



REL grad places 8th at National SkillsUSA Competition



Rafael Silva

Rafael Silva Jr. placed eighth in the nation in the Collision Repair Technology Skills Contest at the National SkillsUSA contest in Kansas City.

As described by SkillsUSA, Rafael had to demonstrate his ability to perform jobs and skills based on the task list outlined by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) and the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF). The competition included a series of workstations to assess skills in the following areas: metal straightening, welding, plastic repair, and structural analysis.

There was a written test on estimating, structural analysis, and an ASE exam. Rafael also participate in an interview. The overall appearance of the finished product, speed and proper safety practices was judged.

Under the instructional direction of Greg Thomas at Stuart Career Center, Rafael's first place win in the Collision Repair Skill Speed Contest at the State SkillsUSA contest in Corpus Christi advanced him to the National Collision Repair Contest. He was awarded \$19,500 in scholarships.

Rafael is 2011 graduate of Robert E. Lee High School.

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