# Robotics Engineering Notebook





team name: When Robots	Fly
team number: 1618 A	
season: "Spin Up"	
start date: 9/6/22	
end date:	
book number: 1	of:

10

9

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2

1 inch

#### **Team Photo**



#### **Team Profile**

we are 1618 A, the robotics team at E.O.Smith High School, located in Storrs, ct. our team is currently made up of students from all grades 9-12. We have an opendoor policy during robotics meetings—anyone who's interested can come by to see what we're up to and help out if they wish we also have a permanent group of members who show up to almost every meeting. These people make up our team: Sam, who mostly builds and designs; Riley, who mostly programs; Todd, who mostly designs and builds; Rain, who builds; Ian, who builds and drives; Sungjin, who builds; Anayi, who designs; Shavn, who builds; and Lucy, who designs and records in the engineering notebook. Each meeting brings and records in the engineering notebook. Each meeting brings and records and help each other out on what needs to get done.

## My Projects

2	Brainstorming and organization (Robot design Brainstorming Robot Designs *2 + *3	#1) 9/12/22
0	bianaturining kopot vesigns *2 + *3	9/12/22
3	Brainstorming Robot Designs #4	9/12/22
4	Point priorities and Festival preparation.	9/13/22
<u> </u>	Roller designs	9/26/22
6	Festival reflection	9/26/22
<del>7</del>	Pisk <del>Roller</del> Launcher designs + Roller prototype	9/27/22
8	Curved launcher design	0/3/22
9	Roller improvements	10 10/22
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J	DISK Intake	10/31/22
<u>t</u>	bisk councher motor problem	ys/22
5-16	pisk launcher redesign Disk Intake modification	11/21/22 - 11/28
7-18	DISK Intake modification	12/5/22
1-3	Pisk Intake simplification	12/6/22
0-21	Robot construction	12/10/22
2-26	Code 1	12/12/22

## My Projects

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Today we watched the official video on the rules of this years competition, as well as reviewed the rules book. Then we had all members start brainstorming and designing initial ideas for our nobot. We also had to set up our field, making sure all the pieces come together so that we will be able to use the field in the future to tes our robot with.

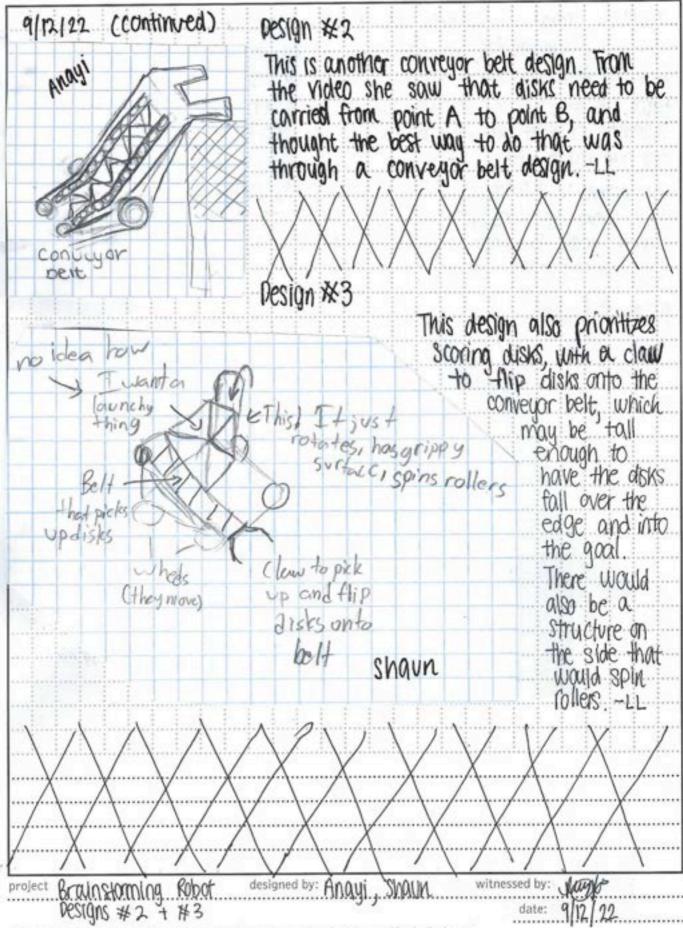
Our town is having a local festival soon, and our team has a stall there to introduce our robots team to our community. We do this every year to hopefully inspire new people to have the same love for robotics that we do.

