

Dear All,

Yes we did it !!! We finished the competition ahead of 35 teams and it really felt good to beat all those Tech teams :). Unlike the previous years having only 3 runs, this year competition had 5 runs. A qualifying round, 3 regular runs and a final run between the 1st and 2nd team to determine the overall winner. Of all the teams registered, 27 were qualified and competed. After regular runs, the rankings were

- 1- MSU, 200 points
- 2- UAH, 180 points
- 3- University of Louisville, 100 points
- 4- University of Florida, 80 points
- 5- Tennessee Tech, 80 points .

We competed head to head against UAH at the Saturday night Banquet in front of all the conference attendees. We finished the final round in 1 minute and 26 seconds picking up all 5 balls while UAH was still working his way to pick up their first ball. We also got an award in "Best Ball Retrieval". We didn't miss a ball in all 5 runs.

I can't tell you how proud I am of the Secon team. Their hard work paid off. I would like you to recognize these students.

- Joey Cate,
- Brail Coleman,
- Derrick Coleman,
- Dhruva Duncan,
- Ashley Hicks,
- Allison Scogin,
- Tara Swope,
- Ed Vaughn,
- Jesse Viviano

They represented MSU and the department best way you can imagine. I would like to mention the names of team captains Ms. Ashley Hicks and Mr. Dhruva Duncan. They showed a great leadership and carried out the team throughout the year. Ashley's hard work on target capturing was the key to our success and led to the "Best Ball Retrieval Award".

Mr. Dhruva Duncan. He is one of the hardest workers I have seen many years in my professional life. It would not be an exaduration if I said that he lived in the lab between January and until the day of departure. He led this team to this great success.

I also have to mention those behind the scene. Several faculty and staff helped us in this journey. Dr. Bob Reese was always there to help the students. Mr. Chapman was accommodating to ensure that the parts were ordered in a timely fashion.

I also would like to thank Dr. Harden and MSU IEEE student chapter for their continuous support.

This is the day that we all should be proud. It is not a success of an individual. It is the success of a team. It is the succes of a department.

Once a wise man said, "There are two type of men, those who make the history and those who witness". Be proud to be the makers of the history.

GO DAWGS !!!!...

Regards,

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