

EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Students Participate in Auto Skills State Competition at Blackhawk

Two Oak Ridge High School students will be participating in the student Auto Skills State Competition to be held on May 8 and 9 at the Blackhawk Automotive Museum near Danville. The competition, cosponsored by Ford Motor Company and AAA, is a nationwide competition for juniors and seniors enrolled in an automotive technology course. The competition is designed to challenge high school students' knowledge and mechanical abilities in the field of automotive technology.

Seniors **Mike Hager** and **Jason McCarty** have been enrolled in the Automotive Technology Program at Oak Ridge, located in El Dorado Hills, as well as in the Central Sierra ROP Automotive Services Program. Like all competing students, Mike and Jason had to qualify to enter the competition by first taking an on-line exam administered at the school and by achieving high scores. Their individual scores were combined to become the team score, which further qualified them to be included among the ten highest scoring teams in the state. Their on-line exam will count 40% in the overall finals.

At the final "hands-on" competition in Blackhawk, Ford Motor Company will 'bug' each team's vehicle with uniform malfunctions. Students will be required to diagnose and repair the malfunctions with the highest quality workmanship in the lowest total time.

The winning team from each state and their instructor will be provided an expense-paid trip to the 2008 National Finals in Dearborn, Michigan, to be held on June 22 through June 24.

The ultimate objective of this competition, according to Ford and AAA, is to encourage talented young students to pursue a career in the automotive industry. The competition helps to promote the training and certification of qualified auto service technicians. Students who qualify for the competition have the opportunity to win scholarships, trophies, jackets, certificates, shop manuals, trips, and automotive tools and equipment for their schools. In addition, the names of all contestants are submitted to Ford Motor Company dealers, AAA affiliated service facilities, and many other organizations that have a need for auto service specialists.

Two years ago, the Oak Ridge High School team placed first at the state "hands-on" competition. Each team member received \$35,000 in scholarship money and tools.

The team coach is Oak Ridge High School Trades & Industry and ROP Automotive instructor Bob Wilson. Bob can be contacted at Oak Ridge at 916.933-6980, ext. 2802.