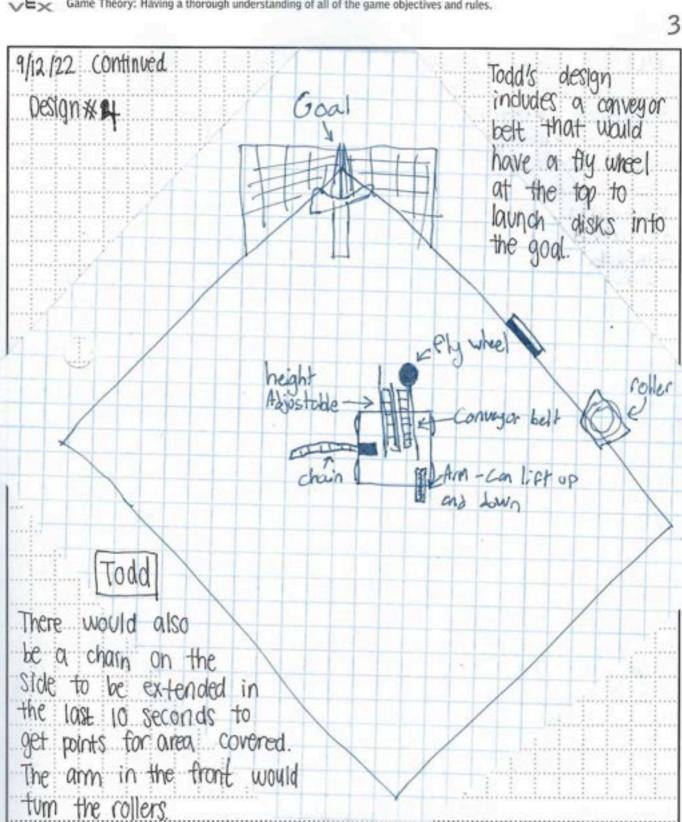
Design #1 more up the clise Motor that stretches the lounder This robot prioritizes scoring disks, it can grab discs and move them up a conveyor belt to score, with a motor at the top to launch the disk. -LL Motor that conflip the disc on to conveyer Brainstorming and aganization estimed

TION all information is the property of, and solely owned by the Designer.

Robot Design #1







After examing the roller part of the field, however, the roller proved much more difficult to turn than previously anticipated. The arm component will have to be carefully thought out. - LL witnessed by: project Brainstorming Robot

INFORMATION all information is the property of, and solely owned by the Designer.

Designs \*4

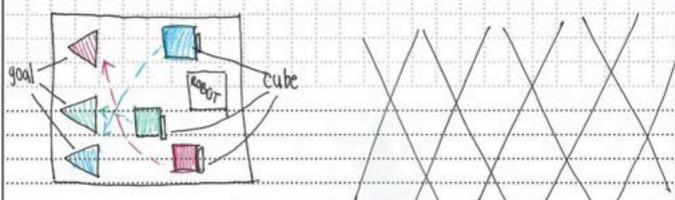


9/13/22 Today we rewatched the official competition video. Then we created a spreadsheet to organize everyone's roles and brainstormed different ways to score points as well as estimated about how many points we thought we'd be able to score. We also spoke about our priorities and thought of possible strategies. We continued building the field and discussed the upcoming festival, deciding to introduce aur robot by engaging our audience with a maze. We started work on the maze, planning and building its layout. - MS

ways to score points	Points per unit	* Units	Max Points	Realistic Units	Realistic Points	Prioni
scoring disks in basket		60	300	8	10	1
roller	10	4	40	2	20	3
area at end	3	36	108	7	21	2

we finished building a simple claw bot that we will let passer by sat the festival drive through a maze. There are always a lot of kids from the local elementary and middle schools who will hopefully take an interest in robotics, and our booth there might encourage that.

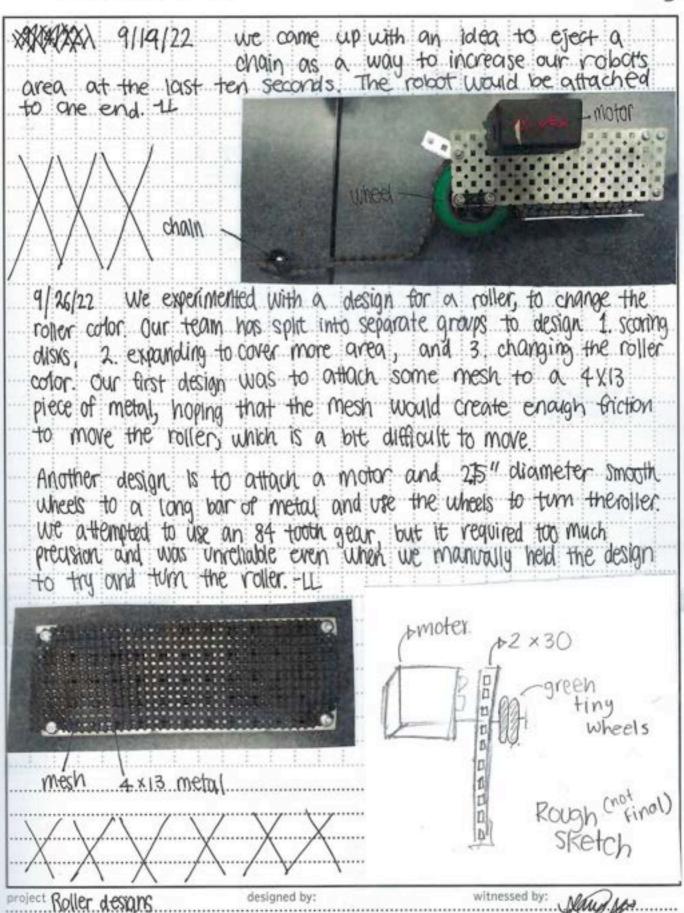
The game design will be a field using cubes of 3 different colors that will need to be moved into 3 goals. -LL



