



Mississippi State University

X-cited!

Fall Workshop Brings Learning, News

Special points of interest:

- Fourth Year of competition announced at Fall Workshop! See adjacent article.
- See what each thrust is working on in our regular Thrust Update Area.
- Challenge X is hosting a free Basic Car Maintenance class! See second page for details.
- Goodbye and good luck to Jimmy Mathews, who graduates this month and has taken a job at AVL.

The annual fall workshop for Challenge X students provided not just education this year, but exciting news as well.

The fall workshop is held each year to refresh students on rules of the competition, and to educate them on software and equipment used for the competition. This year, however, the workshop was a podium for announcing that the Challenge X competition has been extended and will go into a fourth year. Few details were released about the fourth year, but it will include further refinement to the vehicle, and intensified outreach activities.

"We were shocked, but excited to hear that there will be a fourth year of competition," said David Oglesby, team leader.

While at the workshop, the team attended sessions on topics that they will use during the third year, including consumer acceptability, emissions modeling, human factors, and media and outreach ses-



A K-12 outreach event at the fall workshop in Ottawa, Canada.

sions. The sessions will provide the team with knowledge they need to keep their vehicle competitive this year. The third year's main goal is getting the vehicle to a point where it is very close to

showroom quality.

The team also was able to do some outreach, speaking to a class of middle-school students from Ottawa about the Challenge X competition.

Thrust Update Area: What are they working on?

Vehicle Modeling and Controls

The group has been working on testing and analyzing our current configuration. In addition to this, we have been running simulations of our new components and planning for the rest of the year.

Thrust Leaders: Jimmy Mathews and Kennabec Walp

Mechanical

The group is preparing for vehicle sound testing, designing a new engine intake air box, and evaluating vehicle interior for consumer acceptability improvements.

Thrust Leader: Brian Christian

Electrical

The group procured a new electric drive. They are also currently evaluating vehicle electrical loads for improvements.

Thrust Leader: Ron Lewis

Powertrain

The group is working with the competition organizers on possible component changes for year 3. They are also working on refining some existing areas of the vehicle including air flow and cooling.

Thrust Leader: Christopher Whitt

Outreach Program

The outreach team had the wonderful opportunity to do a K-12 outreach event while at the workshop in Canada.

They are now planning the Basic Car Maintenance Class for November 7th. The class will cover the basics of caring for your car. It is open to the public and free, so we hope everyone will attend.

Last week we tailgated on Main Street, which was a success.

We will be visiting Starkville Academy this Friday to speak to students.

Outreach Coordinator: Amanda McAlpin

Upcoming Events

November 2—Team Progress Report #1 due.

November 2—Outreach third year plan due.

November 7—Basic Car Maintenance Class, held at CAVS.

November 27—First outreach report of the year due!

Atta-Dawgs

- Great job **outreach team** for your hard work since June!
- A final thanks to Jimmy Mathews, you will be deeply missed! Good luck on the new job!



Jimmy poses with an ancient form of transportation, while the newest way to get around sits in the background.

Does your car scare you?



What? A free class on car basics

When? November 7th 6:00pm

Where? CAVS building in the

Thad Cochran Research Park

Hear from a certified mechanic

Learn about topics like:

changing your tire, checking your oil,
and talking to a mechanic

Please RSVP

Amanda McAlpin at 662-325-5562

Cookies and Drinks
will be served!



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