

# 'Amazing Race' used to teach teamwork

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The "Amazing Race" was featured on the campus of the Southern Oklahoma Technology Center Thursday as teams used mental, physical and emotional skills while competing for the top prize--a \$50 gift certificate from Wal-Mart.

The race was part of learning the skills used in the Computer Aided Drafting and Design course at SOTC, which insists students work together as a team to reach a common goal.

Seven teams of two had six tasks to complete beginning with drawing a map of the campus to pin-point the locations of the five other obstacles, which were math skills, computer skills, tricycle ride, three legged race and critical thinking.

Each obstacle required the teams to communicate with one another by working together and using patience to control frustrations that may occur while taking the Computer Aided Drafting and Design course at SOTC.

"Because you will get frustrated," Jamie Buskirk, 19, Lone Grove senior, said. "Especially with CADD."

Buskirk developed the obstacles used in the race for a grade, but she said her class thought up the idea.

Team work was the main idea for each task as the pairs needed input from one another to complete a task and then move on to the next where another type of skill was needed.

Tawanna Tutor, of Mustang, who eventually won the prize with partner Andy Long, said the three-legged race was the most difficult as the teams tied toilet paper around their ankles and tried to walk around several objects without ripping the paper, or they'd have to start over again.

Tutor said the team had to start over four times before they got it right. She said other than communication skills, the critical thinking from the computer skills and patience of trying to ride a tricycle up a hill showed what the factors would be needed in the course.

"We had to say 'middle foot,' 'outside,' to keep the paper from breaking," Tutor said. "It was interesting because it (race) showed us all the aspects of the program. It gave us a taste of what the call would be like."

Two teams dropped out.

Other activities of the open house included: a car show, antique tractor display, chassis dyno runs, "Walk This Weigh" promotion where adults received free pedometers, Retro Hair Competition, games, music and free giveaways by departments of the facility and local businesses.

In addition, instructors with the Regional Center of the Oklahoma School of Science and Math located on SOTC's campus were on hand to meet with potential students and interested parents.