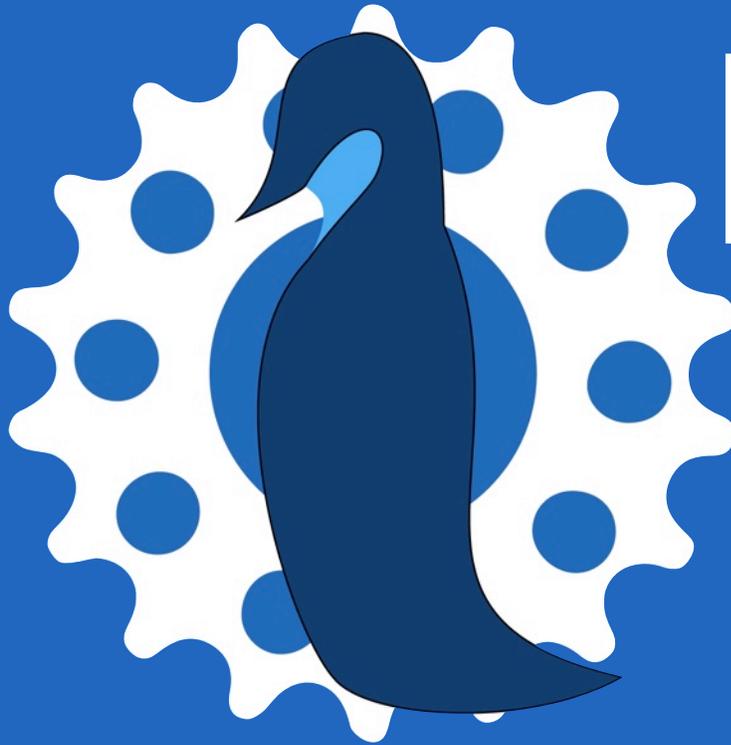


January 15, 2013



MPA ROR ROBOTICS

www.usfirst.org/FRC

**MOUNDS PARK
ACADEMY**

TEAM #3926

ST. PAUL, MN

www.team3926.org

INTERVIEW WITH A CAPTAIN

Alex Grabanski is both a senior and captain of the Software Team. He is also a member of the Build Team. His time on the team both last year and this year has taught him how applicable the *FIRST* robotics experience is to the real world.

1. How and when did you get started with robotics?

I got started last year because I saw that [other members] Connor and Brendan were involved, and I said, "This seems pretty interesting." When I learned we were going to be shooting basketballs into hoops, I became interested in it because of the physics aspect. I used the data that I collected and was pretty involved. And I eventually became software captain!

2. What is one thing you want everyone to know about robotics?

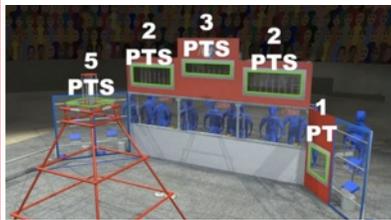
Robotics contains many interesting problems to solve. It can be frustrating at times, but it's fun. *FIRST* Robotics prepares you best for the working world.

3. How do you plan to incorporate what you've learned from robotics into your future life?

We actually learn really practical things in robotics! We learn to be part of a team - no matter where you go, no matter what you do you'll be working with people. So communication is very important. Communication is significant in the way we work together to build a robot in six weeks, which is a very hard task. By working together and communicating effectively, we learn a lot about teamwork and cooperation. It's like the robot is a sort of "side effect" of our hard work. Along with teamwork, organization is equally important.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 2 - "Marble Mania" Event - Open to the Community
- February 16 - Simley Invitational, Inver Grove Heights
- February 19 - Stop Build!
- March 28 - 30 - North Star Regional, University of Minnesota
- April 24 - 27 - World Championship, St. Louis, MO



GOALS

- Raise \$20,000
- Compete at the National Competition in St. Louis, MO from April 24 - April 27
- Continue Community Outreach



Ultimate Ascent is played on a field that is 27 feet x 54 feet (top picture). There are three robots in each alliance. Goals are located at the ends of the field at three different heights. The higher the goal, the more points it is worth (middle picture). In the middle of each end, there is a pyramid with three rungs spaced thirty inches apart in height. There is also a goal at the top of each pyramid. The game is played with standard flying discs that come in three colors (bottom picture). The objective is to score as many discs into the goals as possible and gain extra points by climbing the pyramids for bonus points.

The match begins with all of the robots touching their pyramid. A 15 second Autonomous Period starts the game and teams score double points because the robots are controlled by pre-programmed instructions. Then comes the Teleoperated Period, during which human players take the controls and try to score as much as possible in the time allowed. After a goal is scored, human players put the discs back through feeder slots in the wall. At the end of the match, human players can try to score the frisbees in the goals from the other end of the field while the robots try to climb the pyramids for bonus points.

SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

\$5,000+ - Maximum Velocity Level

- All of the benefits below plus...
- Your logo on Team #3926 Robot and Pit Banner at competitions
- Your name incorporated into our official team name
- A button showing your logo worn by our team mascot
- Team members will come to your business & provide a live demo of the robot
- Two complimentary team t-shirts

\$2,500+ - Turbo Level

- All of the benefits below, plus...
- Your logo on the MPAror team t-shirts
- Invitations to special team events

\$1,000+ - Booster Level

- All of the benefits below, plus...
- Your name listed on the MPAror team t-shirt
- Your logo and web link on the Team #3926 web site

Up to \$1,000 - Launch Level

- Your name will be recognized on the Team #3926 web site
- Receive a monthly team update
- Receive personal invitations to the Minnesota Regional Tournament

*Please note that all donations to Team #3926 are tax deductible.