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### STEMM Academy Shines at 5th Annual Okaloosa RoBotics Invitational Tournament (ORBIT)

Niceville High School's robotics team, the Radioactive Roaches, hosted the district's 5th Annual Okaloosa RoBotics Invitational Tournament at Pryor Middle School in Fort Walton Beach, on Saturday, May 5th, 2018. A total of 8 teams competed to include, Bob Sikes Elementary, Pryor Middle School, Baker School, Shoal River Middle School, Riverside Elementary School, St. Mary's School, Davidson Middle School, and the Okaloosa STEMM Academy. Teams competed using LEGO Ev3 Mindstorms robots, strategically engineered and programmed autonomously to complete tasks in a total of 5 events: stair climber, balance beam, maze, dragster, and cyber path. To wrap up the tournament, and purely for enjoyment, the teams competed in a head to head sumo-bot challenge.

Fun was had by all, but it was the STEMM Academy that came away with the title of District Champions! They secured their overall tournament win by taking the 1st place trophy in the balance beam, maze, and dragster events, and placing 3rd in the cyber path. The ORBIT competition is a perfect way for teams to put an exclamation mark on their FIRST LEGO League competition season by showcasing the engineering and programming skills that they have acquired and mastered through the program.

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