

Contact: John Guerin
Director of Communications
Xavier High School
Phone 860-346-7735
Ext.706

181 Randolph Road
Middletown, CT 06457
Phone 860-346-7735
FAX 860-346-6859

Xavier High School

Press Release

Three-peat for the Xavier High School Engineering Team

CT RWDC winner again this year...

Middletown, CT, February 24, 2012: February 24, 2012: We have heard via the office of Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman that Xavier's Engineering Team has captured the Connecticut title in the Real World Design Challenge for the third consecutive year. The Team will now go on to represent Connecticut in Washington, DC and defend last year's National win in April. Team moderator Mr. Michael Humphreys '04 tells us that the team made their State Presentation on February 15th at the New England Air Museum in Windsor Locks. This year's team was made up of 5 seniors and 2 juniors:

- Chris Muckle '12 of Madison
- John Voelker '12 of Southington
- Miraj Rahematpura '12 of Middletown
- Andrew Moeller '12 of Northford
- Giovanni Sabato '12 of Middletown
- Mario Chris '13 of Storrs
- Zach Ziobrowski '13 of Cheshire

Following is the text from Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman's Press Release.

HARTFORD, CT– Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman announced that Xavier High School in Middletown is the state winner of the 2011-2012 Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) and will represent Connecticut at the national challenge in Washington D.C. in April.

The RWDC is a public-private partnership that gives high school students the opportunity to work on engineering challenges that are confronting our nation's leading industries. This year's challenge was to design a low-carbon-emission and environmentally-friendly personal light sport aircraft. The craft was required to accommodate two team members and fly 200 miles in less than two hours at a minimum cruise altitude of 1,000 feet.

Last year, the 7-member Xavier team beat more than 450 schools from 40 states to take top national honors with their design of an airplane wing that maximizes fuel efficiency and enhances performance. The ultimate goal of the challenge is to increase the number of students equipped to enter the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) workforce.

“Governor Malloy and I strongly believe that we must do better at preparing our young adults for the changing and challenging job market,” Lt. Governor Wyman said. “We need to encourage creative, critical thinking and individual initiative – and that is exactly what this competition is all about.”

Industry partner Pratt & Whitney provided critical mentoring to the participating teams and supplied judges for the state competition, held at the New England Air Museum in Windsor Locks. The judges were Tony Dennis, David Hobbs, Nick Monsarrat, Justin Urban and Steve Zysman.

“RWDC is a great way to motivate interest in the engineering and technology fields by presenting the next generation of skilled engineers and innovators with opportunities to apply the lessons of the classroom to the technical problems being faced in the workplace,” said Christine Gemelli, state coordinator for the RWDC.