It has become something of a joke that Samin is good at everything. He is a CADing God, has somehow had 'months' of experience soldering PCBs, is a great builder, and is fairly knowledgeable about code. After careful pondering, Wilson and I have concluded that the only thing in robotics he is bad at is determining the proper speed and power settings for the laser cutter.

Samin is a force to be reckoned with. Early in the season, I was completely convinced that hanging would be the downfall of our team. In the way that I sometimes do, I would argue vehemently with anyone who even brought up the idea of hanging. Then one Saturday, when I was away at a speech and debate competition, Samin decided that our robot should hang. He finished the mechanism I thought would take weeks to perfect in just six hours.

One of the best parts about working with Samin is his enthusiasm, although I don't think that's the right word for it. After discovering a new process or mechanism, he immediately starts brainstorming ways that it can be implemented. This procedure yields tons of crazy yet brilliant ideas, many of which have actually made their way onto our robot. An entire chassis made from ¼ inch aluminum cut on a waterjet? He's done it. A USB chord soldered directly onto a phone's PCB? It happened. Samin's disregard for the way things are traditionally done, coupled with his relentless passion, makes him an invaluable member of 2856 and a great friend.