



The CENTER PAGE

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Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center

Spring, 2003

Team members
Katie MacAskill,
Nicole Bresinski
at the finish line.



Points Lost in Flip Over!

Robotics Team Boasts Respectable '03 Finish

Well, its over—at least for this year and here's the wrap up for the 2003 Competition results for FIRST Robotics Team 818.

At the March Great Lakes Regional in Ypsilanti team 818 competed with 68 other teams and finished 18th place overall.

Moving on to the West Michigan Regional in Grand Rapids we competed with 45 other teams and ended up in 24th place. In addition, we were picked by team 658 to compete in the Quarter Finals. Our robot was flipped over twice on the ramp during the quarter finals and was not able to recover the points lost. Overall, however, a very respectable finish.

Our team also was awarded Best Robot Concept, Spirit Award and Best Robot Cart Award. This robot cart was built by the auto body students at the WCS Career Prep Center under the direction of instructor Pat Kelly, as well as other CPC students and staff.

Last month at the National Competition held in Houston, Texas, there were 293 teams competing. Teams were divided into 4 divisions of 72 teams. Our team, Curie, finished 59th.

Here we were chosen to compete in the eliminations rounds and successfully made it to the semifinals. However, we were flipped over and our robot steering gear motor was jammed—we were eliminated in the semifinals match. Overall, however it was a successful conclusion to the season.

The first day in Houston the team did practice runs at the Astro Dome in preparation for the actual completions in the Reliant Stadium next door.

On Friday night the Six Flags Theme Park opened for **FIRST** teams only from 6-9 p.m. On Saturday after the Awards Ceremony, everyone went to Six Flags for a Team Dinner and enjoyed the park until closing time.

MMSTC students attending the event were Katie MacAskill, Andrew Richards, Brian Whitney, Evangelos Foutris and Nicole Bresinski. WCS staff members attending included Rose Cybulski, Larry Ervin, MMSTC; Cathy Pefley, Bob Callender, Mott; Jen Torango, Greg McMillan, SHHS; and Steve O'Green, Cousino.

FIRST Robotics
Team 818




Draco



See Pages 2 -3

Seniors Share Final Handshakes, Hugs at Reception



Class of 2003 Honored At Reception Dinner

*Awards, Slide Show, Election Results
Highlight Final Sendoff for Seniors*

The date was Monday, May 5. The Place was the Sterling Inn Banquet Center and the event was the Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center's 11th Annual Senior Reception Dinner.

Parents, faculty and friends honored the Class of 2003 at this gala event that was opened with a welcome message by Dr. Daniel Schafer, Director of Special Programs. The evening included a slide show, mock election results and teacher introductions.

The highlight of the Senior Reception Dinner was the announcement of awards, grants and scholarships to students who crossed the stage after being congratulated by Director Schafer and teachers.

A lot of hugs and tears were evident as seniors said finalgood byes to the faculty. Emcees for the Banquet were Seniors Sara Cox and Tim Scism. The slide show was presented by Mary Czarnecki, Reana Kyprianides, Sara Cox and Elizabeth Marberg. Closing remarks were made by Carol Jones, Director of Math Science Centers, Macomb Intermediate School District.



Students Switch to Yoga, Meditation

Learning how to cope with stress was what it was all about, and MMSTC students decided to tackle the problem.

Recently students turned aside their competition for college scholarships, entrance exams and advanced placement tests and switched to meditation techniques and ways to cope with stress.

The Stress Free Day included yoga stretches, chair massages and presentations given by psychologists.

Topics covered included the relationship between substance abuse and stress, and time management as well as goal setting.

Center math teacher Marie Copeland said, "I'm really pleased at how well this workshop has been received."



Above: Nick Roosen, Amy Stokes, the Massage Professional and Carrie Zeichmester take their turn at body massage. **Right:** Katelyn Russell, Sarah Mullins, Kelly Haehl and Ryan Oswald could be found doing yoga exercises.



Left: Nicole Bresinski, Tim Pietraszkiewicz and Breanna McNally put their stressful concerns in a paper bag and smash them into oblivion. All part of the Stress Free Day activity.

————— Celebrate Pi Day —————

Carleton Students Visit MMSTC



Activities Center Around Various Math Topics

On March 17, all the 6-8th graders in the Creative and Talented Program at Carleton Middle School came to the MMSTC to celebrate Pi Day.

Students rotated through three activities, centering on various math topics. The activities were planned and presented by MMSTC students.