project Point Priorities and Festival preparation designed by: Miriom Shomshowitnessed by: Allew

date: 9/13/22



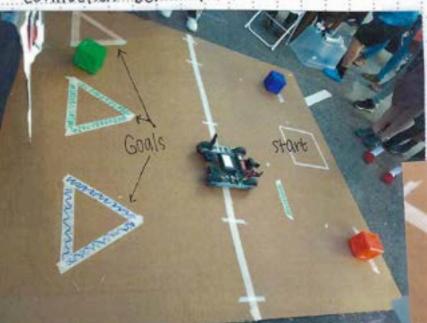


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9/26/22 Our experience at the community festival was a success. We set up a cardboard field with 3 different colored cubes and 3 goals. We invited people to drive a claw bot we put together for the festival. We had people of all ages attempt our challenge, from 4 years old to 54. It was an amorting experience being able to share our love of robotics with our community. We met quite a few middle schoolers who were eager and interested in robotics, which makes us hopeful that there will continue to be people who will want to participate in the future.

Next up we have another event to prepare for, a small school club festival. We're planning to do the same thing for this festival as we did with our community. It's important to us that we do outreach and spread our interest in robotics with other people. Hopefully we'll be able to foster a stronger connection between our nobotics team and school. -LL



People were really invested in completing the challenge, whether it took 30 sec or 7 minutes! - 4

Even a simple claw bot is able to inspire awe and interest as some people drive a rabot for the first time -LL

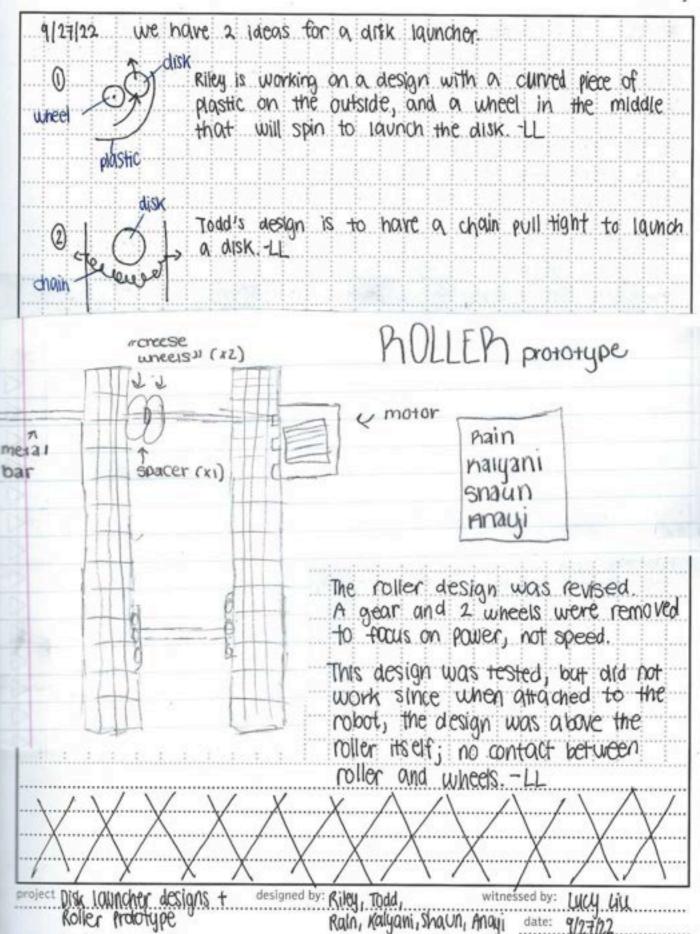
project Festival Reflection.

designed by: Lucy Liu

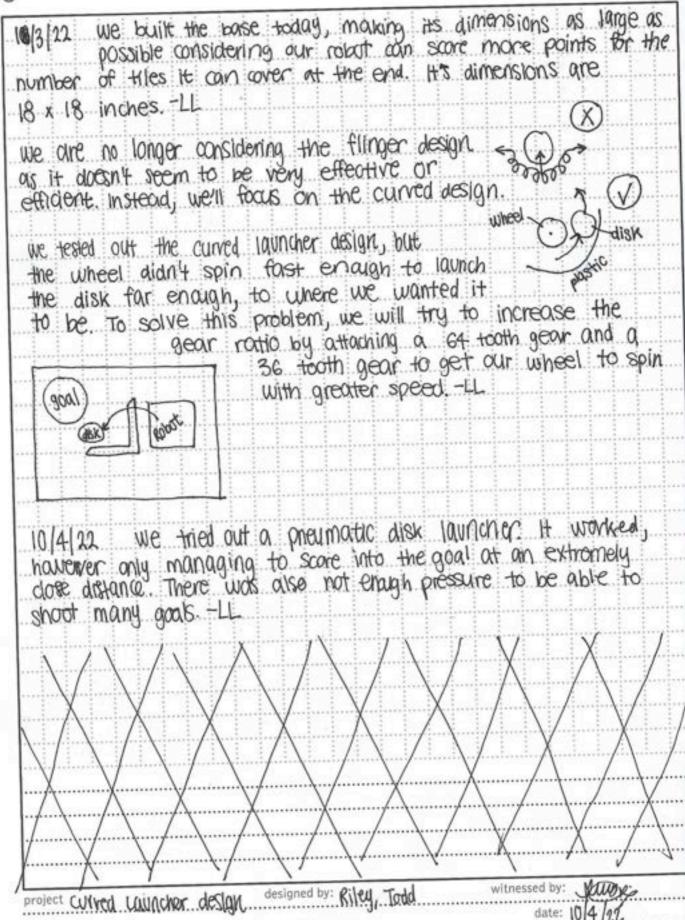
witnessed by:

