

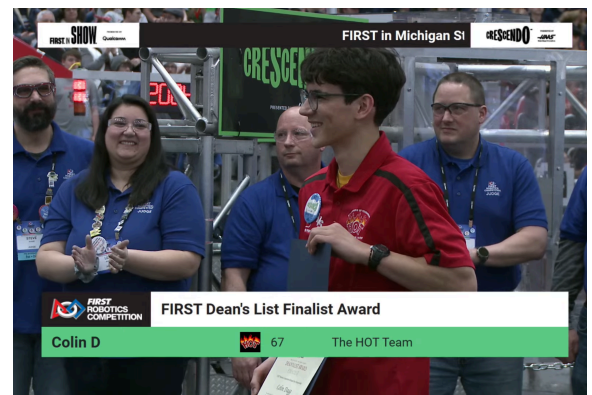
## A HOT weekend in Saginaw



By Amélie S.

This past weekend, the state competition for FIRST Robotics was held at Saginaw Valley State University, beginning Thursday, April 4, and running through Saturday, April 6. SVSU has hosted the competition since 2018, making this the sixth consecutive Saginaw Valley State Championship Tournament. It is estimated that the event was attended by more than 4,000 people. The Michigan Championship is attended by the top 160 teams in the state. The teams play on four fields (APTIV, DTE, HEMLOCK, and CONSUMERS) to determine rankings for each field. The teams participate in alliance selection, creating 8 alliances per field comprised of 3 teams from that field, and compete against each other in a bracket style elimination to win their division. The winner of each division goes on to compete against the winner of the other division to determine the Michigan State Championship Alliance.

The HOT team was on the APTIV Field during this year's competition and won nine out of their twelve qualification matches on the field. The HOT Team ranked third overall entering into Alliance election on the APTIV field Friday evening and were the first pick of the number one ranked team on the APTIV Field, Strykeforce, 2767. The first alliance was rounded out by the Oxford Robocats, 2137. Despite the HOT team experiencing some current issues, they won the first upper bracket match 95 to 80. Match Seven was a loss with a score of 105 to 118, which bumped the 1st alliance down to the lower bracket. Still struggling with unknown current issues the 1st alliance was eliminated in match nine by the 7th Alliance 68 to 87. The HOT Team received the Autonomous Award which celebrates the team that has demonstrated consistent, reliable, high-performance robot operation during autonomously managed actions. Evaluation is based on the robot's ability to sense its surroundings, position itself or onboard mechanisms appropriately, and execute tasks. HOT Team and IA West student, Colin D, won one of fourteen Dean's List Finalist Awards and will advance to compete at the FIRST World Championship. The HOT team has qualified for the 33rd World Championship in Houston, TX, competing from April



16th through the 20th! The HOT Team will continue to burn through the competition at Houston You find more information and links to watch live matches online at

<https://frc-events.firstinspires.org/2024/CMPTX> as we get closer to the competition!

We have high hopes for a smoking hot finale to our 2024 season!