



Dear Parents, Members, and Alumni,

Our group of 39 students and 7 mentors returned from the Utah Regional on Sunday, March 15th. Friday evening the team was pleased to win the Entrepreneurship Award--kudos to Jeremy Chen and his team who wrote the essay and business plan and to DivekToprani who was interviewed at the competition.

The robot and drive team pulled it together during matches on Friday with everything coming together Friday afternoon and Saturday. Unfortunately, this wasn't consistent enough to be picked for a final 3-team alliance.

Here's a brief summary of Utah Regionals:

Thursday- MVRT flew out to West Valley City, Utah and unloaded the robot.

Friday- We set up our pit and participated in a few practice matches. Our robot was inspected and weighed about 119.5 lbs.

Saturday- MVRT continued to compete, but we unfortunately weren't chosen for the elimination rounds.

With a few changes in the robot, the team looks forward to a strong showing at Silicon Valley Regional (SVR) April 2-4 at San Jose State University. The team would like to remind parents that the event is free (except parking) and to please come and support us.

The MVRT officers

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**MVRT met Dean Kamen at Utah Regional!**

#### PLANNED COMPETITIONS

April 2 – 4, 2015	Silicon Valley Regional San Jose State University
April 22 – 25, 2015	Championships St. Louis, Missouri



**MVRT members all set to cheer for our team!**



#### Division Updates:

##### Mechanical:

- Small fixes to optimize robot for SVR
- Developing center can grabber
- Fabricating can stabilizer for competition
- Lightening side panels, robot weighs 199.5 lbs (max 120 lbs)

- Thank you Josephine Koe for pit design which received many compliments in Utah

If you have any questions about mechanical, please email [mechanical@mVRT.com](mailto:mechanical@mVRT.com)

##### Electrical:

- With Mr. Easton's help, team members, including Chung Min Kim, manufactured breakout boards for the Talon SRX
- Gave out these boards at Utah and planning to at SVR

- Working on autonomous code

If you have any questions about Electrical, please email [electrical@mVRT.com](mailto:electrical@mVRT.com)

##### Engineering Documentation:

- Improving scouting sheets for SVR
- Setting up database for pictures for pit scouting

If you have any questions about Engineering Documentation please

email [engineeringdata@mVRT.com](mailto:engineeringdata@mVRT.com)



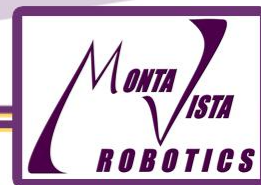
Pit Crew arrives in Utah



MVRT's 2015 T-shirt



MVRT's 2015 team flag



Public Relations/Outreach:

- ThinkFIRST at Lincoln with Sadhana, Apanuba, and Mr. Kikla
- Working on Chairman's Speech
- Volunteered at Utah Regional by working safety glasses table. Thank you Vivian Chiang, Arnav Gupta, NinaadSridharan, ShaunakTulshibagwale, and Mrs. Laitinen!

If you have any questions about Public Relations or Outreach, please email [publicrelations@mVRT.com](mailto:publicrelations@mVRT.com) or [outreach@mVRT.com](mailto:outreach@mVRT.com)

Finance:

- Won Entrepreneurship Award at Utah Regional
  - Received grants from Western Digital and EMC2
- If you have any questions about Finance, please email [finance@mVRT.com](mailto:finance@mVRT.com)

Media:

- Making buttons
- Working on animation

If you have any questions about Media, please email [media@mVRT.com](mailto:media@mVRT.com)

Documentation:

- Editing Chairman's video
- Updating Chairman's binder

If you have any questions about Documentation, please email [documentation@mVRT.com](mailto:documentation@mVRT.com)

Website:

If you have any questions about website, please email [webmaster@mVRT.com](mailto:webmaster@mVRT.com)



MVRT won the Entrepreneurship Award at the Utah Regional



MVRT ThinkFIRST teachers Apanuba and Sadhana work on egg drop project with Lincoln Elementary School students





Meet the Mentors:

**Mr. Laitinen**

We would like to thank Mr. Laitinen for being our most dependent mentor. Mr. Laitinen has worked as a programmer and systems analyst since the dark ages at JPL, Bechtel, ISD and then was one of the founders of Autodesk. He retired early to finish his degree in English Lit and Computer Science and taught at University of Nevada, Reno. After moving to Cupertino in 2002, his daughter, Eileen, dragged him into robotics in 2004. He likes to bicycle, read, listen to music of all types, plays a little guitar, and hang out with his family and pets.

**Mrs. Laitinen**

Mrs. Laitinen has been busy raising a family of 5 daughters while being a midwife and getting 2 degrees, nursing and history/Spanish. She was a founding member of the California Association of Midwives and spent a lot of time coaching and refereeing AYSO soccer until falling into robotics with her husband. She likes to read, bicycle, swim, plays a little guitar, and hang out with family and pets.

