

# TEAM 1718

# KNOCKOUT NEWS

THE LATEST FROM THE FIGHTING PI



Volume 11 Issue 5

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Welcome back to the Knockout News!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### How to Download the Knockout News

Open the e-mail. Select the e-mail "print" icon (printer symbol) usually at the upper right. Select pages 2-3 on your printer setup page to eliminate the e-mail footer and header. Then only print out the newsletter pages.

Select print and your printer should produce a hardcopy. Thanks for reading!

### Parent Night

Team 1718 will be holding a parent night at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, February 21. Come visit our build, business and practice field and see our progress. The team will share some season insights with a short presentation and update.

### 1st District Comp

Gibraltar District, March 1-3 at Oscar A. Carlson HS, Gibraltar, MI

### 2nd District Comp

Marysville District, April 5-7 at Marysville HS, Marysville, MI

## Parent Information Night

By the Student Leadership

Come join Team 1718 at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 21 when we will host a parent's information night. We have spent many hours in the past few weeks building a robot, writing essays for submissions and assembling a practice field. Come inspect our progress and see the tools and spaces we use. The first 15 minutes will allow students to independently escort parents through their various work areas followed by a student presentation and what to expect in upcoming weeks and at district competitions. We will be passing out mini sponsor packets, if you know of a business that can help support the team. Don't miss it as it is sure to be informative. Thank you to all the parents and sponsors for their wonderful support.

## First Year Learning Opportunities

By Julia Golaszewski

As someone who wants to take advantage of all the learning opportunities accessible to me, I really hope that I am going to learn at least a few things about the different fields of engineering expressed through the FIRST robotics program. At the moment, I am considered to be involved in the mechanical side of the build team. In the future, however, I wouldn't mind gaining some experience in the CAD and electrical components of the team. Despite only being part of the Fighting Pi for a few weeks, I am very satisfied with the rate at which I am learning about how to assemble appliances and the process it takes to accomplish the goals of making a sustainable robot. I am looking forward to learning more about the field and learning more about the field about my own character. Reasons being, I hope to be in the team again next year. *(Editor's Note: Julia is a first year "Junior" team member)*



## Second Year Expectations

By Mayra Gutierrez

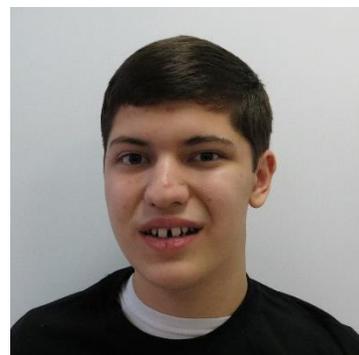
Going into my second year, I expect to apply the skills I learned last season and during the off season. I hope I can help make new strides in the creation and development of our robot, now that I have more knowledge on the mechanical skills. Also, I hope that I learn more mechanical crafting and machining skills, so I can continue to progress my abilities throughout my years here. I know I bonded with my teammates last year, and I cannot wait to create more memorable experiences with them. (Expectations >> page 2)

(Expectations - cont from page 1): The game presented this year has vast differences from the game we played last year, but it will be fun seeing how the game plays out. There are many possibilities and creative solutions to the objectives our robot needs to complete. The ability to place power cubes onto the various scales is important to gathering points, since we get points each second the scale is tipped in our favor. I cannot wait to create prototypes to overcome the challenges of the game. I hope the season goes well for The Fighting Pi!

## Regrets Not Joining as a Freshman

By Joe Nanni

Throughout the majority of my freshman year, I had regretted not having joined the team. I felt like I would be at a significant disadvantage due to having missed a year of experience with the team, and especially with how demanding the role of a controls member can be at times; I was discouraged. I'm happy to report however, that I've found a comfortable spot on the team and I've been enjoying my time with the team ever since. I was drawn to the team due both to my interest in the field of engineering as well as being friends with many of my peers who were having a blast taking part in it.



I currently feel like I'm at a similar level to the current second year people who inspired me to join the team. I've learned almost everything that the controls team has to know, and I feel confident that by next year we won't be at a loss without the seniors. I've learned everything from the layout of the electronics on the robot to (a bit of) how to program with the unorthodox programming software that we use to program the robot. I'm having a great time and I'm looking forward to the future of the team.

*(Editor's Note: Joe is a first year "Sophomore" team member on The Fighting Pi)*

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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If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our head mentor or send an email to our team at team1718@gmail.com

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