date:











10/10/22 we've created an effective and working roller tumer. It can turn the roller precisely and fast. The only concern is its size and how Hill fit on the robot and the launcher, but we'll need to finish the launcher and then re-evaluate.-LL

side view

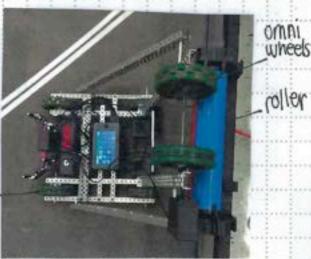
TOP view



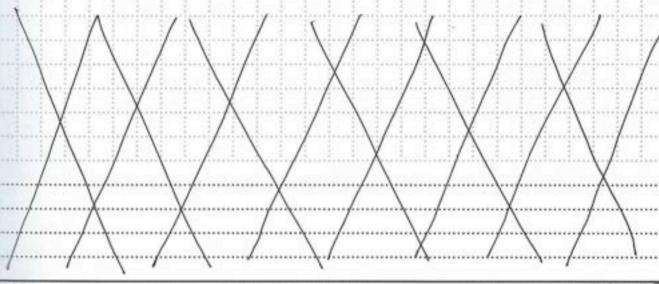
omni mee wheels

roller

temporary boise



we replaced the smooth green wheels with omni wheels to increase the reach and friction to be able to turn the roller more efficiently. The roller turner was also put at a tilt and wheels were positioned above the roller to better able turn it, as putting the wheels directly in front of the roller proved to have more difficulty when testing it.-LL



Roller improvements

designed by: Kalyan

witnessed by: Lucy Ud

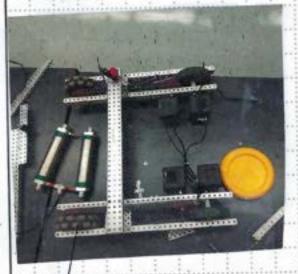
date: 10/10/22



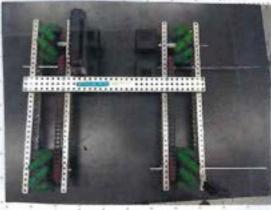
10/17/22 we're decided to use 4 mecanism wheels on our base.
This will assert allow for better positioning as our robot will be able to move sideways. Better positioning is essential when trying to shoot disks into the goals. Riley is working on coding the wheels. -LL

10/18/22 Today we attached the mozanum wheels to our base. It took much longer than expected since the wheels are new and we needed to insert exels through them. -LL

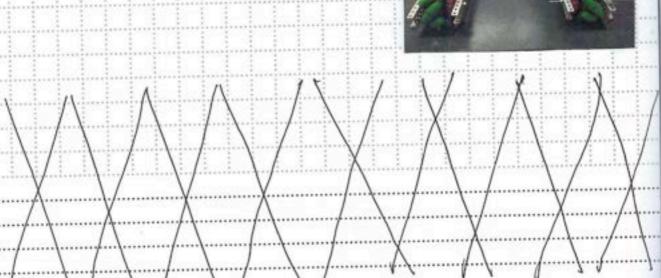
BENFORE AFTER (mecanism wheels)



omni wneels



Pront view V



project Me Countil Wheels

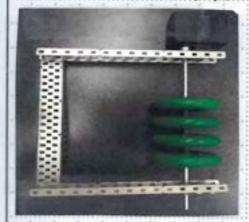
designed by: Rilly

witnessed by: Lucy Liu

date: 10 18 22

10/25/22 We worked more on testing and constructing disk pickup/intakes today. Sungjin had a design with 4 smooth wheels connected through by a long axle with a motor attached on the end.

