



The Trojan Crier

FEBRUARY 27, 2009 CENTERBURG HIGH SCHOOL 3782 COLUMBUS ROAD CENTERBURG, OHIO 43011 VOLUME 6, ISSUE 6

Robotics team hopes hard work pays off

By *Megan O'Sullivan*
STAFF WRITER

The hallways are buzzing with talk of moon rocks and Lunacy, but it has nothing to do with going to the moon.

The Centerburg Robotics Team has built a robot to be entered in the Lunacy game, this year's FIRST robotics competition format (a program For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology).

The robot created by the Centerburg Robotics Team competed yesterday and today at the Wolfenstein Center in Cleveland. The competition will require the robot to get "moon rocks" into other robot's trailers.

The Centerburg robot will be assigned two other teams to form an alliance with in the competition. The goal of each alliance is to get as many "moon rocks" as possible into competing robot's trailers.

The winner of the competition is determined by a fairly complex scoring system involving moon rocks, empty cells and super cells. The team with the most points will win the competition.

Members of the team are confident in their robot and think that it will perform decently in competition.

"I think we will do all right," junior David Hebenthal said. "But there will certainly be other teams with more experience who have been doing this for a while at the competition."

Others agree that the robot will perform well in the competition.

"I think that we have designed our robot well for the type of competition," freshman team member Austin Garber said. "We really considered the elements of the game when designing it."

Last week, the team officially finished the robot and sent it to Cleveland for inspection before the competition. The team members also busied themselves building various replacement parts for the robot in case anything breaks during competition.

The robotics team had a chance to show the Centerburg community all the hard work they had put into the robot at an open house Feb. 7 at the old high school.

The robot was present, and members explained to attendees how various parts worked and how they were built.

The open house was also a chance to recruit more members.

"I think there will be more people on the robotics team next year,"



Junior Zack Liston (right) and seventh grader Willis Fannin work on the robot at the open house Feb. 7. The Robotics Team competed Feb. 26 and 27 in Cleveland.

Photo courtesy of Mackenzie Fulks

Garber said. "The people saw what we were doing. Next year will be our second year, and we will be more organized and have a feel for what competition is like."

Coach Scott Trumble also has hope that the team will be bigger next year.

"I was surprised and encouraged by the number of people that turned out," he said. "I think this is the start of something big."

Community members who attended were impressed by all the work the team had done to build the robot.

"It was cool how they programmed the robot to move as well as perform other functions in such a short amount of time," freshman Dylan Jones said, "which kind of makes me want to join next year."