



Mississippi State University

X-cited!

Team Ready for Competition in Detroit

Special points of interest:

- We're going to competition! See adjacent article.
- The team gets a special visitor, see below.
- Robert F. Kennedy Jr. takes a look at our vehicle..
- Say goodbye to graduating team members!

The Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems at MSU, headquarters of the MSU Challenge X team, is buzzing with activity. On May 30, the team leaves for Detroit, MI to compete against the 16 other teams in the Challenge X year 3 competition.

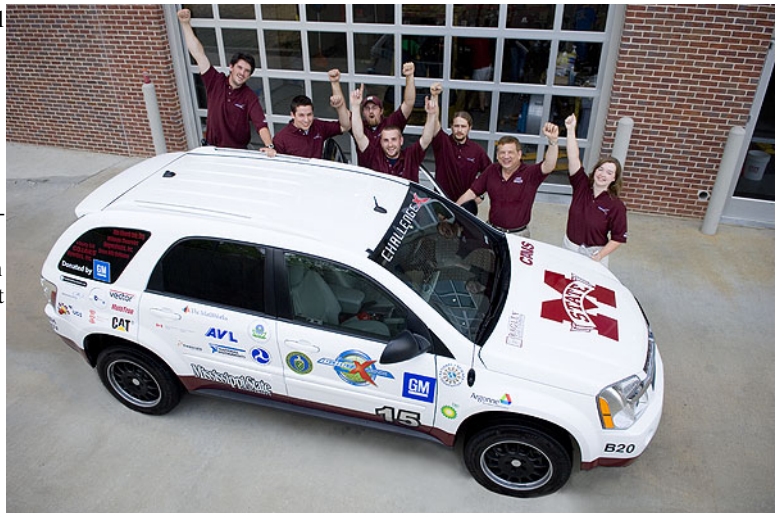
The end-of-year competition will take place at General Motors' proving grounds, the area that the automotive manufacturer used to test its own vehicles before they are put into mass production. The competition will consist of events such as 0 to 60 speed testing, emissions testing, and drive quality. This year's competition focuses on consumer acceptability, so comfort for the driver will be taken into consideration.

The team has spent the year refining the vehicle and making it user-friendly. One implementation for the year is a dash-mounted screen that can be used for directions, among other things.

The vehicle was shipped to Michigan on May 22, the team will follow by air., arriving in Detroit on May 30. The competition will open with a dinner and 'skit night,' a fun event to get everything started smoothly.

"We've put in a lot of hours recently, but we feel confident that we're going to do great," said David Oglesby, team leader.

The competition will last until June 7.



The team cheers just before the vehicle is loaded up to be shipped to Michigan.

Robert Kennedy Jr. Visits MSU Challenge X Team



In April, the team received a very important environmentalist as a visitor to the Equinox.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. visited the team and their vehicle as part of his visit to campus. While there, Mr. Kennedy spoke to a crowd of about 300 on the subject of environmentalism, and stressed the need for the government to take more action. Mr. Kennedy also signed copies of his latest book at the campus bookstore.

Mr. Kennedy is a lawyer who specialized in environmental cases.

Upcoming Events

- May 30—Team leaves for competition in Detroit, MI.
- June 4—Summer classes begin.
- June 8— Team returns from competition!

Atta-Dawgs

- Thanks to the entire team for all the work that went into getting ready for the competition!

Make sure you check out our blog starting May 31 for daily updates from the competition!

www.msuchallengex.org

Students in the Spotlight

This column gives you a behind-the-scenes look at the students who are working on the Challenge X competition at MSU.

This year we lose several of our team members who have been with us since the beginning. These team members have been hard-working, dedicated, and great friends. We'll miss them, and wish them great success in their careers.

Here two of the grads answer a few questions about her experience with Challenge X.

Name: Christopher Whitt

Degree: Masters of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Q. Where will you be going when you graduate?

I will be a Powertrain Engineer for GM's Diesel Powertrain division in Milford, MI.

Q. Did Challenge X benefit you when you were job hunting?

Yes, my interview was made possible through my work on the MSU Challenge X team.

Q. What will you remember most about

your experience on the team?

I will remember the lessons learned through working on the Equinox with the team.

Name: Kyle Crawford

Degree: Chemical Engineering

Q: Where will you be going when you graduate?

I will be going to work at the GM Proving Grounds in Milford, MI.

Q. Did Challenge X benefit you when you were job hunting?

I interviewed at > the 2006 competition, so I would definitely say Challenge X helped me get the job.

Q. What will you remember most about your experience on the team?

I will remember all the late nights and hard work that went into the car. I will also remember when Christopher threw Kennabec into the used oil bucket.



Christopher will miss the Equinox. Kyle will miss working with Dr. H.

For newsletter suggestions or corrections, please contact Amanda McAlpin at amcalpin@cavs.msstate.edu.