



Week 7 - 2/24/10

# Team 501 News



E-mail comments, suggestions, etc. to: Anna Turgeon at [bobtheredsoxgirl@comcast.net](mailto:bobtheredsoxgirl@comcast.net)

## FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITIONS - WHAT THEY ARE REALLY LIKE

By Nicole Lyle  
GHS Freshman

From the second you step through the doors of the Verizon Wireless Arena, you can feel the positive energy. Everyone is excited to be there and has great sportsmanship. The huge crowd is divided into sections, so make sure you know which team you want to support the most. You find a seat and look around at the crowd.

The crowd is divided into their team colors, and everyone has true spirit. No matter what team you are there to support, you still cheer on the rest of the teams. There is never truly a rivalry, just true friendship. In many other sports, every team is split apart from the rest, but in FIRST Robotics Competitions, there is only teamwork and the desire to have fun. Some teams choose to take the game too seriously, but they never truly show it. Team pins/buttons are swapped and shared, as are memories.

Once you go to at least one competition, you are hooked for life. FIRST Robotics Competitions aren't just a simple competition where there is fighting, a winner and a loser - they are a way of life, where you learn all kinds of good stuff, make true friends and have fun. By the time you leave a competition, you will be wondering what next year's challenge will be, and what kinds of dances and cheers the other teams will come up with for next year.

## WHO'S IN THE HOOKSETT BANNER THIS WEEK?

Congratulations to Nicole Lyle who had her robot article published in the February 18 issue of the Banner.



2009 Competition

Photo: Nicole Lyle

Team Mentor: Ed Forcier [elf305@yahoo.com](mailto:elf305@yahoo.com) Team Parent: Kathy Thibaudeau [antiquemama@comcast.net](mailto:antiquemama@comcast.net)



Photo: Matt O'Rourke

L-R: Matthew Snyder, Greg Dusseault (I think!) and Mike Morin

### UNIVERSAL SIGNWORKS

Thanks again this year to our good friend at Universal Signworks, Mark Lareau, for updating our team banner with the new BURNDY logo and for making the sponsor decals for this year's robot. The photo above was taken at the Manchester Christmas Parade, before the name change. The two boys who carried the banner down Elm St, Matt and Mike, were dressed as knights. This was the first time we carried the banner, it has usually been displayed in the bed of the pickup truck pulling the robot.

### WORKING HARD ON THE WEBSITE

Cathy Przekaza  
Web Site Parent Mentor

You will be happy to know that Team 501's new web site was recently put on-line and was submitted to FIRST for consideration for FIRST's Web Site Excellence Award! If you have not yet seen our

new site, please check it out at [www.powerknights.com](http://www.powerknights.com).

Congratulations to all of the students on the Web Site Committee who worked for months on the design, creation, documentation, photographs and maintenance of our site. Special thanks also is in order to Alan Ellis of Dyn Inc., who volunteered many hours to teach our committee the nuances of web site design, widgets and plug-ins. A successful web site like ours is only possible if the team has created a vibrant environment and has documented its history. Thanks to everyone who contributed to our team's success!

Our site continues to be an active work in progress, so please keep your pictures and videos coming. Specific suggestions / comments / contributions should be sent to our student committee head Dale Keith at [macman223@mac.com](mailto:macman223@mac.com) and copied to me at [mprzekaza@aol.com](mailto:mprzekaza@aol.com).

Go Team 501!  
Good luck!

### WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

National Engineers Week was February 14-20 and the New Hampshire Union Leader had a special section highlighting engineers and engineering on Monday, February 15. One article dealt with women in engineering and I was happy to read that the number of women going into engineering is slowly increasing. "The University of New Hampshire was awarded a \$1.3 million grant from the National Science Foundation to encourage women to study disciplines such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Bachelor degrees earned by women in these fields has increased by over 10 percent since the 1970's, masters degrees by more



Please see [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org) and [www.powerknights.com](http://www.powerknights.com) for more information.

than 15 percent, and the number of women employed in these fields has more than doubled to slightly over 11 percent since 1983." The article went on to say that "attracting more talent into engineering will be important to the U.S. economic future as the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects six of the 30 fastest-growing industries will be in engineering fields over the next 10 years."

With 12 girls on our team this year, we hope to add to the future increase in women engineers!

### **TEAM SPIRIT**

**By Katie Thibaudeau  
WHS, Senior**

Since our robot's name this year is "Boomdeyada," I thought it would be good to create our team button with that in mind. The button also has our team logo on it. In case you haven't heard what "Boomdeyada" is all about, here's the story:

Back in November, Isaac Onigman found a Discovery Channel ad that has a short clip of Dean Kamen singing and shows last year's Team 501's robot in the background. The clip was filmed at the FIRST headquarters in Manchester. If you look at 25 seconds (looking at the counter on the video), you'll be able to see it. (And in the spirit of gracious professionalism, we'd like to mention that Trinity's robot is in it too!)

<http://videosift.com/video/Discovery-Channel-The-World-Is-Just-Awesome-Boomdeyada-2>

### **This Year's Team Button**



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### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**BAE Systems Granite State Regional  
FIRST Robotics Competition at the  
Verizon Wireless Arena, Manchester, NH  
March 5 - 6 (9 am – 4 pm)**

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**A full schedule of events is available at:**  
[http://www.usfirst.org/uploadedfiles/community/frc/events/2010/2010\\_NH\\_Agenda.pdf](http://www.usfirst.org/uploadedfiles/community/frc/events/2010/2010_NH_Agenda.pdf)

**Visit the 2010 game "BREAKAWAY" animation  
video at:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iheq7yar5c4>



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