



NEWSLETTER

Farmington High School's
Robotics Team FRC 178

THIS MONTH WAS JAM PACKED WITH ACTIVITIES, FROM FINDING OUT OUR RAFFLE WINNERS TO COMPETING AT WATERBURY AND WNE! LET'S DIVE RIGHT INTO IT.



THIS MONTH'S STAR STUDENTS: DAVID M. AND ZIAD K. !

In the time leading up to competition season, David and Ziad were nominated by our mentors for the prestigious Dean's List Award, dedicated to FRC team members who show exemplary leadership and expression of FIRST Core Values. Ziad worked diligently on our Chairman's Video, perfectly capturing the team's community. David is a leader of our Outreach programs, running the logistics of FLL events as well as mentoring FLL teams. Both David and Ziad interviewed with virtual judges and Mrs. Hall said, "They both did extraordinarily well; it would be really hard for the judges to choose between the two of them!"

At our Waterbury competition, we found out they only picked 2 out of the 9 interviewees to go on the next level. David was selected as a Dean's List Semi-finalist, only the fifth team member to make it this far. He has already done his interview, and we find out if he will be a finalist during the District Championships in April. We're all cheering him on!

RAFFLE WINNERS

To start off the month strong, our raffle winners were announced! Over the course of a few months the team raised over \$6,000 and we hope to go even bigger next year! The prize winners won a \$178 Visa gift card, PS5, Air Fryer, or Bose Earbuds.

COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

Western New England and Waterbury Qualifiers

Two major team events that occurred this month were the two FRC qualifiers at Waterbury and Western New England University. We had buckets of fun at each competition, starting a flag war with another team at Waterbury and enjoying the dining hall food at WNE.

The Travel Team

We were all ecstatic to compete in our first real competition since March 2020. Afterwards, we saw that we were able to learn a lot from our experiences at Waterbury, such as our intake system and driver communication. We were also able to improve on speaking with judges with the help of a valued mentor, Tuhan Nguyen, and a 2020 alumna, Olivia Hofmann. This made our experience at WNE even better.



Each member had an important role at each competition. Let's highlight them! We had our drive team, who talked with alliance partners and worked together to strategize for each match. There was our pit crew, who worked on our robot on a rotational schedule to refine and enhance our robot's performance. Our Chairman's Award presenters displayed our team's prowess and enthusiasm for the community through STEAM to the judges. Finally, we had our in-person and remote scouting teams, who worked together to create profiles on competing teams and to provide the drive team with real-time data.



The Remote Team

Our remote scouting team was an exciting addition, as it created a hybrid structure to normally all in-person competitions. The inclusion of this team was essential to involving everyone, since there was a 25 person limit to competitions due to COVID-19. At the high school the remote team viewed matches through a live stream and recorded data on robot's performances. Data analyzers could then take that information to create strategies so our robot could work the best it could when competing against and alongside other teams. A small group of media managers also supported the team through social media posts. Most importantly, every time our robot competed the remote team would gather together to cheer on our robot and send the in-person team some love.



A Belated Visit

Since this team was unable to attend our FLL Expo, the FLL Explore team, "Duck-Nados," recently visited us to share their work this season with transportation and ducks. After their presentation, we gave them a tour of our workshop at the Annex and a robot demonstration. The team was wonderful and it was really fun to listen to their "pro-duck-tive" ideas!



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