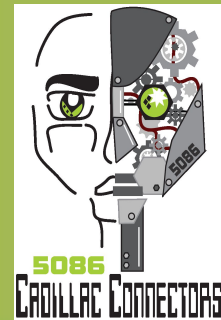


Cadillac Connectors Robotics 5086 | April 2, 2017

ROBO TIMES



What a WORLD-wind of an Adventure!

***"FIRST is more than robots. The robots are a vehicle for students to learn important life skills. Kids often come in not knowing what to expect-of the program nor of themselves. They leave, even after the first season, with a vision, with confidence, and with a sense that they can create their own future."* ~Dean Kamen**

I think I can speak for everybody when I say this has been an amazing season. Not to get any Chairman's-based or anything, but this year the Cadillac Connectors has had a 78% team member increase, participated in 100% more in the community, and made it the farthest ever in competition.

ST. LOUIS COMPETITION- Located at the Edward Jones Dome, the 2017 St. Louis Championship (FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION) teams, there was also FLL (FIRST Lego League), and FTC (FIRST Tech Challenge) teams present. 6 fields were set up to host the FRC teams. Each field was named after a important scientist: Darwin, Curie, Archimedes, Carson, Daly, and Tesla. Approx 60 teams competed on each field just like a normal competition with extra teams. Game play and rules remained the same during quantifying matches in that teams of 3 form an alliance to earn the most points. A twist came during alliances where 4 teams were placed on an alliance instead 3. One team would sit out a match while the other 3 played. While the Cadillac Connectors did not make it into alliance selections, it was inspirational to observe how the veteran bots get it done.

Sidewinder's Statistics

Written by Joshua Jacobson

The 107th match on Curie field has just ended. The Connectors have won a fifth match, placing their world win loss ratio at 5-5. While we did not do as well as we had hoped, we did achieve something completely new for our team: competing in Saint Louis.

Before we break down of why we didn't perform our best, let's look at some of our stats from our entire year. We won 34 of our 54 matches. That's a 63% win rate. Out of more than 3500 competitors, our win loss ratio was in the top 300 of all teams. Throughout the season, alliances that we participated in scored a total of 14,247 points, placing us within the top 400 teams for most alliance points.

As far as our most recent matches, We played well in our first match, even if it resulted in a loss. However, one of our partners vision systems failed, making it hard for them to shoot high goals. In the next match, (qualifier 49), an enemy bot played excellent defence and kept us from getting the fourth rotor. During match 63, a change that we had made to the code for autonomous had disastrous effects on our teleop, leaving only two of our four drive motors working.

Overall, we played a good game throughout the weekend, and if we made a few changes, we might have been able to win a few more games.



View of the Edward Jones Dome where competition was held.

Thankful Support

While Sidewinder is the main star of the show, she, and us, would have never gotten to St.

Louis if it wasn't for our wonderful sponsors and the plentiful support we have received from the community.

All of us would like to graciously thank everyone that has contributed to supporting this season's flight, especially the sudden and recent voyage to World's. Thank you so much

Cadillac Area Community
Foundation
Youth Advisory Committee
Avon Automotive
Dr. Nair
Driver's Choice Auto
Cadillac Castings Incorporated
Rexair
Bob Meyer
Ford
and
BC Pizza of Cadillac

for allowing us to go to St. Louis. We are extremely grateful for all that you have contributed to our team.

Why did the robot cross the road?
-It was programmed by the chicken

Not just touring the Arena

THE ARCH- What's the use of an 8 hour bus ride if you can't do a sightseeing? Around competition hours, our team toured around the St. Louis area to enjoy the many activities the city has to offer. We had a blast going up top of the big Arch, as well as attending a ROBOPROM, visiting the city museum, and seeing a Cardinals game. Huge shoutout to Renata Olson for organizing these activities for us!

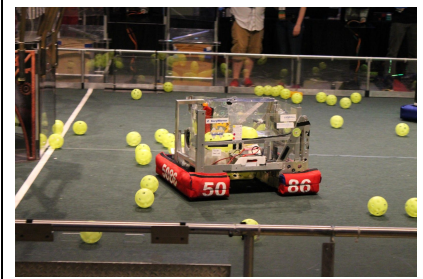


Day! She also raised awareness for men's breast cancer awareness with her blue ribbons she passed out at St. Louis!

Awards

FedEx put on an Engineering Innovation challenge during the competition that gave 3 teams the opportunity to win a \$5,000 grant. Teams completed 4 challenges: finding and taking a picture with a FedEx drop box containing a *FIRST* #omgrobots sticker, creating a video in dedication to the scientist of their playing field (ours was Madame Curie), and solving one physics-based and one math-based problem. Teams were required to submit their entries via social media. Winners were determined based on team spirit, accuracy, number of likes on social media, and creativity. While our team did not win this award, we all had a blast competing in it! Watch our videos on Insta and FB!

Safety: Congratulations to Anna-Marie Seitter for being awarded her **5TH** Safety Star of the



Calendar

Monday May 1st- Friday May 12:

AP testing. While we are honored with the opportunity to go to St. Louis, it is still a double-edged sword. Many of our students are enrolled in Advanced Placement classes and had/have to juggle these demanding school courses on top of the season stress. We may be a robotics team, but we still value our educations. Shout out to all our members taking their exams. Good Luck to all!

Friday May 26th- Save the date.

Visit our website:
connectors5086.org

And social media to see the adventures we had at World's! @Team5086



So many people have helped our team with our truly phenomenal season this year. We can never thank these people and businesses enough.

First off, thank you to all the parents who have provided transportation, monetary donations, time, and support to all our students and our program; to all of the community organizations that have donated to our team and made this season possible;

Supporters (\$50-200): Lifetouch, G&D Pizza, Home Depot, Bander, Driver's Choice Auto & Truck, Networking Butler, BC Pizza

Advocates (\$200-500): Cadillac Computer, Family Eye Care Associates

Sustaining Sponsor (\$500-1000): Stagg Machine Products, DK Design, Godfrey Chevrolet, Exxon Mobile, Cadillac ENT

Executive Sponsors (\$1000-2500): Rexair, Kendall Electric, Baker College, BorgWarner, Cadillac Casting, Avon Automotive

Visionary Partners (\$2500+) Cadillac Area Industrial Group

and lastly, thank-you so much to all our wonderful mentors who have made this program what it is. These guys (and girl!) have spent countless hours in and out of the robot room working with our students, and we could never repay the time, knowledge, and memories they have left behind. Special shoutout to our wonderful, amazing, hard-working, determined, hilarious, and caring mentors: Jim Jakubos, Tom Jacobson, Eric Seitter, Andrew Whipple, Eric Sawicki, Craig Peters, and Renata Olson for making this program, and family, what it is today.

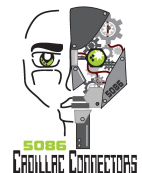
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