Rain had a design where he had 2 24 tooth gears with 4 rubber bands pulled about 6 inches apart. Rain's design relies on the friction between the disk and rubber bands, while sungjin's design relies on the friction between the wheels and disk.—LL



Sungjin's design

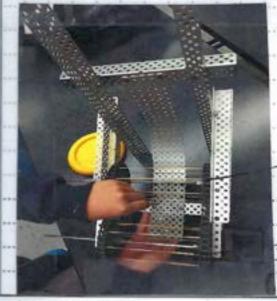
Rajn's design



10/31/22 Toold worked on the launcher, and was able to make the launcher launch the disk fast enough to make it into the goal. Rain also continued working on his disk intake design and added a curred metal section for the disks to move up. However, after testing his design, he discovered that the disks would get stuck and couldn't be maded up. "LL

TOP VIEW

SIDE VIEW



gears connected by chain

-rubberbands -motor



project

pisk intake

designed by:

witnessed by: WW GU JW

date: 10/3/12

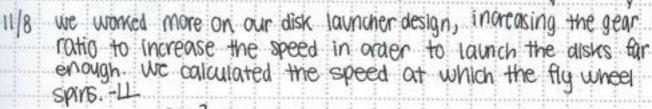


11/1 Rain decided to detatch part of the ask intake to bend the end of the curved metal rains to allow for disks to be picked up. Riley worked on modifying the base to make sure the dimensions were 18 x 18. -LL 1/7 Rain attempted to connect the 3 gears together using a chain, but it wasn't working since the gears were not evenly the chain was too loose we shortened placed, and the chain and it worked! Unfortunately, when we tested our design, we realized chain that the rubber bands did not create enough friction to pull the disk up. - LL shown and rain decided to try a new design, using tread chains to support the disk instead of rubber bands. But after only a few minutes, we suddenly thought of the problem of how we'd get the disk into the tread chain system. IL side . The disk XZIB. would not be able to enter sing had to be exact witnessed by: Lucy au wal DISK INTOKE date: 1117 22

11/7 (continued) I suddenly thought of a water ride of a donut moved along a path in a river by a conveyor belt. I suggested out we instead place a conveyor belt in the middle of our metal donut structure. -LL belt



Tread chain design, requires a little too much preasion in terms of getting disks in the correct position in between -LL

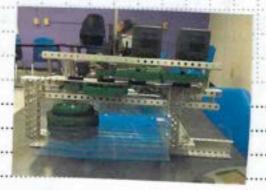


 $600 \text{ rpm} \cdot \left(\frac{84}{36}\right)^2 = 1900 \text{ rpm} = 31.7 \text{ rot/s}$ 

BEFORE

AFTER







11/14 We encountered a problem with our alisk launcher. One of the motors kept over heating, and the wheel was not getting up to speed, when it had previously been fine, we suspect that it's a problem with the overheating motor as the other motor is fine, we tested using a different motor, and it worked fine, however we need a turbo motor to replace the faulty turbo motor, which we don't have. The also enanged some of the gear locations to make sure the z motors are more evenly stressed. The

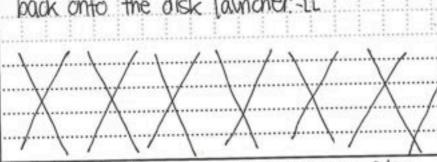
11/15 To solve the motor problem, we're switching the gearbox from the faulty motor into a working motor.

we noticed a new problem in the disk intake design as well. The dimensions at the bottom are wide enough to allow the disk to pass

in, but the width at the top was blocking the disk from leaving. We adjusted our design to widen so that we can X II disk gets stuck accompodate the disk size. -LL

our current design. The top needs to be widened.

Riley started working an controls for the fly wheel as I'un attached a new working motor back onto the disk launcher-LL

