

BONDS Week Seven Newsletter

February 16-February 22 2025

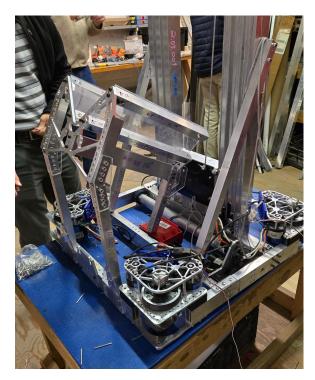
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Build

The build team started assembling the elevator on the chassis in week six, and this week, the momentum continued! The chute, panel, and belly pan all got installed on the robot, and students used a mix of rivets and nuts/bolts to secure everything together. We've been working to make improvements in our process from last year, and two of those improvements are ensuring that everything is nicely deburred and checking that all bolts are properly tightened and lock-tited where necessary. The latter includes our drive-motor bolts, and it helps to protect against loosening due to vibration.





Next Saturday is our driver test, where students will show off their rule knowledge and specific drive-team prowess (for Coach, Human Player, Driver, or Operator), so the robot needs to be fully wired and driveable by the end of week eight. Due to low attendance last week, we anticipate being a few days behind schedule, but the team is prepared to work longer hours to try and make up the time. Not to worry, we have days built into the schedule to account for this, and we're confident we'll still be able to maintain all currently scheduled drive and autonomous programming days.



Controls

Programming is still going on behind the scenes while the controls team waits for hardware. Our programming lead has a spreadsheet to delegate tasks out to students interested in programming. They're also preparing for next week, when we'll start connecting, routing, and securing the wiring. They already have a count of motors/controllers and locations from the CAD team, so it should be simple placement when the time comes.



Miscellaneous

There are always plenty of things going on at practice! We don't put every detail of practices in these newsletters, but there are some fun things happening in the background that we thought we should mention.

T-shirts are being designed based on suggestions from students, and the robots name and sponsor logos are do going on the back panel. The robot's name.... drum roll please... is Bubble 07! From the initial name suggestion of James Pond, the team was very excited to do a play on words for the robot's name this year, and we believe Bubble 07 is perfect! Banners, buttons, and stickers will be started in the coming weeks, all also ocean themed.



We want to give a big thank you to all of our sponsors! Our team can compete because of your support, and none of this would be possible without our sponsor's help. Our team, BONDS, will keep improving and continue learning STEM skills and values this season.

To see our season's progress, please follow us on Instagram, Youtube, Tiktok, and our official website for weekly newsletters.

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