



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Photo attached

SMCS Freshman VEX Team Qualifies for State at First-Ever Competition

One of the all-freshman teams in the VEX Robotics program at St. Mary Catholic High School recently participated in the first tournament of their robotics competition career in the CORE 2062 High School VEX Challenge in Waukesha. The team, called Error 404, won the second place finalist trophy in the tournament in which 40 teams participated. This impressive finish qualifies them, in their first attempt, for the state tournament next spring. Team members are Caroline Connally, Jack Hageman, Michael Kerwin, Nicholas Purcell, Ethan Unruh and Mitchell VanRossum.

Other SMCHS VEX teams also competed well. Junior team **Technical Breakdown** (Caileen Fahrenkrug, Spencer Juchneiwich, William O'Brien, Russell Stark and Kyle Vandeventer) won the Sportsmanship Award; Junior team **Z-Ballers** (Nathan Berg, Matthew Glen, Colin Higgins and Erik Meier) won the Judge's Award; and senior team **Syntax Error** (Fred Bergholz, Robert Engelhard, Greg Gurta, Patrick Knapinski and Josh Lacey) won the Innovate Award.

St. Mary Catholic High School (SMCHS) a regional high school, is part of [St. Mary Catholic Schools \(SMCS\)](#). The system also includes St. Mary Elementary Schools (St. Margaret Mary and St. Gabriel in Neenah, and St. Mary in Menasha), as well as St. St. Mary Catholic Middle School in Neenah. SMCHS is dedicated to the individual development of each student by providing an education focused on faith, academics and service.

(Photo follows)



**(Photo ID: Nicholas Purcell, Mitchell VanRossum, Jack Hageman, Ethan Unruh
Caroline Connally and Michael Kerwin)**

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