Afterwards, students celebrated with Pi cupcakes. MMSTC math

teachers Larry Ervin, Marie Copeland and Chris Malone were involved in the Pi Day and 45 afternoon MMSTC students participated.

Center students indicated that they enjoyed the opportunity to be involved in this event and appreciated the many thank you letters from Carleton students. Many Carleton students indicated in their letters that they will attend MMSTC.



From the Counseling Office



Seniors have been busy with AP exams, preparing for finals, and of course prom, honor's convocations and finally, graduation!

Exam schedule

Seniors May 29, 30

Grades 9, 10, 11 June 6 and 9

End of semester

Last day for seniors is May 30.

Last day for grades 9,10,11 is June 9.

Juniors will have their classes and instructors posted before the end of the school year. All advanced science research partners are to be picked prior to the end of this school year. Students will have an opportunity to meet with their advanced science instructor to discuss next year's curriculum and expectations. Summer reading lists will be available. We encourage students to begin working on their research projects with their partners.

Many universities will offer their on-line applications on August 1. It is highly recommended that students apply as early as possible to their college/colleges of choice. It also recommended that students work on their essays, gathering letters of recommendation and applying for scholarships over the summer.

Sophomores can start preparing over the summer to take the PSAT/NMSQT when they return in the fall. The PSAT is the qualifying test for entry to National Merit Scholarship Corporation competitions for college scholarships that will be awarded in 2005. Students who meet published participation requirements, which include taking the PSAT/NMSQT in their junior year will enter the competition for recognition and awards.

Counselor Elissa Brown is available to help with academic, college, or personal concerns. Her e-mail is: ebrown@mail.wcs.k12.mi.us. or call her at 586-574-3204.

ATTENTION PARENTS!

Check Your Bussing Needs

Surveys were passed out recently to all WCS students regarding the need for fall 2003 bus transportation. Please discuss with your student as to whether proper transportation has been ordered. Also, if a change in transportation needs develops over the summer, you are advised to contact the transportation office at 586-825-2679 before the first week in August. Please check the window of the MMSTC office at Butcher for the WCS bus list. If there are any questions, please call the MMSTC office.



IDS Class Event!

Beer Middle School students came for a Science day and rolled up their sleeves for hands-on fun!

Total Participation!

Matt Willard (Center) demonstrates the effects of air pressure for the Science Day visitors.



HANDS-ON EVENTS!

Science Day Features Demos

Eighth graders from Beer Middle School came to Macomb Math Science Tech Center for a Science Day! And what a day it was!

ROLL UP THEIR SLEEVES

This event, which took place in early April, included fun demos created by Center students, and hands-on activities designed to get the middle school student to actually roll up their sleeves and participate.

HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

The actual topics included crushing cans to show the effects of air pressure, color changes with household products that show the presence of acids and bases, making ice cream to show freezing depression, and observing how light waves can transmit sound as another way of communication.

SENIOR PLAN

The plan to invite the eighth graders to a Science Fair originated with seniors in the MMSTC IDS class. Class instructor is Rose Cybulski.



Kyle Katinski (Far Right) was on hand to assist students with the hands-on demonstrations



John Zalewski from Mott High School and Jeff Stearns from Cousino High School display their awards from MACUL for their Interactive Multimedia Lesson project. They both received \$200 to buy equipment for the Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center and a \$100 certificate to use for professional books.

Seniors Win Media Contest

It was announced this week that two Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center seniors, John Zalewski and Jeff Stearns, had won the MACUL Interactive Multimedia contest.

The winning students had to pick a standard and benchmark from the Michigan Curriculum Frameworks and create an interactive power point lesson to teach their chosen benchmark. John and Jeff chose to explain the process of building a computer.

Their benchmark was to assemble mechanical or electronic systems using appropriate tools and instructions. It had to include documentation of systems, such as diagrams, owner manuals, and assembly instructions.

The prize included \$200 cash for the MMSTC and a \$100 gift certificate for professional books. It was decided that the \$200 be spent to purchase jump drives for the IDS classes. The project was under the direction of Rose Cybulski, IDS instructor.

On the move with our graduates

Christine Sauve, Class of 1999, Eisenhower High School, will be receiving a Bachelor Degree from the University of Michigan in Dec. '03 with a double major in French and an individualized social science program. She is studying international development, focusing on gender and health in Francophone, West Africa. She did bio-anthropology research in Mali in the summer of 2001 and studied abroad in France during the last academic year.

