

From: [Jan Eckert](#)
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Subject: Ferris Formula SAE Competition Results
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Included below is a press release regarding the Ferris State University Formula SAE team, which competed with students from across the globe during the Society of Automotive Engineer's Formula SAE competition May 17 through 21 at the Ford Proving Grounds in Romeo.

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Ferris Formula SAE Team completes first competition

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University's first Formula Car Team competed in the Society of Automotive Engineer's Formula SAE event May 17 through 21 at the Ford Proving Grounds in Romeo. The team's goal of building a formula-style race car from the ground up was accomplished and the team was exhilarated when their car finished the 22 km Endurance Race – one of only 47 cars to do so.

The Formula SAE event started with 140 school entries from around the world, with 120 schools eventually participating. The competition included student presentations on design, cost and marketing, as well as racing events. And prior to racing, cars were required to pass "technical inspection," which involved a thorough check of each vehicle's structure and safety features. Racing events included acceleration, skid pad, autocross and the grand finale Endurance Race. The competition's overall winner was the team from the Royale Melbourne Institute of Technology in Australia, with the top design award going to Pennsylvania State University's entry.

Despite not taking home the overall prize, the Ferris team competed well and overcame many obstacles along the way, said the students' advisor Chuck Drake, a Mechanical Engineering Technology professor at Ferris. Some of the challenges included formation of a team, funding, finding materials, tools and a place to work.

"A core group worked almost non-stop during the weeks before the event," Drake said. "In true Bulldog tradition, nothing stopped this group from giving up on their goal."

Said team Captain Ryan Boysen, "The personal achievement of completing our goals was by far the most important part of the competition. I am proud of how our team worked together so well. Our team has always pulled through in the worst of times, like when our tech inspection sticker was yanked and we had to figure out how to fix the bearing problems in the rear. But again, like always, we came up with a solution, implemented it and pulled through."

Students participating in the five-day event included Boysen, Chetan Joshi, Kyle Kapa, Steve Bar, Mike Fecteau, Paul Riggs, Brad Costa, Josh Garrett, Jillian Espvik, and Erik Olsen along with Russ Nixon, Nate Taylor, Justin Osentoski and Kamran Abolhasani. Major sponsors included the Ferris College of Technology, Aero Plastics, Hanchett Manufacturing, Molding Solutions, Big Rapids Rotary, West Michigan Chapter SAE, parents and Ferris faculty.



Formula SAE Team with Car.JPG

CAPTION – Pictured is the Ferris State University Formula SAE team 2006. They include Kamran Abolhasani, Mike Fecteau, Justin Osentoski, Brad Costa, Kyle Kapa, Chetan Joshi, Advisor Chuck Drake, Ryan Boysen, Paul Riggs, Josh Garrett, Nate Taylor, Steve Bar. Team members not pictured are Russ Nixon, Jillian Espvik and Erik Olsen.

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