

Inside This Issue

Dream Challenge
..... Page 1

Rookie Integration
..... Page 2

Fall Classic
..... Page 3

*Coming together is a beginning;
keeping together is progress;
working together is success.*
- Henry Ford

DREAM CHALLENGE

This year the Robodox faced off against the Space Cookies in the DREAM Challenge by Cooler Master. The DREAM Challenge has the two teams, which built a case mod from a MasterCase Maker 5 while they competed for online votes. The two teams then met at PAX West in Seattle, Washington on September 2. The winning team received an award of \$5000 dollars and the title of DREAM Challenge winner.

The Robodox made their case with their “robot doctor” theme in mind. Designed to appear as if undergoing surgery, the Patient was built with a leather front cut open to reveal the case’s internal organs allowing the computer to run efficiently. Red coolant was piped through the case to simulate blood through a human body. In the center of it all stood a 3D printed heart, outfitted with a servo motor to create a “heart beat.” Once the Patient was built, it was ready to head off to PAX West!

While the Patient was in Seattle, the votes back at home had become very tense. Both the Robodox and the Space Cookies had accumulated thousands of votes leaving it as anyone’s game. The Robodox managed to pull ahead just enough to come back home with a victory and \$5000 for the team! The Robodox members who went to PAX West had a great time there.

Upcoming Events

*Friday Nov. 4 *Tentative**
Robo Ball

Saturday Nov. 5
VEX Reseda

Saturday Nov. 19
VEX Granada

ROOKIE INTEGRATION

It's a new school year and a new beginning for the Robodox! Despite a wistful farewell to the veterans in June, the team could not have been more excited to welcome the rookies onto the team this August. To effectively introduce and integrate the new members into the team's operations, each subsystem - fabrication, CAD, electronics and pneumatics, programming, and VEX - developed fun and engaging lesson plans to teach rookies what they do. With seven weeks into the process, rookie integration is soon coming to an end. Let's hear from our team members, Nathan Lee and Grace Zhao, about their experiences during rookie integration!

PR: What is your favorite part about rookie integration?

Nathan Lee: I really enjoyed the overall experience. The rotation of jobs allow me to experience a very unique and fascinating aspect of the team. I particularly enjoyed working with everyone in the electronic department. Everyone was immediately welcoming and the teachers were fun.

PR: Upon joining Robotics, how did you expect to be integrated into the team? How well did rookie integration correlate with those expectations?

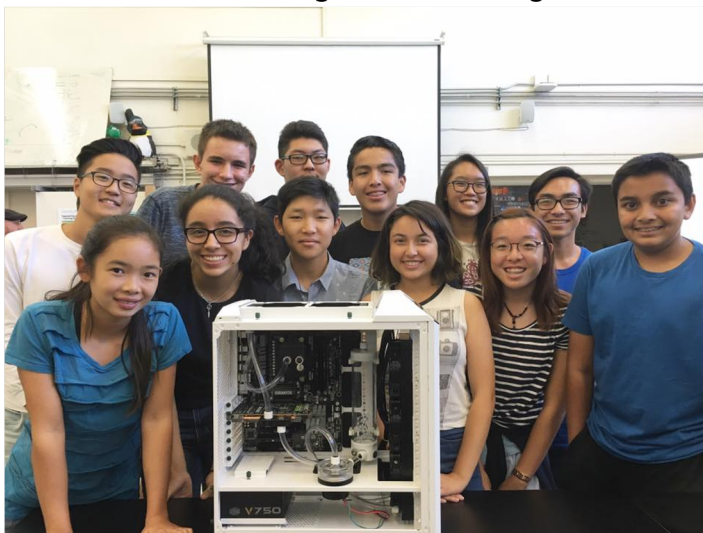
Nathan Lee: I originally thought I was going to a typical classroom setting where we had a teacher lecture while the students took notes. However it turned out rookie integration was a lot more fun and educational. Instead of going by the book, Robotics has made learning hands-on and made learning easy.

PR: What is your favorite part about rookie integration?

Grace Zhao: I had a blast getting to know the new rookies. They all have their unique and quirky personality traits and talents. Sharing my expertise with them felt like taking care of my children and watching them grow. I'm excited to see where they go from rookie integration.

PR: Are there any changes you would like see in next year's rookie integration?

Grace Zhao: It might be wishful thinking, but I would like to make the rookie integration process more engaging and memorable by providing the rookies with challenging projects, such as having them design or build their own mini-subsystem.



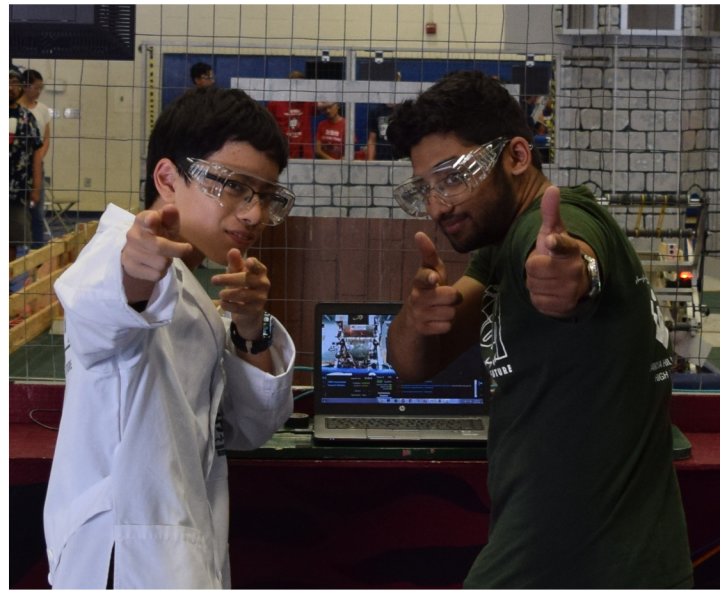
FALL CLASSIC

It was 6:30 in the morning; the Robodox met at the back of K2 to getting ready for their first competition of the year: Fall Classic. After weeks of redesigning many subsystems, polishing up code, and cleaning up wires and tubes, Neo, the team's FRC Stronghold robot, was ready for action. The team arrived at the venue, unpacked the trailer, set up the pit, and found seats in the stands. The Robot First Aid Station and Dox Spot, an area where programmers from all teams can help each other, were also set up in the pit area.

Despite the few teams that came to Fall Classic this year, the Robot First Aid Station had plenty of request to find parts. Complete with wifi, snacks, and computers, the Dox Spot on the other hand interested several programmers in getting help and using the free wifi. But the main attraction at Dox Spot was the pixy raffle. Throughout the day teams could come up to Dox Spot and sign up to be apart of a free raffle. The prize, a pixy camera that is capable of vision tracking. Overall both Robot First Aid and Dox Spot ran very well during Fall Classic.

On the field, Neo initially had some trouble which push the team down to last. These problems came from programing and electronics. Intake, autonomous and catapult were among the main problems. As things got fixed, the team started to climb out of their ranking hole and secured a spot in semifinals. The Robodox made a valiant effort, but unfortunately did not make it to finals.

The rookies enjoyed their day scouting along with helping out in the pit, Robot First Aid, and Dox Spot. Having experienced their first competition, they were all excited on what they would experience during their next few years on the robotics team.



Above: Brian (left) and Inkiad (right) getting ready to drive Neo.



Above: Nathan (left) and Madeline (right) really excited about their first robotics competition