**Mr. Yelinek**

We would like to thank Mr. Yelinek for all his help in the team. His experience in sales, Cadence, Synopsys, ECAD, and Epic Design Technology have been recognized greatly by our team. Additionally, Mr. Yelinek does cycling, sailing, scuba diving, and wood working in his free time.

**Mr. Easton**

We would like to thank Mr. Easton for his assistance throughout the build season. He has experience in software, specifically modems and routers and now is creating his own small electronics business for hobbyists and makers. Mr. Easton enjoys sailing, hiking and spending time with his family.

**Mr. Greenstein**

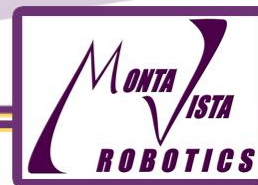
We would like to thank Mr. Greenstein for being MVRT's teacher advisor allowing us to continue our work at Monta Vista! Mr. Greenstein worked at Control Data Corp., Harris Corporation, Cadence Design Systems, and finally had his own consultancy for 27 years before becoming a dedicated geometry, Java Programming, and AP Computer Science teacher at Monta Vista. In addition, Mr. Greenstein runs 15-20 miles and cycles for 30-50 miles each week.

Thank you to all our mentors!



Parents' Booster Club:

Dear Parents,  
We appreciate any snack donations!  
Parent volunteers for carpooling to Utah are needed!  
Please contact utoprani@yahoo.com if you are interested in being part of a MVRT parents' club.



FIRST Scholarship Opportunities (for juniors and seniors):

Every year, over \$20 million in scholarships are available to robotics team members through FIRST. These are underwritten by universities and businesses. Some scholarships are specific to a college or major; some are general. Not only does it benefit the team members, it also enhances the image of the team to be well represented with FIRST scholarships.

The majority of FIRST Scholarships require that a participant submits an application during his/her senior year of high school. There are, however a few FIRST Scholarship Providers who accept applications during an applicant's junior year, and even more importantly, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute requires that an applicant apply during their junior year.

Please visit the FIRST Scholarship page: <http://www.usfirst.org/scholarshipsearch.aspx>

Deadline: 3/31/15- 4/12/15

East Carolina University \$1,000 non-renewable-Engineering

Nuts, Bolts & Thingamajigs, The Foundation of FMA, Intl. Up to \$1,500-For study at an institution leading to a career in the Manufacturing Technology industry

Society of Women Engineers - Houston Area \$1,000 non-renewable-Woman pursuing Engineering at school of your choice. Must attend Texas high school or plan to attend college in Texas

University of Waterloo \$5,000 (Canadian funds) non-renewable-Mechatronics Engineering

Baker University \$1,000/year up to \$4,000-Any course of study

Capitol Technology University \$20,000 over four years-Any course of study

DigiPen Institute of Technology \$5,000 non-renewable-Any course of study

Hudson Valley Community College Tuition for one (3 cr hour) course to any FRC Participant within New York's Capital District

Metropolitan Community College - Maple Woods Full time Scholarship (12 credits/ semester for 2 semesters in-district tuition) Any course of study

Metropolitan Community College-Business & Technology In-District Tuition for 12 credits =\$1,140 Any Course of Study

Montclair State University \$2,000/year up to \$8,000-Any course of study

Pace University \$5,000/year up to \$20,000-Any major in School of Computer Science and Information Systems

Randolph College \$5,000/year up to \$20,000-Any course of study

SMaRT Education \$1,250 - \$2,500 non-renewable-Any course of study. Applicants must be a resident of the Inland Empire & Desert Regions of Southern California during the school year in which the scholarship application is submitted.

Society of Petroleum Engineers - Delta Section \$1,000 for student attending FIRST Bayou Regional Engineering or Geology at school of your choice

St. Louis Community College- The Ashok Agrawal Scholarship for FIRST Students up to a maximum of \$2,000/year-Engineering related degree

University of Connecticut \$1,000-non-renewable Engineering

University of Kansas \$1,000/year (in state) and \$2,000/year (out of state), renewable- Engineering or Computer Science

University of Mississippi \$500/year renewable Engineering or Computer Science

University of Portland \$3,000/year up to \$12,000-STEM major

University of Saint Joseph \$20,000/year and 4 \$10,000/year up to 4 years any

University of Wisconsin - Madison \$1,000/year up to 5 years Engineering

Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology \$5,000/year up to \$20,000-Engineering or technology

Velcro USA Inc. / University of New Hampshire Amazing Connections™ FIRST Scholarship \$2,500 non-renewable

Velcro USA Inc. / University of New Hampshire STEM FIRST Scholarship \$2,500 non-renewabl- Majoring in STEM Field

Youngstown State University \$1,000/year up to \$4,000-Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math

ITT Technical Institute \$9,000/ year up to \$18,000 toward associates degree-Any associates degree program at a participating campus

To learn about the other benefits, such as internships, that become available once you become a FIRST Alum! <http://www.usfirst.org/alumni>