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News Release

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IRVING MIDDLE SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM WINS “TEAMWORK AWARD” AT STATE ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Pocatello – Irving Middle School’s Robotics Team competed in the State Robotics competition held at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. They scored 125 points in the robot game challenge and were one of only a few teams to take home a trophy recognizing them for an area of excellence – the Teamwork Award.

The teamwork award recognizes a team that is able to accomplish more together than they could as individuals through shared goals, strong communication, effective problem solving and excellent time management. The judges had this to say about the winning team, “This team worked well under pressure. Fearsome to the competition, these “(plant) growing” cubs showed us all what teamwork is really about.”

To advance to the state competition, teams needed to excel in a wide variety of projects and challenges. These included:

- An improve-the-world project (this year it was all about finding ways to improve the human water cycle.)
- Three different presentations including completion of a skit, a core values board, an engineering executive summary, a project abstract, a team profile summary, and all team members being able to answer judges’ questions in all areas
- Design, assembly, and programming of a robot that needs to meet nine judging criteria and be able to complete a multitude of varied point-scoring missions
- Scoring in the top 75% in the robot challenge game
- Completion of a team-work challenge

- Researching project problems and existing solutions and getting the input of outside experts
- Coming up with an innovative improved solution
- Sharing project solutions with the community
- Helping other robotics teams
- Demonstrating core values such as gracious professionalism and “coopertition” (cooperative competition) throughout the season and the all-day robotics competition

The teams needed to do all of this on their own. They could get input and support from team coaches and mentors, but the work and conclusions needed to come from the team members.

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