

Team 2537: Space RAIDers Outreach Post

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CHS District Championship

by Team 2537 Member Pace Isaac

The Setup

Going into the CHS District Championship Competition, our Space RAIDers were ranked 36th in our district, needing to finish in the top 21 teams in the district to advance to the World Championship Competition in Detroit. We would need to put together a great team effort to advance!

Qualification Round

After a brilliant start to the competition which saw us win our first two matches and rank near the top of the leaderboards, a series of close losses caused us to drop positions, ultimately finishing ranked 41st out of the 60 participating teams. Still, despite our lowered ranking, we were performing at a high level, with our individual stats like our Offensive Power Ranking being in the top ten at the event. Additionally, we had our team members hard at work making sure

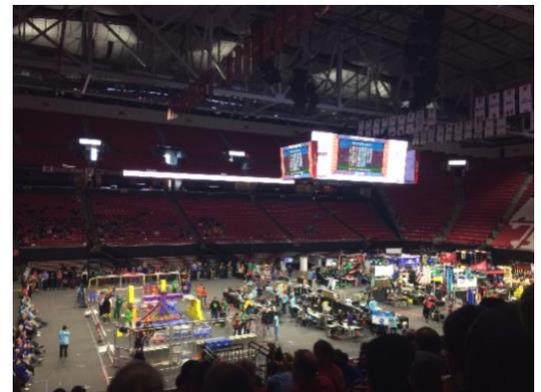
that our efforts were being noticed by the alliance captains, ensuring we'd get picked.

Elimination Round

We were generously invited to the sixth ranked alliance of captain team 5804, TORCH, and first pick team 401, Copperhead Robotics. In the quarter finals, we faced off against the third ranked alliance led by team 6334. After losing our first match of the best of three, a change in strategy that had us placing on the scale enabled us to win the second match and force the tie breaker. In this third match, we were able to control the scale and win the match and advance to the semifinals, where we faced fellow Howard County team: team 888, the Robotiators, from Glenelg High School. After a match that needed to be replayed due to field issues, we went on to win two matches in a row to advance to the finals. In the finals, we played



How can a robotics competition kick off without a mascot dance party?



An ever-growing crowd settles down around the stadium to catch sight of the robot showdown below in the arena.

against the alliance led by team 384, Sparky 348, and unfortunately lost. Still, we are extremely proud of our performance, which was enough to land us a spot in the 2018 World Championship Competition.

Going Forward

In a week we will be attending the World Championship Competition in Detroit from April 25th through the 28th. We look forward towards putting together a great performance on the world stage; however, this opportunity will not come without its costs. In order to compete at Worlds, the Space RAIDers will need to pay another five thousand dollar registration fee as well as finance the travel expenses of sending over 50 members and mentors to Detroit. Therefore, any additional support would help ensure the team's ability to provide this impactful and unique experience to its members while striving for greater success.



Mech leaders Heather and Jacob work diligently to make any last-minute changes to the bot for its next match.



The Space RAIDers take a group photo as the CHS District Championship Competition comes to an end; Once again, Fred the Space Unicorn steals the spotlight.