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Robotics Social

The Robodox had our annual beginning of the year social on Saturday, August 24th, where we had a fun-filled day of food and conversation at Northridge Park. The veterans and rookies got to know each other better, looking forward to relax and unwind after a few hectic weeks of beginning the school year. We enjoyed a potluck with delicious food including pizza, fried chicken, and an overload of chocolate chip cookies. Afterwards, we spent some time playing team bonding games, including Man Overboard. Things got really fun when we started throwing the leftover water balloons from the water balloon toss, chasing each other around the park, trying to dump water on each other. For the rest of the day, we spent our time on the playground, enjoying the swings and monkey bars. It was an amazing day, and we all left feeling closer to each other!

White Coat Ceremony

On October 3, our team had its first official white coat ceremony, this momentous occasion proved to be a great night for our team as it marked the official culmination of our rookies. For the past 6 weeks, our newest members of the team have been working hard absorbing all kinds of new information as they learned the ins and outs of our team. Throughout rookie integration, our veteran students and dedicated mentors have been teaching the basics of all our divisions (VEX, Fabrication, CAD, Programming, and Electronics). The white coat ceremony was the first of its kind for our team and it was a proud moment to be able to host. The ceremony began with a welcome to new parents on the team and discussed our overall goals and an overview of build season. After the team presentation, rookies were called up by their division leads and honored with their official lab coat! The lab coat is a classic and an integral part of what our team stands for as we are the Robot doctors who strive to help anyone in need. Overall, the ceremony was a pivotal moment for our rookies, and we cannot wait to see them grow throughout the year!



HRL Field Trip

On September 18, the Robodox took the day off from school to go to our first field trip of the year. We were all very excited to take this trip to HRL Laboratories and were ready to explore what this wonderful opportunity had in store for us. The scientists on one of the projects was working with the neurological science behind how our brain reacts to flying a plane. They used a flight simulator that professional pilots use and a brain monitor in the form of a helmet to record how the brain reacted. At another station we experienced and learned about the implications of a sound proof room. The third station allowed us to explore different types of 3D printers, and the different kinds of mechanical parts they build. Lastly, we were introduced to the clean room, where the air is always filtered and all kinds of different products are made and processed. We concluded the trip with a delicious picnic with a beautiful mountain view of the beach. This unique field trip allowed us to learn about the different types of research and career paths that we as future scientists might possibly go into in the future. Thank you to the HRL laboratories and Mr. King for this amazing opportunity and experience we will never forget!



Wings Over Camarillo

On August 17, we attended our first offseason competition at Camarillo Airport for The Wings Over Camarillo competition. Our team members were working hard in the pit in between matches to make sure our robot was fully working and functioning. Because the competition was small, we had the opportunity to bond with other teams and were teamed up with great alliances. Our robot Patty the Pathologist worked really hard to push through those two days, and after a few mechanical problems, our robot worked perfectly during every match. We ended up allying with Team 4 (Element) and Team 3328 (NoHo Robotics). After a lot of practicing and strategizing, we made it to the quarterfinals! The competition was a success. Later on, we had the opportunity to witness a group of unique military aircraft take flight during a spectacular air show. It was a brilliant way to end the competition!



Back-to-School Night

It was an exciting day for our team as we were officially introduced to the parents at Back-to-School Night on September 12. Our team chose to sell burgers from Chick-fil-A out in the quad along with all the other school functions. It was a huge success, selling out very quickly, ending up buying more due to big demand! Meanwhile in the classroom, Mr. King was introducing himself and the advanced robotics class. The coaches and mentors that came that night also introduced themselves as well as what they contribute to our team. Finally, the students presented one of our VEX robots and Patty the Pathologist to all of the parents. All in all, Back-to-School Night was a hit, giving both students and parents the chance to get to know our team better.



Interviews

- Rookie Interviews:

Q: What was your first impression of the 'Dox?

Dylan- I wasn't really sure what to expect. I have had experience with robotics before, but never on this large of a scale and never with robots.

Mehrnaz- Honestly, I thought that the team was very smart and I wasn't going to fit in. I saw the Robodox as an opportunity to further in the field that I wanted to go in.

Yashvi- The 'Dox is like a large family that took us in like their own, so overall, I had a great first impression. I was a bit intimidated by the amount of work we would have to put in, but everyone was very nice.

Q: What was your rookie integration experience like?

Dylan- It was good. I had an idea of what all the divisions made. I always wanted to do fabrication from the beginning.

Mehrnaz- It was good. Being in all of the different divisions made me realize how much teamwork and corroboration is needed to build a robot and make something big. Being in rookie integration made me see the team in a different light.

Yashvi- It gave us an idea of the various divisions, giving us a better idea of how we can contribute to the team.

Q: And what division did you end up picking in the end? Why did you choose that division?

Dylan- I chose fabrication because I like working with machines and the other divisions did not appeal to me as much.

Mehrnaz- I chose programming because I knew that I would enjoy it.

Yashvi- I ended up picking programming because it gives me the opportunity to write code and work with that aspect of the robot.



Q: What are your opinions on your first Robodox social?

Mehrnaz- The social was fun. Throwing whipped cream into the team presidents' faces was very enjoyable, and the food was very good.

Yashvi- It was a lot of fun- we had a great time socializing and getting to know everyone a bit better.

Q: Now that you are officially in your divisions, what is your impression of the team now?

Dylan- I really enjoy being on the team. I am definitely learning a lot more than I did in rookie integration.

Mehrnaz- Now I see the team as more like a family, and I made a lot of friends. The team is awesome and coolio!

Yashvi- I made a lot of new friends and have gained a lot of experience from the past few months.



- Veteran Interviews:

Q: What was your experience like teaching rookie integration? If it was your first time what was that like?

Krishna [CAD]- During rookie integration, the rookies always listened to me and were very patient with me if I made a mistake. I taught them how to make a gusset and I learned a lot of leadership skills through teaching.

Ulises [Electronics]- It was fun and also challenging because these were new people on the team and they did not have the same knowledge as me. But I felt like they learned a lot, and overall it was a great experience.

Oszkar [Electronics]- Rookie integration was fun; I learned that I enjoy teaching. But for people who didn't want to learn or didn't pay attention, it was frustrating. Overall, I had a great time and most of the rookies paid attention. In fact, I wish I had more time to teach them more.