

Week One Update

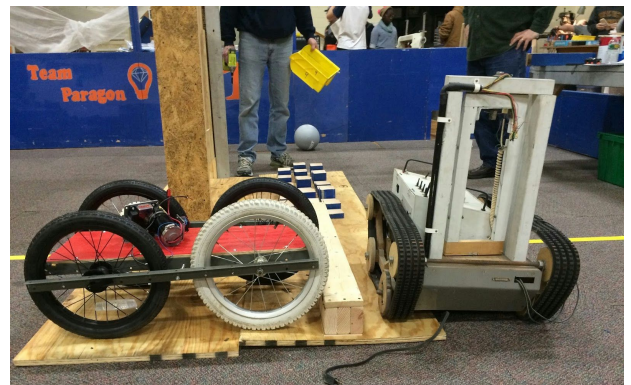


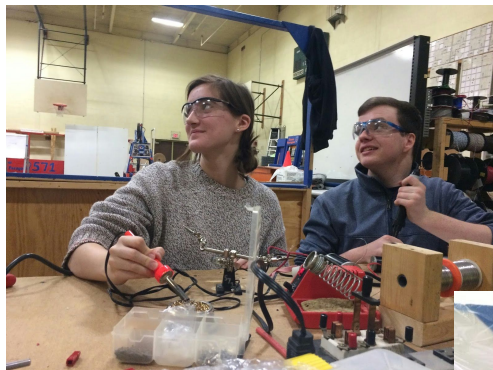
Build

Since Kickoff, our team has been hard at work trying to figure out the best approach to designing our robot. We first created a matrix of different design ideas and specifications and cross-referenced it with the different obstacles we might face during competition. The team constructed the obstacles out of plywood, following the specifications given to us by *FIRST*. Once



this was complete, we started prototyping different wheel configurations in order to see what parts could overcome each obstacle the best. We tried drive trains including tank drive, bike wheels, and tractor tires. On Tuesday, students in build worked in two separate groups, working on batteries and CIM motors. The CIM motors needed to be connected to mini Anderson connectors, and after many attempts by the group, they finally finished with only minutes to





spare in the build session. The motors were also tested and labeled in the directions they were spinning. The rest of the week was spent creating different options for both wheels and arms. A U-bar arm prototype was created Saturday to hopefully be attached to the bot with the best drivetrain.



Imagery

Imagery has used this past week for many tasks, including putting together the t-shirt design for this year. Although this may sound like a simple task, there are many elements that go into our t-shirt that need lots of discussion. So far, we have agreed on a font and graphics that we feel go with this year's medieval theme. We had the opportunity to try out our new sewing which we were able to purchase from the grant we received from the Windsor Education Foundation. It was put to



use on the fabrication of the standard, which will hang above our drive station competitions. Akira took on the



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responsibility of sewing, cutting and arrange all the components for the standard. The Team also took out our pit book from the previous year and decided on what parts we wanted to change to create this year's book. The last thing imagery accomplished was setting up a poster in our meeting area, asking the whole team to list ideas for our robot's theme. We have already gotten many ideas and will have to narrow them down by the end of build season.

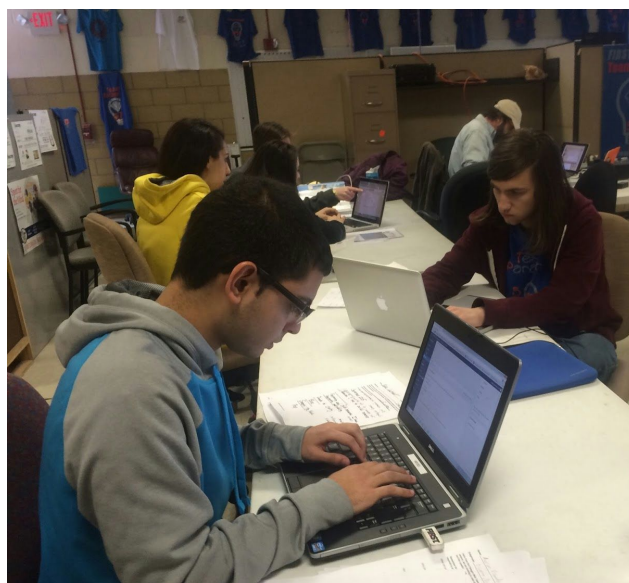
Programming



The programming department has been busy setting up our computers with the new libraries for Stronghold. We have also been uninstalling obsolete software and cleaning up old junk files to minimize software conflicts. On Saturday, the programming group was able to push code to a sample robot. While it lacked the necessary hardware to function correctly, the computer was able to communicate with the roboRIO. We were able to set up the drive station and connect it to the robot's router as well.

Web

This week, the web team focused on updating our website and establishing our own official Instagram account. (Follow us @TeamParagon571) We have also began the long and arduous task of updating all of the student and mentor profiles. Our sponsor list is currently being updated with the logos of new sponsors as well.



If you would like to learn more about the team, or come visit us, contact teamparagon571@att.net or check out the web site at team-paragon.org

Upcoming Events:

Suffield Shakedown: Sat., February 20th

Stop Work/Bag and Tag: Tuesday, February 23rd

Waterbury District Event: March 5-6th

Hartford District Event: April 1-3rd

~Addison & Sam