



November 2010
Team 501
News



E-mail newsletter comments / suggestions to Newsletter Coordinator: Catherine Przekaza mprzekaza@aol.com



VEX

by Nicole Lyle, Sophomore

VEX robotics began four weeks ago for Team 501. During the first VEX class; the students at both Goffstown High School and Manchester West High School dismantled last year's robots. Over the second and third weeks, we found that we only had a few complete kits of parts. The Manchester kids were able to start building their robots with the pieces that were in some of the kits, even if the kits weren't complete. It will be interesting to see how many complete robots we can manage to make with so few complete kits.

Monarchs Fundraiser

By Jen Hosker, BURNDY

It's time once again for **ROBOTS ON ICE!**

Team 501 will be selling tickets for the December 3rd AHL game between the Manchester Monarchs and the Norfolk Admirals. Several Manchester teams are also selling tickets. The team that sells the most tickets will get to have a 50/50 fundraiser at a Monarchs game. The 2nd and 3rd place teams will showcase their robots on ice during intermission. Fun for all, this game is not to be missed.

Tickets are \$17. Please see a member of the PowerKnights for tickets. At Burndy, please see Jen Hosker. At Dyn, please see Isaac Onigman.



Team Mentor: Ed Forcier elf305@yahoo.com



River Rage 2010

By: Samantha Ainsworth, Sophomore

River Rage is the second of two off-season competitions in which Team 501 participates each year. The annual Halloween-themed event, held on October 30th, was another successful event. Many teams came and participated in the competition. The winners were teams 172, 20, and 175. All the teams had fun screaming and cheering for their teams and other teams. Everyone had fun dancing and singing along to the music and meeting people from other teams. Everyone was really friendly. Food and beverages were sold in the café, where the pits were. Team 501 personally thanks everyone who participated in this year's River Rage and all the volunteers whose help enabled this competition to enjoy another successful year. We look forward to seeing more teams and more volunteers next year!



Machining Class

Sam Lewin, Freshman

Machining Class is taught by Mr. Forcier, and it's all about making parts. We have learned how to use a lathe, a band saw, and a mill so far, and we have learned how to read blueprints as well! Mr. Forcier happens to be very experienced with these tools, so he can teach us resourcefully and efficiently. The classes tend to be an hour, maybe an hour and a half if things are slow. The class consists of myself (Sam Lewin, THE ROOKIE!), Nicole Lyle, Carolyn Przekaza, Ms. Jen Hosker (who's here for a little review) and Elizabeth Lacey. We are a small class, so everyone has the opportunity to ask questions and get a practical learning experience. We have already begun to make practice parts out of wood, PVC and fiberglass too. We have received notes on how to use everything, (but no sign of a test) so if we forget or are confused, we have a reference source.

Machining class is conveniently located in the West wood shop after school, and we are next door to Mr. Allen Ellis, who teaches VEX at West, so he pops in to say hi, and make us laugh, which keeps everyone in good spirits.





Web Site Survey

Carolyn Przekaza, GHS Senior

As the 2010 season begins, our web site committee is fast at work to make improvements to our 2-time Regional Web Site Excellence Award winning site. Our student-based committee has been meeting bi-weekly on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 at one of our Platinum Sponsors, DYN Dns, in Manchester with the assistance from our mentor Alan Ellis.

The committee is interested in making the site more user-friendly and would like to know your thoughts about what would make it more meaningful as a team tool. At the All-Team Meeting on November 23rd a survey was distributed soliciting input regarding the layout, color scheme, text format, composition, etc. We are interesting in hearing from our newsletter readers in what you might find useful for the web site! Thank you for your continued support, we invite you look at our site at:

www.PowerKnights.com

Comments and suggestions can be given at any All-Team meeting or may be e-mailed to the Web Site Committee at web@powerknights.com.



Team 501

Cash Calendars

Chris Lyle

First, I would like to thank everyone involved with the Cash Calendar sale we had at Shaw's in Goffstown for doing a great job. We were able to raise \$382.53!

Cash calendars were distributed at the All-Team Meeting on Tuesday November 23rd. If you were not in attendance at the meeting, please contact Nicole Lyle to arrange picking up your calendars at camlyle@comcast.net. This is a mandatory fundraiser and each team member is expected to sell 10 calendars. Checks are payable to: WHS FIRST Robotics Team.

What happens if you sell more than 10 calendars? The funds will be deposited into your escrow account. So if you sell 11 calendars, \$50.00 goes to the general fund and \$5.00 goes to your escrow.

Collections for the cash calendar sale will be done at the December All-Team Meeting and at the FIRST Kickoff event. Anyone who needs more calendars to sell can contact Nicole Lyle at camlyle@comcast.net.



Teammates Nicole and Sam hone their machining skills.



Please see www.usfirst.org and www.powerknights.com for more information.