



gearheads gazette

FRC Team 1189 | Established 2002

HOWELL RECAP



Week 1 | Howell Middle School | #8 Qualifying team | Alliance Members: 4003 TriSonics, 3536 Electro Eagles | Runner-up to 4384 Benzene Bots, 4362 GEMs, 830 The RatPack | 4th overall at Event

Forty Michigan teams came together for Howell's FRC District Competition for 2014/2015, cheering as teams competed against each other. The bleachers rocked with excitement as robots stacked totes and bins, and litter flew through the air.

(It was my first time at a robotics competition, and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience.)

Students were enthusiastic to see how their robot and those of others would perform, after long nights of planning and building.

During the qualification matches, teams gained experience with each game, while teammates in the stands scouted for possible allies for the elimination matches. There were a few unfortunate robots who tipped over from the weight of the totes, but were helped by their fellow alliance members to get back up. The idea "no one gets left behind" was exhibited here (in some of the best sportsmanship I've ever witnessed). Truly a show of gracious professionalism.

Once the qualification matches came to an end it was time for teams to pick alliances. The eight teams with the highest averages were alliance captains who build alliances selected from the remaining 32 teams. Even though some didn't make it, it was great that they stayed to cheer on those who did.

By London Ariel Calvaletto

INSIDE:
NICKNAME THING
KIMS KORNER
SAFETY COMIC
AIDAN THE LITTERBUG
ACCOLADES
FUNDRAISING

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FRC 1189 - The Gearheads



FROM THE STANDS

PREPARE FOR A NOODLEY RECKONING

By Grace Cupolo

11th Grader, Aidan Reickert has taken the FRC world by storm with the amazing power of litter throwing. Litter throwing? Well, part of this year's challenge, Recycle Rush, is to throw pool noodles (referred to as "litter") across the field and to hopefully let it land on the other alliance's side. This benefits because each piece of unprocessed litter is worth one point in the landfill zone and 4 points in the opponent's zone. And Aidan has definitely proved himself when it comes to throwing pool noodles. We asked him about his adventures as this year's human player. He has practiced his noodle throwing "here [the workshop], and maybe for about 30 minutes" each meeting. Other teams have also said many great things about Aidan's abilities in competition.

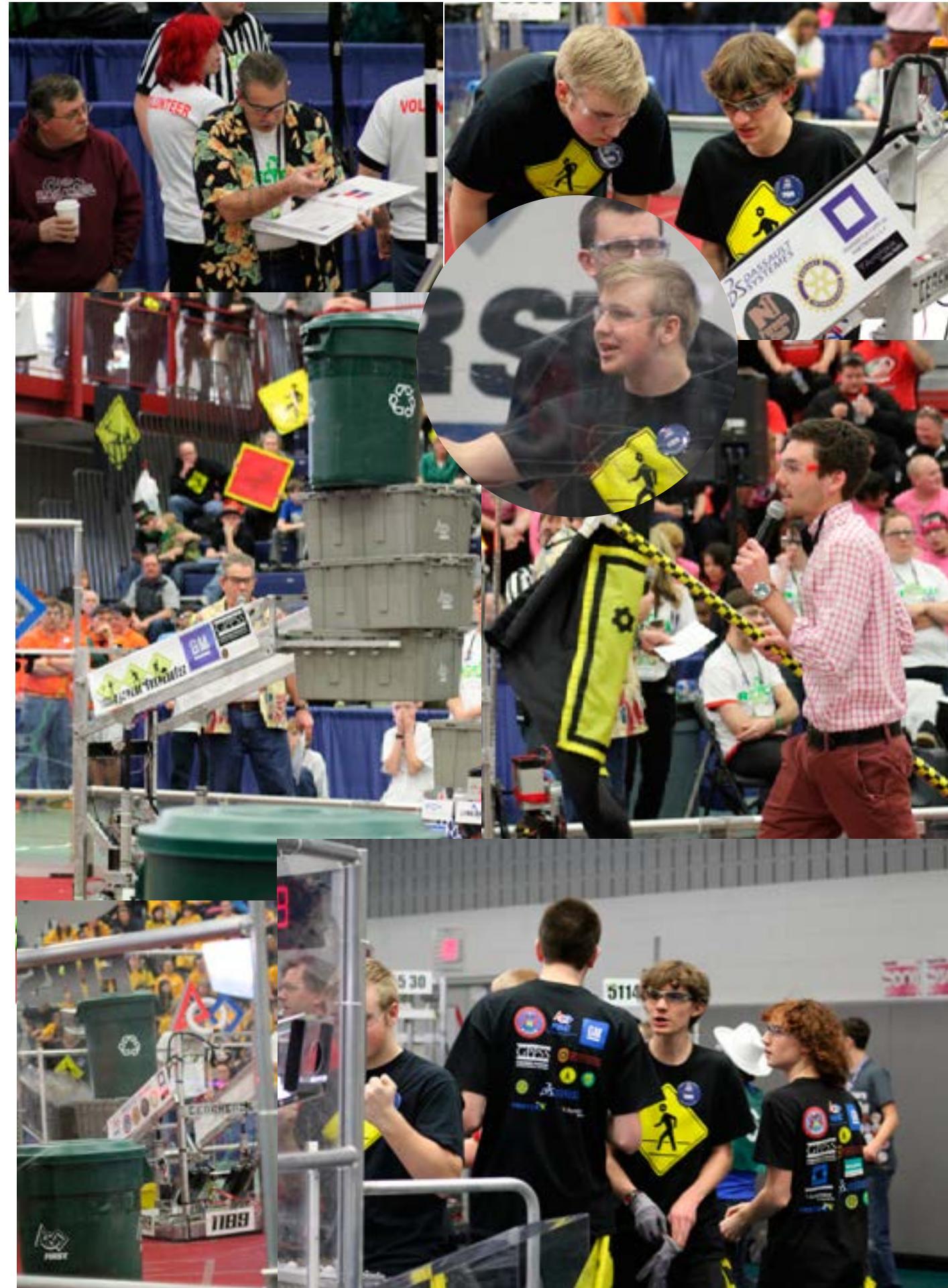
"I had a guy on The Dragons, who was constantly telling people how much better I was than them, there were the people who gave me the medal, one of our alliance teams, I think it was the Electro Eagles who were calling me the 'Noodle God', the random person commented on our Facebook page that I was 'The God of the Noodles', and there were a couple other of guys who commented on this other human player saying 'Hey you can take the noodles, I've seen you throw them.'"

Aidan tells us about the praise he has gotten after our past competition in Howell, Michigan. As human player, not only is Aidan tasked with throwing litter, he is also required to load totes for our robot to stack. You'd think it would be distracting right? According to Aidan, "My brain does tend to click into noodles, and then I kind of need to be yelled at by Matt, Nick and Ryan [the rest of the 1189 drive team] for me to start loading totes again, so that could be bad. But I'm getting better." We are so proud of our "Litter Bug" and his amazing performance at the competitions.





This year the safety division of our team has been hard at work making the team more knowlegable about safety and therefore more safe. These innovations have extended from compulsory fire extinguisher education courses all the way to the comics you see at left. These comics are not only fun and cute, but are a simple way to communicate safety standards to the team. We hope to translate this sucess into future





GROSSE POINTE
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



DOW CHEMICAL
PLATE OF THE MONTH
MAKING BETTER THINGS BETTER

