

Team RedBlade wins top prizes

A team of electrical and computer engineering students from Miami University won \$7,000 and first place – and the Golden Snow Globe Award – in the fourth annual event held Jan. 23-26 in St. Paul, Minn.

The team also won Best Student Presentation (Golden Shovel Award and \$500) and Best Report (Golden Pen Award and \$500 award money).

Miami RedBlade team members are Robert Cole (Miami '12), master's student in computational science and engineering; James Morton, senior quadruple major in computer science, electrical engineering, mathematics/statistics and engineering physics; and Richard (RJ) Marcus, senior electrical and computer engineering double major.

Mark Carroll (Miami '12) and Harrison Bourne (Miami '13), master's students in computational science and engineering, provided assistance to the team.

The purpose of the competition, founded by the Institute of Navigation, is to challenge university and college students to design, build and operate a fully autonomous snowplow to remove snow from a designated path.

Students are encouraged to use state-of-the-art navigation and control technologies to rapidly, accurately and safely clear a path of snow.

The winning teams were selected based on their total score including written reports, presentations and competition results.

Two teams from the University of Michigan received second and third place.

The eight competing teams presented different vehicle design and navigation approaches.

Team Red Blade used a differential GPS system for navigation on a platform that can plow snow or mow grass. STAFF REPORT