



Week Six Update

We've almost made it! We have reached the final week of our build season, as it officially ends Tuesday, February 17th at midnight. The team is working hard to get the finishing touches on our robot as the time ticks away. Not only has the team overcome another Monday snow day, they have come together to create two fully functional, and might we add, beautiful robots.

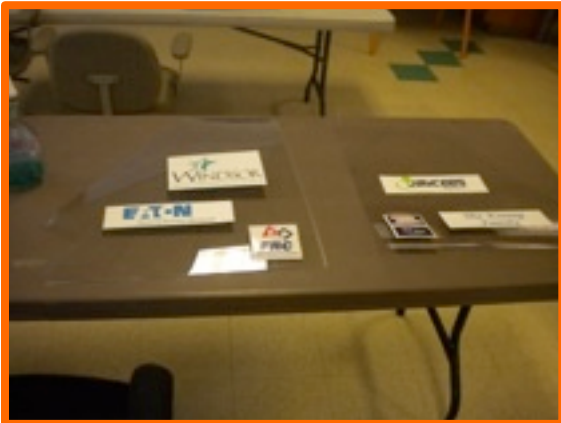


Imagery:

With the meeting being cancelled on yet another Monday, imagery had another emergency meeting on Wednesday. Efforts were focused on making our robot match our theme of OTIS, a truck from Cars 2. Parts were cut and drawn to resemble pieces

of Otis such as his eyes and mouth.

Imagery also continued work on our new 2015 pit book, and with 3 weeks till our first official season competition, imagery is going to have this completed to show off our team





at the event. The mascot has also been worked on with Mrs. Smith leading the way. It will consist of a lightbulb hat and a gi, or vest for the body.

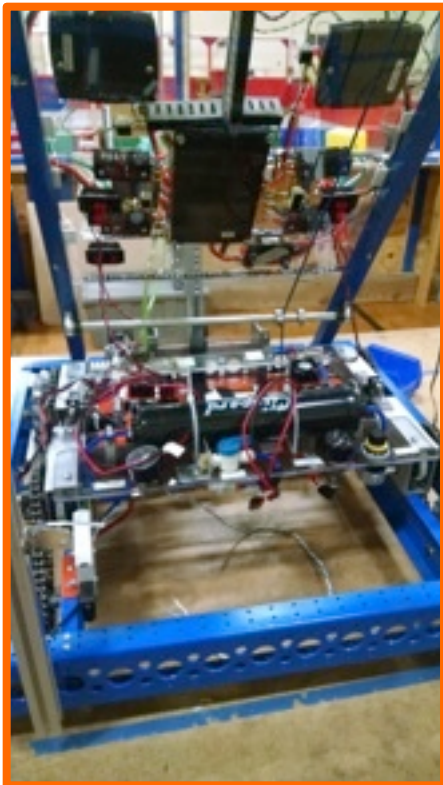
Robot Build:

In preparation for Suffield Shakedown, build has done a ton of work this week on both of our robots. On our practice bot, Lefty Lucy, efforts were made to ensure that it was in tip top shape for Saturday. New spacers were added to the elevator to ensure easier picking up of totes and every bolt was checked and retightened to make sure our



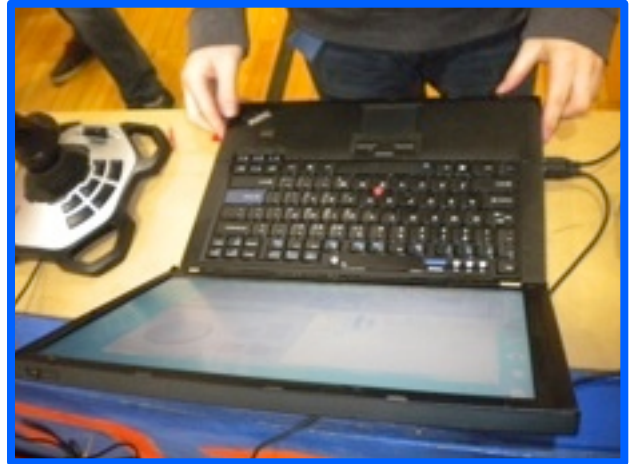
bot survived the matches. A protective panel was also added to

the robot to ensure the safety of our valuable electronics. On the competition bot, this week's work was focused on the electrapnemaquarium. A lot of things were worked on; including the team's favorite part: the robot's LEDs. The LED's that we add always spice up the robot's appearance, and it makes it look extremely cool. Although it's a simple feature, the team is always excited to see those blue and red lights come to life, just as the robot is too.



