

THE VARMINT WEEKLY



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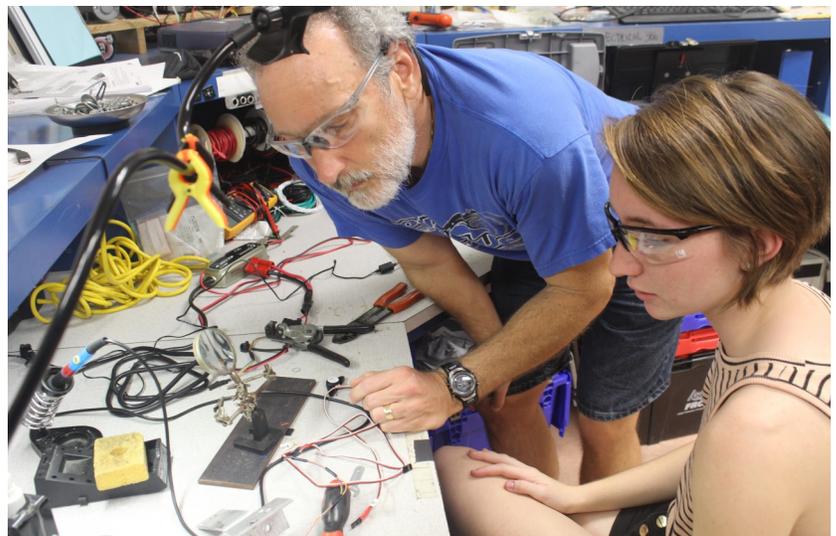
Business as Usual

The Business team is continuing to manage community outreach. As we get closer to competition, business will work harder and harder to make sure that our team has volunteered for as many things as possible.



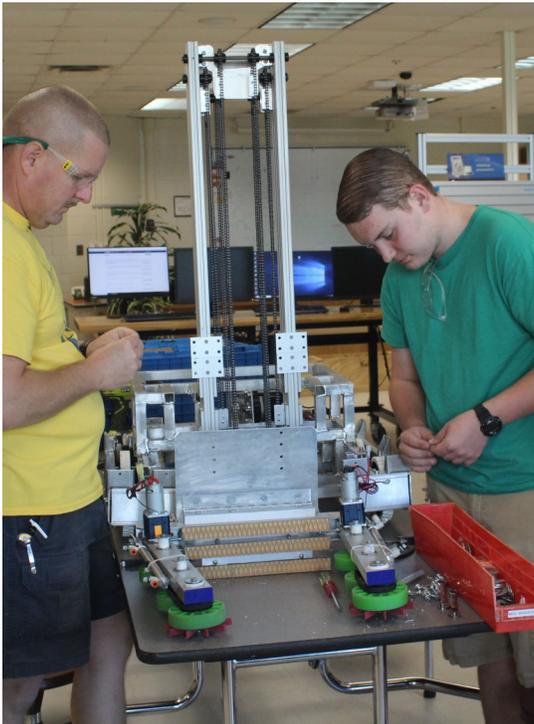
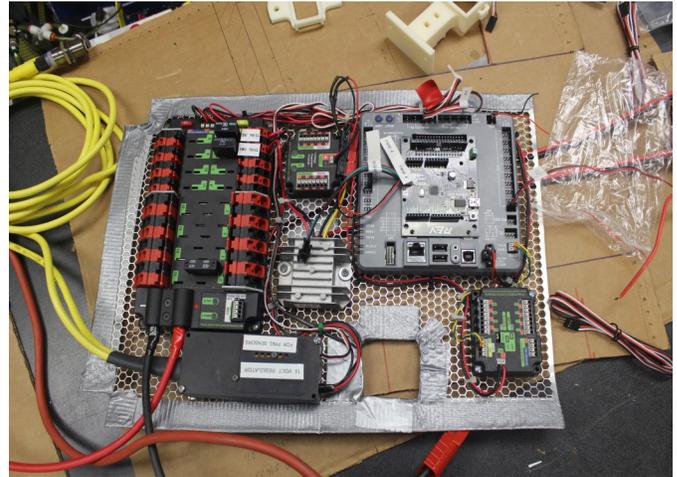
As well as getting sponsors, the business team has been working extremely hard on submitting awards for *FIRST*. The Chairman's Award is the most prestigious award *FIRST* offers. It is about who we are and how we impact the community. The other

award that we were working on was the Entrepreneurship Award. This award is all about budget and how we manage it. Now that these awards are finished, business can focus solely on outreach.



Electrical Team

In the last week, the electrical team has been preparing the electrical board and wires for installation on the robot upon the frames completion. This includes securing vital parts like the RoboRio, Talon and Spark motor controllers, and electricity distribution board to the electrical board. To keep the Sparks and Talons safe, the team has been designing holders in Solidworks to be 3-D printed and put on the robot. The team ran into the problem of running out of space on the RoboRio to connect all the systems on the robot, so an expansion board was installed and the positions for the systems like the motor controllers were listed to make it easier to keep the electrical board neat and well organized.



Mechanical Team

During the past week the mechanical team has been working on the climb system on the robot. This system is a vital part of this year's game, as it is 30 points if you successfully climb. Just in case our teammates are unable to climb, we are working on a ramp system that will effectively help other teams climb. This ramp will be part of our robot, located on the sides, it will drop down when needed. Mechanical team has also finalized the cube pickup for the robot. This is by far the most important accomplishment this week. The ability to move the cubes around is integral to this year's game. Our pickup system has to be fast and strong, in order to be the best at transporting the power cubes. The elevator system, used for getting the cubes to the middle scale, is finished as well. After lots of testing, we finally have many of the essential robot parts finalized.