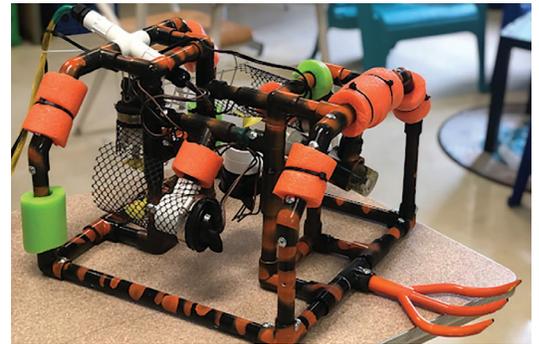


Techno Tigers Compete in 2021 MATE ROV Competition



Left to right: Dr. Karen Chassereau, Michael Walden, Philisia Spearmon, Emily Butler, Jessica Thaler, Alicia Forbes, and Attallaka Williams.



Top: Display of ROV Terry the Tiger. Bottom: Emily Butler is pictured descending the ROV into the pool.

Metter High's Techno Tigers Robotics Team had a second-place finish in the Navitor Division of the 2021 Gray's Reef South East Regional MATE ROV Competition on May 1. Throughout the school year, the Techno Tigers, comprised of 9th and 10th grade students, learned about the engineering, science and math skills necessary to construct a remotely-operated vehicle (ROV) that they used in the competition. Using their ROV (Terry the Tiger), they maneuvered through a series of challenging obstacles that simulated real-world problems impacting rivers, lakes, and oceans. Tasks include such obstacles as removing plastic debris, transplanting coral fragments, estimating mollusk populations and removing and replacing underwater traps. The competition began on Monday, April 26, with a virtual presentation in which the team shared their engineering design with a panel of experts. The mission portion of the competition took place on

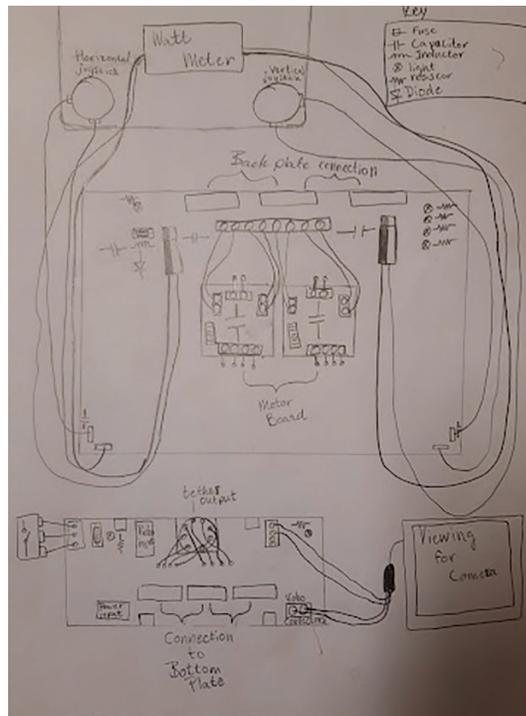
MHS Robotics Team places 2nd

Saturday, May 1, at the Chatham County Aquatic Center. The competition involved schools from all over the state of Georgia, with teams competing in four different levels. This is the first year for MHS having a robotics club and team, and the first year going to the MATE ROV competition. The team is comprised of Emily Butler, Alicia Forbes, Jessica Thaler, Michael Walden Anthony Newkirk and Jamarion Hobbs. The team expressed appreciation to the following supporters: Candler County Education Foundation for a grant that helped get the team started in their first year and carried them to competition; The Days Inn of Metter for allowing the team to use their pool to practice using the ROV; Mary Thaler from Georgia Southern University who served as a mentor; and Metter Kiwanis Club for giving the team a chance to share all of their hard work in a public/community platform. You can find out more at www.mhsrobotics.com.

Competition Highlights



ROV pilot Michael Walden(R) and co-pilot Jessica Thaler(L) are maneuvering the robot using the triggerfish control box.



A detailed drawing of the layout of the ROV control box.

“Techno Tigers did exceptionally well for their first year out.”

-Jody Patterson, Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary Foundation



Jessica Thaler and Michael Walden are completing a mission while tether manager Alicia Forbes(back) makes sure the cable connecting to the ROV stays untangled.



Top: Alicia Forbes waits for the signal to assist in deploying the ROV. Bottom: The team is pictured displaying their robot to the ROV safety inspectors.