

For immediate release

April 8, 2010

Press contact: Erin Foley
Marketing/PR Coordinator
(708) 458-7600, Ext. 252

Peace Competes at Midwest Robotics Regional

Queen of Peace High School's Robotics Team, RoboPRIDE, participated in the Midwest Regional of the *FIRST* Robotics Competition on March 18-20 at the UIC Pavilion. Following an extremely successful debut last year, Peace's team advanced to the quarter-final rounds as the #6-ranked alliance before being eliminated.

Peace's 22-member team had six weeks to design, build and program its third robot, GammaBOT, to play Breakaway, similar to the game of soccer. Forty-two teams competed at the regional and the game field was 27' x 54' with bumps and tunnels. Alliances of three teams attempted to earn points by collecting soccer balls into their goals.

Peace's team also was recognized with the Judges Award – an honor bestowed by the judging panel to a team for its “unique efforts, performance and dynamics during competition.”

In the fall of 2008, Peace established the first all-women school-sponsored *For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST)* Robotics Team in Illinois. During the building process, WiSE Women of Peace – alums involved in Women in Science and Engineering and loyal friends of the community – used their engineering backgrounds to mentor team members. Karen Amador, Robotics coach and Peace engineering teacher, and Jose Gamboa, assistant coach and Peace math teacher, also were assisted by parent volunteers Bob McKeown and Stanley Majewski.

#####

Cutline:



Peace Robotics Team members sophomore Mary Kate McKeown (left) and senior Kelly Kosiewicz make adjustments to Peace's robot program in the team's pit during the Midwest Robotics Competition on March 19 at UIC Pavilion.