

PRESS RELEASE

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Tech center students return from regionals as winners, ready for state

This month **Muskegon Area Career Tech Center** (MACTC) students have earned a number of awards in regional competitions in rehab tech, construction trades, and criminal justice. Many of the students qualified to compete at the state level in April. **Rehab Tech** students began their competition on Friday, February 8, 2008, at Ferris State University in Big Rapids. All 32 students in attendance placed in the top ten for their events at the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Region VI Competition.

On Saturday, February 9, 2008, three **Construction Trades** and three **Public Safety** students traveled to the Traverse Bay Area Career Tech Center to participate in the Skills USA Region V Competition. In the Carpentry Competition, Cameron McPhail (Mona Shores) took first place, while Will Cherry (Mona Shores) and Travis Evans (Montague) tied for fourth. In the Criminal Justice Competition, Steven Dreyer (Whitehall) took first place, Shane Leek (Reeths-Puffer) took second, and Cory Buter (West Michigan Christian) took fourth.

All competing students were required to demonstrate a variety of skills and some took written examinations as well. **Rehab Tech** students were judged on skills like taping an athlete's ankle and assessing shoulder strength, while physical therapy competitors demonstrated walking a patient with a gait belt/walker, and performing passive range of motion on a patient. A new forensic medicine category required students to determine a victim's cause and time of death, as well as identify other relevant information. Students gave speeches, participated in a medical spelling bee, and were evaluated on interview skills, medical photography and healthcare poster displays.

The **Construction Trades** students demonstrated carpentry skills by framing an exterior wall with a window opening and OSB sheathing, constructing gable trusses with gable studs, and designing and cutting a stair stringer. Each student had four hours to complete the tasks and was judged on accuracy of reading blueprints, measurement, precision of their cuts, and safety.

Public Safety students were tested on their ability to apply and relate law, their knowledge of constitutional law and procedures, CPR knowledge, their ability to apply law in stressful situations, and their collection and accurate documentation of information. Students investigated a simulated personal injury traffic accident and domestic violence complaint, made an arrest, and responded to a medical situation.

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Headed to State-Level Competitions

Many of the students are now qualified to compete in state competitions. The 17 MACTC **Rehab Tech** students who received gold, silver, and bronze medals will travel to the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme on April 17 – 19, 2008, to compete in the HOSA State Leadership Conference. They are Lydia Baldwin (Home School), Nicole Cummins (Orchard View), Bridgette Ritz (Orchard View), Janelle Essenberg (Montague), Kate McGettigan (Mona Shores), Jasmine Williams (Muskegon), Rachel Hoffman (Fruitport), Eukia Burks (Muskegon Heights), Taylor Larson (Muskegon), Tyeisha Sargent (Mona Shores), Angie Brush (Muskegon), JJ Deater (Mona Shores), Adam Hill (Oakridge), Sara Sarazen (Montague), Julie Cowles (Reeths-Puffer), Jessica Young (Whitehall), and Tabitha Tyers (Ravenna).

Construction Trades student Cameron McPhail will join four other students who qualified earlier this month to participate at the Skills USA state competition in Lansing on April 18-20, 2008. While McPhail will compete in the Carpentry Competition, Dan Vanderlinde (Ravenna), Kyle DeHaan (Oakridge), Tyler Slagh (Mona Shores) and Eric Clanton (Muskegon) will compete in the Teamworks Competition. This event includes framing, electrical, plumbing, and masonry.

Public Safety students Steven Dreyer and Shane Leek will also compete at the Skills USA State Competition in Lansing on the same dates in the Criminal Justice Competition.

In addition, 11 **Internet, Network, and Security Technologies** students and two **Financial Management** students secured their spots in the Business Professionals of America Leadership Conference state competition on March 14-16, 2008, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The students will compete in several categories including banking and finance, computer security, information technology concepts, Microsoft Network Administration, PC servicing and troubleshooting, and website design. Their regional competition was held in January. The qualifying students are Lindsey Cantrell (Fruitport), Briana Friday (Oakridge), Seth Stever (Fruitport), Gage Sundberg (Holton), Krystal Roesler (Montague), Keith Jelinek (Montague), Ben Eckert (North Muskegon), Dustin Schaner (Oakridge), Shawn Kandalac (Oakridge), Randy Anderson (Oakridge), Nichole Grabe (Ravenna), Joey Tournchette (Reeths-Puffer), and Aaron Houston (Reeths-Puffer).

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