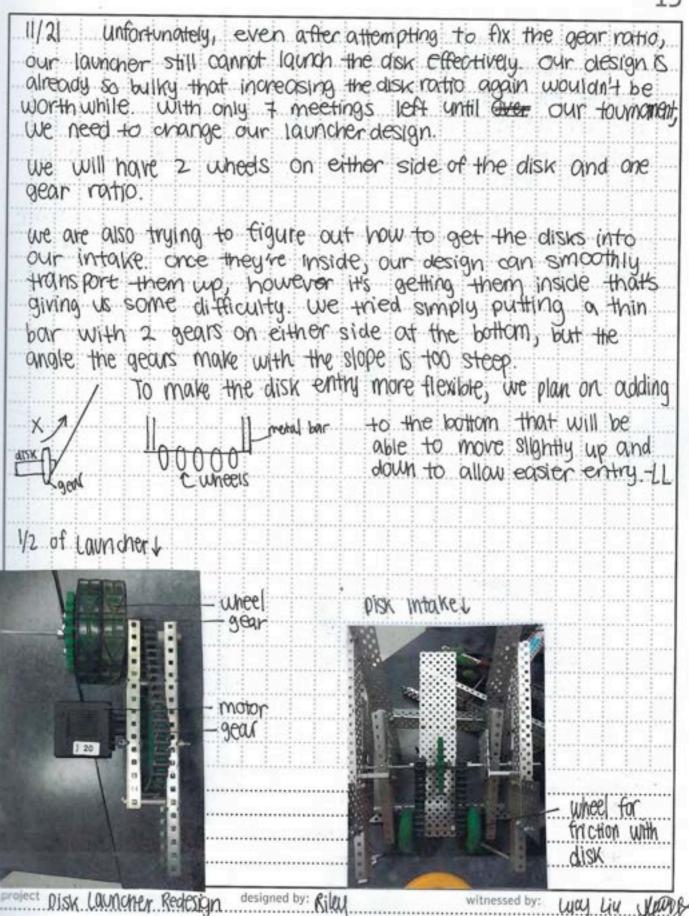


motor problem

designed by: Ian + Riley

witnessed by: Wary & date: 11 5 22





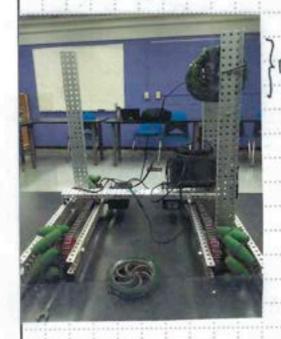


11/22 We modified our roller design to have it fit on the side of our robot, since previously it would have taken up the entire front or back of the robot and we want to conserve space to fit the Intake and launcher. The design is now simpler, 2 metal bars on either side of a omnituneels used to spin the roller we tested this design and were successful

Right now our priorities are finishing the disk intake and launoher, then successfully attaching them onto the base. -LL

Front view

書 SIDE VIEW



roller



we're almost done constructing the 2 wheeled disk launcher. The disk should go in between the 2 wheels and wheel plastic sheet. The disk wheel plastic sheet. The disk 11/28 wheel

metal

seems to not have enough friction with the wheels to be readily shot out.

project Disk (aunder Redisian

designed by:

witnessed by:

we added some mesh and rubber bands to the wheels to help the disk be snot out of our lâvncher.

help the alisk be shot out at our launcher:

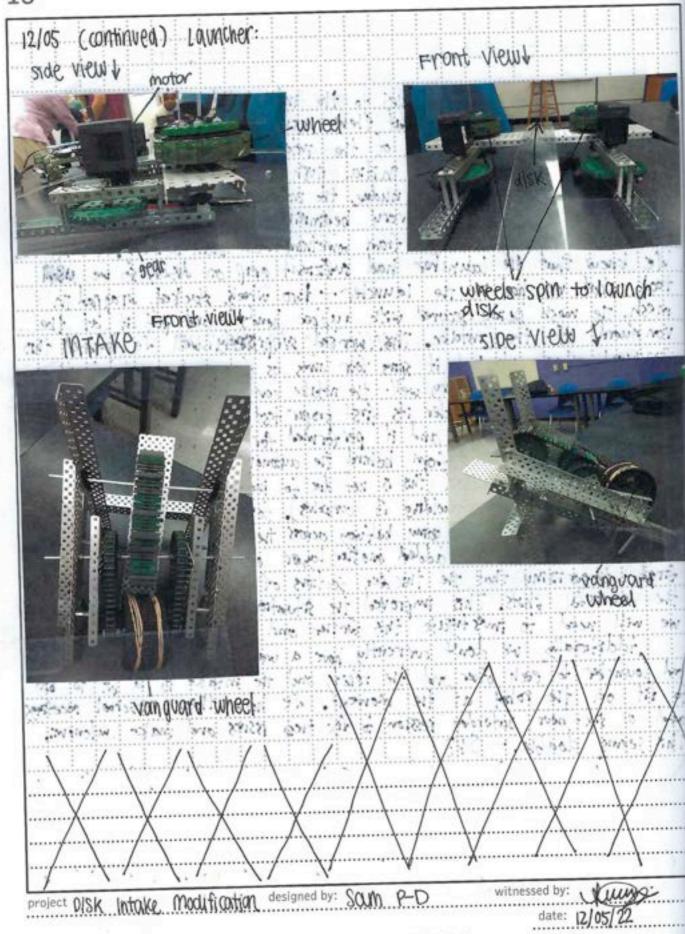
12/05 We made sowe changes to the intake today. The main problem with the intake had been that there wern't enough the main problem with the intake had been that there wern't enough the though the last the problem of the intake, meaning does were not getting a significant enough in that fut the goat them into the intake of a disc was given a little made, the intake could do the rest we needed where grip at the very beginning.

The solution for this came from something weed built at ready; the flywholf whe knew that the launcher had sufficient grip on discs, so we will took what we had in the launcher that sufficient grip on discs, so we will took what we had in the launcher that rubber hads, stocked, wrapped in week, the mesh being secured with rubber hads, stocked, wrapped in wheels who they secured with rubber hads, stocked, wrapped in misch, the mesh being secured with rubber hads, stocked, wrapped in wheels who they secured with rubber hads, stocked, wrapped in the von guard of the intake. This is nother if some time so fost as the rest of the mische. This is nother that it some the law they are disks forly easily. We doe gove the launcher its first proper test when it was some at the goals from ground level, and it performed for before flow expected Lie were able to score goals from behind the automations ine and we each inconsistent with some shots going hulfway across the feller flow expected Lie were able to store goals from behind the automations. However, the power was entirely inconsistent with some shots going hulfway across the feller and were only going a few inconsistent with some shots going hulfway across the feller and were expensible some inconsistent with some shots going hulfway across the feller and the first, theorizing that the thickeer sections of mesh or one peoperation we will need to investigate this forther and increase consistency.