Scott Ross, Class of 1998, Stevenson High School, earned his BS at Michigan State University's Lyman Briggs Honors Microbiology program last spring and is currently a first year medical student at Wayne State University's School of Medicine. He is very involved with AMSA (American Medical Student Association) and several outreach programs involving health and disease awareness in the Detroit Public Schools as well as working at a homeless health clinic. He visited a medical mission in Belize during spring break.

Amy Link, Class of 1997, Warren Mott High School, is currently entering her final clinical rotation for Physical Therapy. In May she will graduate with her Master's Degree in Physical Therapy from Oakland University.

She is still engaged to her high school sweetheart **Daniel Modrich**, Fraser, also from MMSTC Class of 1997. Dan is the accountant for the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at Wayne State University.

He will soon be graduating with a business degree in accounting and a minor in anthropology. He will be specializing in public accounting. Amy and Dan are set to be married this fall.

Michael Fisher, Class of 1996, Sterling Heights High School, is currently a Lieutenant j.g. in the United States Navy. He is stationed in Norfolk, Virginia, and working on his submarine qualifications. He has been on the USS Norfolk, a fast attack submarine, for just under a year.

Brandon McGrath, Class of 1995, Cousino High School, graduated from the University of Michigan in 1999 with a BSE in naval architecture and marine engineering. He currently works as a Naval architect in Maine at Bath Iron Works, a General Dynamics company.

He is involved in new design, fleet services, production support, and research and development for US Navy guided missile destroyers, frigates, transport dock ships,

and future surface combatants. He lives in Brunswick, Maine, and recently ran in the Detroit Marathon finishing second in his age group and ran in the Boston Marathon in April.

Jason Kennedy, Class of 1994, Cousino High School, graduated from Wayne State University in May, 1998 with a BSE degree in industrial engineering. He worked for General Motors Corporation at the Lake Orion plant, and now at the GM Tech Center in Warren, developing future programs for the Corvette and Evoq. He began pursuing his MBA at Wayne State University in the fall of 2000. He married Kelly Cairns, Class of 1994, in October, 1998.

Lawrence Chang, Class of 1993, Warren Mott High School, received his bachelor's degrees from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is currently living and working in Silicon Valley, in San Jose, Calif. at RF Micro Devices, Inc., in a systems engineering group that is responsible for developing digital baseband algorithms for wireless local-area network (WLAN) chip.

Information on MMSTC graduates supplied by instructor Carole Gerling.

Instructors Attend Texas Conference

MMSTC instructors Chris Malone and Marie Copeland attended the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference in San Antonio, Texas, April 9-12.

They participated in a variety of sessions and came back with ideas for projects, and activities as well as software for all the Center math courses.

Proof of Purchase Event Nets New Equipment

Thanks to all students who gave math instructor Marie Copeland their proof of purchase tabs after buying their graphing calculators.

The Center was able to receive a free new TI83 plus silver edition overhead projection system for submitting the tabs.

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D. Walsh, Asst. Superintendent,
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Macomb Math Science Tech Center
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Honoring the Class of 2003

*Our highest regards to our graduates.
Congratulations!*

Dr. Daniel Schafer, Director

Elissa Brown, Counselor	Carole Gerling, IDS Instructor
Robert Copeland, IDS Instructor	Christine Malone, Math Instructor
Marie Copeland, Math Instructor	Michael Pituch, Chemistry Instructor
Rose Cybulski, IDS Instructor	Mark Supal, Physics Instructor
Larry Ervin, Math Instructor	Fran Shehadi, Secretary
Mark Estapa, Biology Instructor	Dawn Dedenbach, Secretary

LETTERS FROM OUR GRADUATES

'I want to thank you again!'

Elissa Brown, Counselor
Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center



Dear Mrs. Brown:

I want to thank you again for making everything possible for me. I am thoroughly enjoying myself. I made the Dean's List for last semester. I just received my New York State EMT Certificate and have been accepted to CAVA (Columbia Area Volunteer Ambulance) Sixteen of us applied and eight made the cut. I am very excited. I am taking my middle school team to competition next weekend. Please wish us luck.

Each day here I grow even fonder of New York and Columbia. I would love to see you again if you come this way over the summer. **Could you please pass along my e-mail to any future MMSTC students wishing to learn more about Columbia or even interested in staying a few days here with me to experience it first hand.** Barnard has a pre-college summer program for the girls. I might be an RA for that if things go well.

This is truly a world of opportunities, and I could not be more appreciative for what I have been presented with, so I would like to give back and share as much as I can. Thank you once again. Please give my regards to the rest of the MMSTC staff.

Sincerely, *Wayne Penn*

The Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center

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