

TEAM 1718

KNOCKOUT NEWS

THE LATEST FROM THE FIGHTING PI



Volume 13

Issue 8

March 5, 2020

Welcome back to the Knockout News!

Did You Know?

District 2

In 2 weeks we will be going to our second competition of the season. It will be held on March 20th-21st in Allendale.

We hope to see you there!

<https://firstmichigan.us/FRC/west-mich/>

To the Sponsors

The students of team 1718 thank all our wonderful sponsors for helping to fund our team. Without them, our team wouldn't be able to function.

To the Parents

The Fighting Pi especially thank all of the wonderful parents that donate their time and money to feed and support us on and off the season.

Quote of the Week

It has come to our attention that a very inappropriate quote was used in our last issue of Knockout News.

The Fighting Pi would like to apologize for this incident. Our quotes are randomly selected and added to our newsletter from a very outdated list of quotes. We have since updated this list and have added measures to prevent this from happening in the future.

"The Meaning of life is to live it to the fullest"
-Richard Wahl

Macomb Community College Competition by Paige Drob

This past weekend we had the privilege of competing at the Week 1 event at Macomb Community College. Overall, we were extremely successful. After qualifications, we were ranked 6th seed out of the 38 teams but were the first pick of the 3rd seed (team 5436 The Cybercats). We used our student collected scouting data to help our alliance pick Rookie team 8380 the Clarenceville Trojans due to their fantastic defense abilities and reliable climber. Our second pick was very special because the team consisted of only one student after the rest of his team left mid-season. During eliminations, our alliance suffered only one loss and won the whole competition.

During the awards ceremony, 5436 won the Quality Award, and 8380 was recognized with the Highest Rookie Seed and The Rookie Inspiration Award. We came home with the Chairman's Award, the most prestigious award in all of FIRST. It is described as "the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate, and which embodies the goals and purpose of FIRST." It was an honor to bring 2 blue banners home and we could not have done it without our friends, family, and sponsors. We can't wait to compete at Grand Valley University later this month!

My First Competition by Kayla Whitney

The entire weekend of competition at Macomb was really interesting. We got to be around a bunch of like-minded teams who want to see their robot do well and just have fun. Even the cheering felt team-centric, unlike any other team that I've been a part of. Being around a whole new group of people who all have different views but are all united with a love for robots and innovation was amazing. Many of us even made new friends with people that we met this past weekend including Austin, who was the sole member of a rookie team! As a first-year, the competition experience was extremely enlightening and I feel like I learned a lot, both about other teams and robots in general

Scouting by Evan Malbeouf

One of our most important things needed to succeed in a competition is scouting. Scouting is very important because it allows us to get all of our data about the other teams to help develop a strategy for the match, and decide which teams would make the best alliance when it comes to elimination rounds. The way we get all of our scouting data is through scouting teams. Scouting teams are a group of six members that are each given a designated robot for each match of the qualification rounds. Once the data is collected it is taken to a data compiler who enters it into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, which is used to interpret and organize data. This can be printed out into a pit report, which is a quick rundown with stats on the teams that are in our alliance and on the opposing alliance for the next qualification match. The interpreted data is also used to help develop a list of teams to pick during alliance selection, on the occasion that we are in a position to select teams. All of this makes scouting extremely important to succeed during competition.

Shadowing a Captain by Kailey Hanvey

Walking in the shadow of another person has a very negative connotation to it. According to the words of others, walking in the shadow of someone means that you get no recognition for anything. It means to follow the path of another, rather than your own, but in my experience being in the shadow of another isn't so bad. On the Media Team, I follow in the footsteps of Harry, the Media Captain, to learn how to use the computer programs we use every day. For me, I gain a perfectly adequate amount of acknowledgment for the work I do on this team. "Walking in the shadow" of Harry is nothing like "walking in the shadow of another" as it is made out to be. My time learning new skills and working on new projects has been thoroughly enjoyable.

Sponsoring and Partnering by the Sponsorship Team

Once upon a time, in a land far off in Armada, MI. There lived a small robotics team, Team 1718, The Fighting Pi. It was a land where students learned of Infinite Possibilities, and the wildest of dreams were built into a reality. Without the support of mentors, parents, and sponsors, the foundation would never be the same. As for the future, students can act confidently with 21st-Century Skills (critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, public speaking, and time-management).

So here's a big thank you to sponsors, parents, and mentors for making this team possible.

Sponsor Spotlight

Achatz Handmade Pie Company was established in 1993. Dave & Wendy Achatz made it their mission to bringing you the highest quality pies made with the finest ingredients.

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<https://www.ajaxpaving.com>

For more team updates, follow us on Twitter @FRC1718, friend us on Facebook at FRC Team 1718: The Fighting Pi, or checkout some posts on our Instagram @Team1718!

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