Programming:

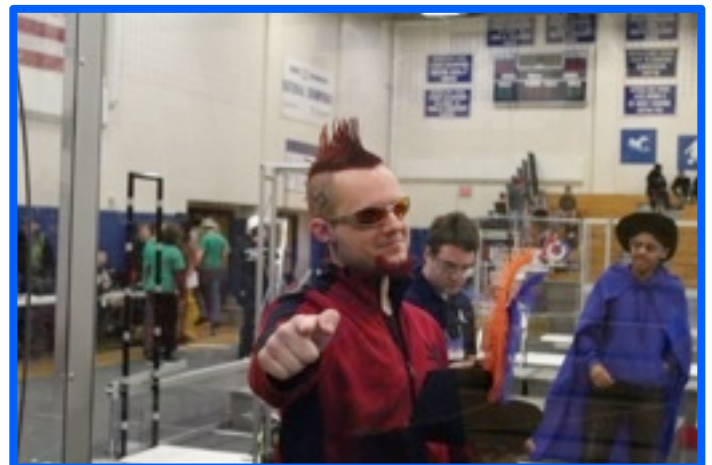
Programming worked this week on making sure the competition robot was configured correctly for when we put it in the bag. This included making sure talons and jaguars were configured correctly, and that all of the separate mechanisms worked. It took a little bit to troubleshoot the connection issues, but by the end of the meeting the competition robot was all ready to go. Programming has also began thinking what autonomous will be able to do.



Suffield Shakedown:



Saturday was not only Valentine's Day, but also the day where the culmination of six weeks work added up into a fantastic spectacle called Suffield Shakedown. This event was held at Suffield High



School, where this event is not only the first time the game is played each year, but has also been this way for over a decade! Paragon showed up at the build site bright, early

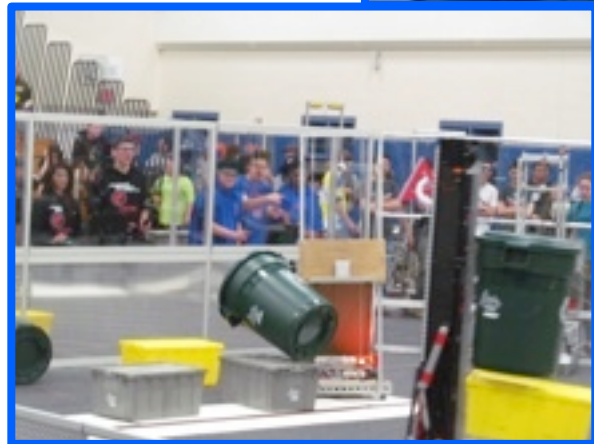
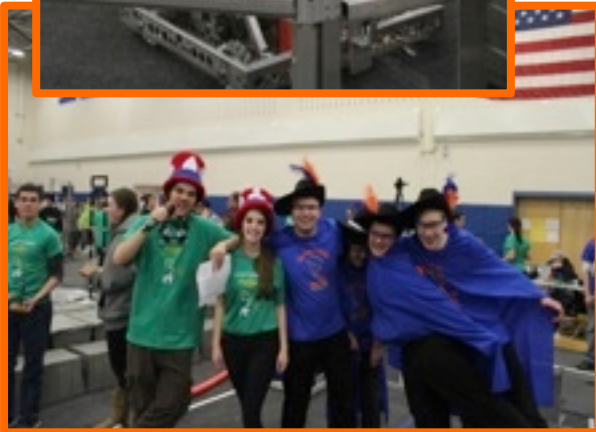




ready to go,
despite the cold.
With the help of
the Aliczi's and
their massive
storage truck, we
were able to transport



High School. Everyone
had an amazing time at
the Shakedown; our robot
only broke once too! Even
still, it was fixed in an
amazing speed by our
pit crew. We even had



time to add some modifications, which
included hooks on the edge of our
elevator, so that we could pick up



multiple things at once. By the end of the day, spirits were uncrushable, and we didn't go away empty handed! We ended up getting the "2nd place alliance" award, which recognizes the alliance partners with the most points. Saturday was by far a "lessons learned" day,

because of the fact that the elevator could not easily pick up totes. In order to pick them up, you had to be precise, and exact, or else the tote would slip off the elevator, or the tote would not be picked up at all. Regardless, Saturday was very successful, and by Tuesday, the robot will be done.



This week has been an exciting week, and we are running ahead of schedule, and expect to finish by Tuesday. We are all looking forward to the Springfield and Hartford District Competitions.

Please remember to go online at WINPUT and vote for Team Paragon to continue to have a home at our current build site. If you have an opinion of what should happen to Roger Wolcott, the visit this page here: [Survey](#)

From the Captains: ~ Matt & James

You can follow Team Paragon on:

www.teamparagon571.org

Upcoming Events:

2/17/15 - Ship Day

3/5/15 - 3/7/15 - NE FIRST Pioneer Valley District Event

3/7/15: FTC Championships

3/27/15 - 3/29/15 - NE FIRST Hartford District Event