at the time, Drew Karnehm, and Penny Adelman, Retail Careers Instructor at EHOVE. They gave the students things to think about, and Drew really helped them getting the project started,” said Lowery.

A second group of EHOVE students also participated in the BPA State Competition in the Video Production category. Cory Herman, South Central High School, Nikke Hall, Norwalk High School, Allison Sherrard, Western Reserve High School and Meagan Paramore, Western Reserve High School, formed the group who produced a video project. They were awarded second place, which also qualified them for the national competition in California.

The project was a five-minute video including pre and post-production activities, and a presentation explaining its creation. The video highlighted the life of a local hero, Mark Beeman of Norwalk. Army Master Sergeant Beeman was a World War II and Korean War veteran. Later in his life, he was well-known in the community. Beeman worked as a greeter to visitors arriving at EHOVE Career Center, a toll collector for the Ohio Turnpike, crossing guard for the City of Norwalk, manager of the Norwalk JC Penney and Chamber of Commerce President.

Herman interviewed Mr. Beeman’s wife and sons, and created the DVD menu. Hall handled the music and post-production materials. Paramore was the main editor, while Sherrard did the editing of the DVD extras. In preparation for the state competition, the group shadowed Sandusky business owner Tom Whaley of TW Teleproductions, who gave them invaluable information to “clean up” their video. “It was really great to watch them work together as a team and bounce ideas off themselves and to break down the roles. They talked with each other throughout the process and helped each other learn,” said Lowery.
The final group put together a 3D animated video about attractions for vacationers in Washington D.C. Cory Jenkins, Bellevue High School, Richie Kastl, Vermilion High School and Alec Hayes, Margaretta High School, selected what they felt were interesting sites for teen tourists to visit. After researching the large number of attractions in the area, they settled on several like the Washington Monument, Vietnam Wall, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Lincoln Memorial and National Museum for Women in the Arts, and many others.

Jenkins worked on the setting and paperwork, while Kastl animated the trees and set up the audio. Hayes did the bulk of the character design, animation and special effects. All agreed the hardest part of the project was learning the new software, an open source program called Blender 3D. Lowery estimates the students put about 120 hours into the project.

Their project took first place in the Business and Arts and Communication Category at the Tech Prep Showcase held at Terra Community College on March 9. Lowery said, “This is great reward for all of their hard work on this project. They will be able to use the scholarships they won for their books next year. They also placed fourth at the BPA State Competition and just missed qualifying for Nationals.”

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Kick Some Butts!
April 5, 2010

EHOVE students Nikke Hall, Norwalk High School, Meagan Paramore, Western Reserve High School, and Allyson Sherrard, Western Reserve High School were awarded second place and an $800 prize at the 9th annual Kick Some Butts anti-tobacco contest.

Held at Norwalk High School, 67 teams from all over Northwest Ohio competed for the top prizes. “The videos have evolved over the years to some very sophisticated projects,” said EHOVE Treasurer and American Lung Association State Board Member Larry Hanneman who helped to develop the competition. “We want to reach the maximum number of teens about the dangers of tobacco in all forms.”

Hanneman said that tobacco settlement monies collected by the State of Ohio originally funded the competition, but now have been diverted to other projects. “We rely strictly on support from local hospitals, physicians, dentists, and community members to continue the program. A major force in developing and financing the program was Peggy Wood, who did all of the video compilation until this year. Mr. John Kaiser of Kaiser Wells Pharmacy in Norwalk has donated $1,000 per year to support this project as well.” Other sponsors include Fisher-Titus Medical Center, The Bellevue Hospital, Kaiser Wells Pharmacy, Memorial Hospital, Samaritan Regional Health System, Magruder Hospital and dentists Dr. Michael Spreng and Dr. Brian Garrison of Ashland.

L-R EHOVE Career Center Treasurer and American Lung Association State Board Member Larry Hanneman, Ashland Community Hospital Representative and ALA Kick Some Butts Committee Member Rob Slabodnick, EHOVE Career Center Students Allison Sherrard, Meagan Paramore and Nikke Hall.
Sousa Tribute Concert at EHOVE
April 8, 2010

Relive the sounds of a past era as EHOVE Career Center presents a concert tribute to John Philip Sousa on Sunday, April 18. Sousa was a Marine Corps veteran, musical composer and band conductor in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

The tribute concert features Conductor Marcus Neiman and the Medina Community Band. Guest Conductor Denise Reilly and the Edison High School Band’s Trumpet section will also make an appearance.

Admission is free, with the concert starting at 2 pm in the F Building at EHOVE Career Center located at 316 W. Mason Road in Milan Township. Free cookies and punch will also be served. More information at www.ehove.net

April 7, 2010

EHOVE Board President earns Award of Achievement
March 12, 2010

Dr. Paul Lockwood, EHOVE Career Center Board President, was presented with the Ohio School Boards Association’s Award of Achievement at one of the association’s regional spring conferences on March 11 in Lima. The Award of Achievement is given to school board members in recognition of their commitment to training and leadership activities on their boards of education and region and statewide OSBA activities.

The OSBA is in its 55th year of service to public education and represents the state’s public school boards. Services include: management consulting, continuing education through training programs and workshops, policy development, legal services, legislative initiatives, management services, superintendent and other executive searches, information, technology, employee relations and communications.