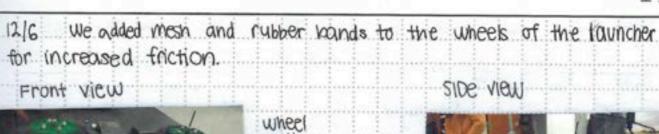
Additionally, we don't currently have a way of connecting the first on the robot at the Mowent. We hove th





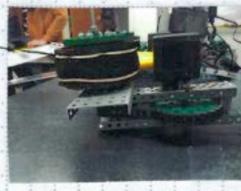








with mesh + rubber bound



We tested the launcher and the disk was able to be launched more effectively and smoothly.

we then examined the disk intake system and discovered the outer metal structure to still be too constrictive, and it didn't fit well on the base. The intake was also not designed with the launcher in mind, so we found it hard to figure out how to attach the 2 separate parts, we decided that instead of trying to attach 2 separate parts onto the robot, we would try to first attach the launcher and intake together and then attach them to the robot.

to do this, we had to remove a lot of the outer metal structure to fit and connect the launcher together Next meeting we'll try and connect the laundher and intake together and attach it to the robot- LL

simplified est disk intake ...

simplification.

designed by: Sam PD

witnessed by:



12/10/22 After removing the frame to our intake, we were able to attach it to our intake smoothly by adding metal guards at the gides of the launurer.

we also worked on an extender design of using pneumortics to launch or string with a weight at the end, so we can get more points from having contact with more floor tiles in the last 10 seconds.

we changed the whools on the roller to omni wheels t mesht rubberband

for better grip on the roller: our launcher is angled at about 45° and works great, abbe to smoot disks from half/middle of the field our intake is still having trouble.-LL

Extender using encumatics.

Roller turner +



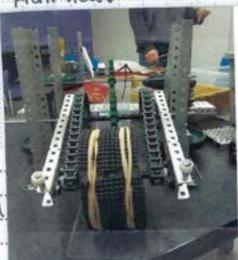
omni wheels



Front views

TOP VIEWY

connecting launcher and intake. The disk should travel along the plastic to the 2 spinning wheels of the launcher  $\rightarrow$  intake



designed by: RIVEL, Todd

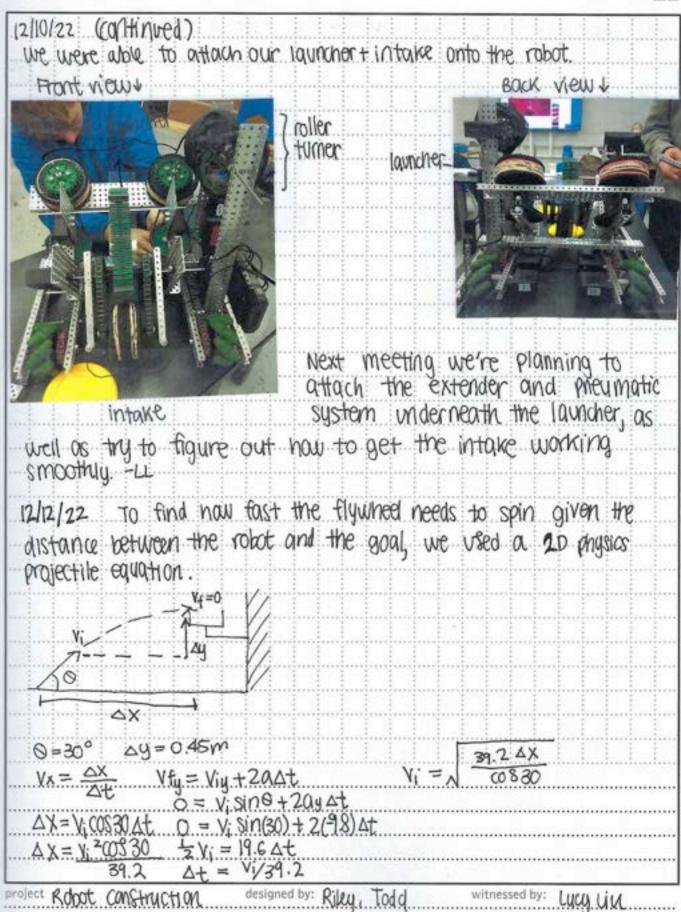


witnessed by:

12/10/22

project Robot construction







```
12/12 (continued) Here is our code for the nobot so far.
  ---- START VEXCODE CONFIGURED DEVICES --
 [Name]
                      [Type] [Port(s)]
/ Drivetrain
 / Controlleri
                      controller
/ Flywheel
                      motor_group 3, 4
 ---- END VEXCODE CONFIGURED DEVICES ----
include "vex.h"
competition Competition;
 MISC. FUNCTIONS
mid startFlywheel(float pct) {
Flywheel.setVelocity(pct, velocityUnits::pct);
Flywheel.spinFor(1000, timeUnits::sec);
                                                      witnessed by:
project Code 1
                           designed by: Riley F
```



