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Making Progress

We're almost there!

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BHHS robotics
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Association

Greetings!

Important Dates:

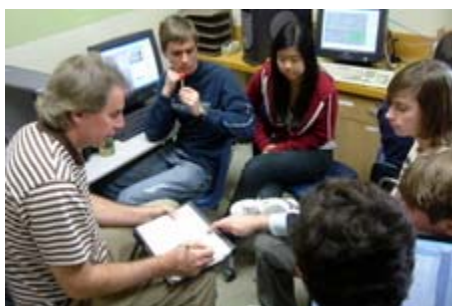
Feb 14--website submission due
Feb 15--Animation submission due
Feb 16--Pre-ship scrimmage
Feb 19--Robot Ships!
March 6-8--Arizona Regional
March 20-22-- Los Angeles
Regional
April 17-19--Atlanta Championship



Our Robot Progress

We have almost completed our robot however, we are still making minor modifications. Our programming team is ahead of schedule and are now working on our controller. Our animation group has a wonderful story board and is ready to start rendering our animation. Our business team is working hard to improve our website, maintain this newsletter and organize two fundraisers. Additionally, they are working hard to promote our program at local elementary and middle schools.

Our New Mentor



BHHS Robotics Animation Team meets with David Crockett Feiten, Industry Professional

by Elizabeth Ferdman

Recently, The Beverly Hills High School Robotics Animation Team met with David Crockett Feiten, storyboard artist and animator for many well known films-Toy Story, A Bug's Life, Cats and Dogs, and Scooby Doo, to name a few. Mr. Feiten came to BHHS to mentor the team, showing them clips of various scenes he had worked on professionally.

In addition, he gave them tips on storyboarding, modeling, and animation. Members of the team were fascinated and inspired by Feiten's skills in animation and animatronics. Willie Leech, Animation Captain of the team, described how Feiten helped the team the most in terms of organization and timing to create more effective clips. "David's advice was both interesting and helpful."

The Amazing Angel

By Justin Brezhnev

Angel Say is the Co-Building Captain of the robotics team. He is a fifteen-year-old eleventh grader and is the funniest magician the team has to offer. He skipped the fourth grade because of his intellectual ability. He has always been a huge fan of legos and when he heard about a robotics team in the Beverly Hills High School bulletin, he immediately signed up. This year is Angel's second year working and he contributed to the team's victory with the First Tech Challenge. His love for robots is his fuel for obtaining acceptance into Stanford for engineering and hopefully opening his own engineering company after college. Angel wishes to major in structural or mechanical engineering. He loves techno music, girls, movies, magic, and is a fan of lacrosse. He is on the JV team for lacrosse at Beverly, but even so, he believes that robotics should be above all varsity sports. When asked why, he stated, "Robopeople are smarter, faster, and better looking than any varsity jock!" Not only is he a diligent builder, but he is an addition to the comic arsenal of the robotics team along with the hilarious Willy Leach and Jesse Carmona. He also loves to do magic, surprising the team with vanishing tools and floating robot parts. His forte includes illusions and card magic. So, if you ever need entertainment with fabulous illusions or advice on construction, the amazing Angel is the man to talk to!



New Teachers Join Robotics

By William Zhang



The Robotics Program would be nothing without the help of the teachers involved. This year, Science teachers Kevin Bowers and Phil Wagner are dedicating their time to help make Robotics a success. Though both Bowers and Wagner are relatively new to the program at Beverly, they have already made major contributions to the team. Bowers is an advisor and mentor for the Robotics students. He works with the students to solve any problems they face and to answer any questions that they may have. "I am impressed with the size and

organization of the program, from building teams to animation teams to marketing teams," Bowers said. "It's exciting to see students at an early age work and solve problems that many adults, twice as old as them, would have no clue how to approach." Wagner helps the team by creating designs for the robots and finding flaws in previous designs. He also contributes with his skills as an electrician. "I love that the students in robotics learn from teaching each other and messing with stuff rather than from a textbook or lectures," said Wagner. "Now that's real science and engineering." Bowers currently teaches Physics and AP Physics. Prior to coming to Beverly, Bowers taught for two years in Arizona. Wagner, who recently moved from Denver, Colorado, currently teaches Astronomy, Biology, and Physics at Beverly. Though this will be his first full year at Beverly, Wagner has already started to get involved with various school activities and feel the Norman pride. "After a long day of teaching, it is relaxing and fun to work with the robotics students," Wagner said. Both Bowers and Wagner have quite a bit of background experience in the field of robotics. Before Bowers attended college, he had a career in semiconductor/microchip manufacturing, where he worked in the maintenance department with problem solving and fixing robotic and gas flow systems. During this time, Bowers had the experience of working on pneumatic valve systems, high temperature vacuum processes, and even mechanical arm assemblies. As a previous Nuclear Engineer in the Navy, Wagner has past experiences with motors and generators. In addition, he has built robots before, but never ones that have moved. Both advisors are looking forward to this season and the team's success. "I can't wait to travel to Atlanta when our Bot takes Nationals," Wagner said.

MorTorq TV

Along with this new season comes a new season of MorTorq TV!!!! Catch the new episode on your local KBEV channel, YouTube, or download a free podcast off iTunes. MorTorq TV airs 9 times each day and you can catch the MorTorq TV Midnight Madness Marathon between the hours of 12am-3am. Our newest episode packs in mor fun, mor laughs, and mor torq for the whole family.

Check out our newest episode

Upcoming Fundraisers

By Lauren Ahsan

Save the date! Taryn Black has planned two fundraisers for our BHHS Robotics team. On Monday, February 18, there will be our annual fundraiser dinner. This is to bring the team members and their family together to view the robot before it gets shipped off to competition. There will be food and fun as all our hard work comes together. It will take place at Matt Wundelich's home. Contact Eileen Kahn for more information. The second fundraiser will take place at California Pizza Kitchen on Beverly Drive, on Wednesday, February 27. Tell them you are there for the MorTorq 1515 team, and they will donate 20% of your bill to the team (dine-in or take-out). You can do this at anytime that day. Thank you for your support!

Team 1515 appreciates all the support!

Team 1515 is grateful to be supported by so many wonderful people. Our program would not exist without the generosity of our community and our corporate sponsors. Walt Disney Imagineering, Mercedes-Benz of Beverly Hills, The Beverly Hills ROP program, all of our family donors, and the BHHS PTSA are all vital to our program.

Special thanks go out to all the families that have supported our team by supplying lunch and dinner for our hungry students.

We also wish to thank the people that give us support financially. Thank you to our major donors who are listed on our website!

We are grateful to our PTSA for financing this fabulous newsletter.

Visit our website for more information!

BHHS robotics is funded solely by donations, corporate sponsorships and fundraising. All business aspects of the program are run by the Beverly Hills High School ROP Entrepreneurship classes taught by Eileen Kahn. If you are interested in supporting our team either as a mentor or as a financial contributor, please contact Eileen Kahn at eileenkahn@gmail.com.

Sincerely, TEAM 1515, BHHS ROBOTICS

Eileen Kahn
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