## 12/12 (continued) Stops the flywheel. BrakeType should be set to coast to avoid damaging the flywheel motors oid stopFlywheel() { Flywheel.stop(brakeType::coast); } Controls when the flywheel is turned on and turned off flywheelControls() { if (Flywheel.isSpinning()) stopFlywheel(); else startFlywheel(100); Moves the roller forward when the up button is pressed Moves the roller backward when the down button is pressed pct (the velocity percentage that the roller will run at) returns: oid moveRoller(float pct) { RollerMotor.setVelocity(pct, percentUnits::pct); if (Controller1.ButtonUp.pressing()) RollerMotor.spin(directionType::fwd); else if (Controller1.ButtonDown.pressing()) RollerMotor.spin(directionType::rev); RollerMotor.stop(brakeType::coast); designed by: Rilty F. witnessed by:

date:

```
12/12/22 (continued)
```

```
Spins the intake when the left bumpers on the controller are pressed
returns:
oid spinIntake(float pct, brakeType brk) {
IntakeMotor.setVelocity(pct, percentUnits::pct);
if (Controller1.ButtonL1.pressing())
  IntakeMotor.spin(directionType::fwd);
else if (Controller1.ButtonL2.pressing())
  IntakeMotor.spin(directionType::rev);
  IntakeMotor.stop(brk);
 Moves the robot based on input from the controller joysticks
oid move() {
 int forwardBack = -Controller1.Axis3.position(vex::percent);
 int sideways = -Controller1.Axis1.position(vex::percent);
 int turning = Controller1.Axis4.position(vex::percent);
 rightMotorA.spin(vex::forward, forwardBack - sideways - turning,
 vex::percent);
 leftMotorA.spin(vex::forward, forwardBack + sideways + turning,
 vex::percent);
 rightMotorB.spin(vex::forward, forwardBack + sideways - turning,
 vex::percent);
 leftMotorB.spin(vex::forward, forwardBack - sideways + turning,
 /ex::percent);
                                                        witnessed by:
                             designed by: Riley F.
```

project Code 1



```
12/12/22 (continued)
 Activates the piston when the correct controller button is pressed.
 Piston should not be able to be activated before the 10 second mark.
 Rumbles the controller and prints time to brain
bool activated = false;
void extendPiston() {
 Controller1.Screen.print(Brain.Timer.value());
 if(Brain.Timer.value() >= 5) {
   if(!activated) {
     Controller1.rumble("...");
     activated = true;
   if(Controller1.ButtonUp.pressing())
      piston.open();
 Controller1.Screen.clearScreen();
 DRIVER CONTROL FUNCTIONS
old user control() {
Brain.Timer.reset();
// Start the flywheel at the beginning of the driver control period
startFlywheel(100);
// Main loop
while (true) {
 moveRoller(25);
  spinIntake(40, brakeType::hold);
  Controller1.ButtonA.pressed(flywheelControls);
  extendPiston();
 move();
  vex::task::sleep(1);
```

designed by:

Ritey F.

witnessed by:



```
12/12/22 (continued)
 AUTONOMOUS FUNCTIONS
/oid auto_1() {
Drivetrain.setDriveVelocity(50, percentUnits::pct);
Drivetrain.driveFor(directionType::fwd, 10, distanceUnits::in);
nt autonomous_number = 0;
mid auton() {
printf("<<<AUTO>>>");
Brain.Screen.print("<<<AUTO>>>");
Controller1.Screen.print("<<<AUTO>>>");
if (autonomous_number == 0)
  auto_1();
main() {
vexcodeInit(); // INITIALIZE OBJECTS: DO NOT TOUCH!!!
Competition.autonomous(auton);
Competition.drivercontrol(user_control);
                             designed by:
       Code 1
project
```



12/13/22



we were able to install the extender under the launcher

launcher

extender

our tanks

with the pneumotic gir tanks lying horizontally

across the base

string on a metal rod will be able to be launched out and allow

our robot to score at

1808t 3 additional this,

a total of 3x3 + 4x3

which equals 21 points from tile area. -11

from robot occupied area

We noticed for our intake that the gap between the variguate wheel and the conveyer belt was too big for the disk to be moved up towards the launcher to fix this, we attempted to use bigger flaps. We were able to intake the disk by driving over it, but it got jammed halfway up the conveyor belt we noticed that the disk pressed down

plastic bending

under the force of the disk.

metal to support the plastic

against the plastic, creating greater difficulty for the disk to be moved. To fix this, we attempted to support the plastic and keep it straight by putting a thin sheet of metal undermonth the plastic sheet The disk no longer gets stuck, but the intake is still very slow. to solve this issue, we attempted to put guides to help the disk

stay on track on the conveyor. using 1 by pieces of metal as a

sort of guard rail-LL

DISK Intake Troubkshooting designed by: Ian, Rain, Sam



date: 12/15

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