



From the Crow's Nest

www.ipirates1528.com

Welcome back! We have a lot of reporting to do this month with most of it centering on the third annual M.A.R.C. (Michigan Advanced Robotics Competition) event. There were 32 teams at the competition held on June 26th and 27th. The iPirates wish to extend heartfelt appreciation to all of those who participated. This month we would like to inform our readers how this year's game "Lunacy" is played and recognize the teams that were present for the fun.*

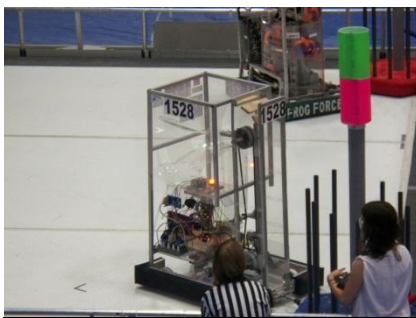
Lunacy is played on a 54' x 27' low-friction field. Robots are equipped with slippery wheels and payload trailers. The robots are autonomous for the first 15 seconds then tele-operated for 2 minutes. Trailers begin the match empty and each robot can be loaded with up to seven "Moon Rocks" prior to the match.

The game pieces are designated as "Orbit Balls" consisting of "Moon Rocks", "Empty Cells", and "Super Cells."

Empty Cells can be used to score or to activate the Super Cell by being delivered to their fueling station.

At the end of each round the scores are tallied. Scores are determined by the number of Moon Rocks that have been placed into the payload trailers.

There are six robots on the field for each round. The robots are divided into two alliances; "blue" and "red" with three to an alliance. Each Moon Rock is worth two points and each Super Cell is worth 15 points.



The iPirates and Frog Force await competition.

For more information about FIRST Robotics and how this year's game is played go to www.usfirst.org or www.ipirates1528.com

MARC Participating Teams

| Team | Location |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| TEMPEST | Monroe, MI |
| Redtails | Detroit, MI |
| iPirates | Monroe, MI |
| Chief Delphi | Pontiac, MI |
| Finney Highlanders | Detroit, MI |
| Ketronix Trojan Robotics | Monroe, MI |
| Desperate Penguins | Okemos, MI |
| The Fighting Pi | Armada, MI |
| HOT | Milford, MI |
| Killer Bees | Auburn Hills, MI |
| Advanced Power | Allen Park, MI |
| Tech Fusion | Ottawa Lakes, MI |
| Cyber Blue | Indianapolis, IN |
| Team R.O.B.O.T.I.C.S. | Holland, MI |
| Bionic Barons | Bloomfield Hills, MI |
| Syntax Errors | Waterford, MI |
| Dragons | Lake Orion, MI |
| RatPack | Ann Arbor, MI |
| Adambots | Rochester Hills, MI |
| Dragons | Swartz Creek, MI |
| The Captains | Waterford, MI |
| More Martins | Goodrich, MI |
| Frog Force | Novi, MI |
| TNT | Taylor, MI |
| Martians | Goodrich, MI |
| Crevolution | Sterling Heights, MI |
| EngiNERDs | Grand Blanc, MI |
| NC GEARS | Fremont, MI |
| Gator-bots | Dearborn, MI |
| Fondy Fire | Fond du Lac, WI |
| Foley Freeze | Madison Heights, MI |
| Bedford Express | Temperance, MI |

See page 2 for upcoming events

Shipmate of the Month



Bryan Jones

Bryan Jones is entering into his senior year at Jefferson High School. Bryan has been a member of the iPirates since his sophomore year. He is a valuable asset to the iPirates for many reasons including his services as an editor and writer to this newsletter. Additionally Bryan has helped the iPirates in other ways such as spearheading the designing and building of the team's pirate ship that has been used as a float in local parades, and taking charge of getting the iPirates to join in on the Monroe County Relay for Life. Bryan also does marketing and web related things on the team as well as lends his artistic abilities wherever needed. Attending the FIRST Robotics World Championship in Atlanta, Georgia is one of his favorite iPirates memories.

Bryan is active in many other school related activities. He is on the yearbook staff and in the top band at his school. Bryan is also part of the National Honor Society and his school's Library Committee. He also plans to join DECA this year.

Bryan does a lot outside of school as well. He has entered many art competitions including the Monroe City/County Arts Council Juried Art Show in which he won 1st place in the acrylics category. He also participates in a youth bowling league. Bryan has done countless volunteer work including his nine years (and counting) of taking part in the Monroe County Relay for Life.

Bryan's current plan is to attend Western Michigan University after high school to pursue a degree in Graphic Design.

Bryan has been an incredible help and aide to the iPirates over the last three years. His enthusiasm and bright attitude is an inspiration to the whole team. The iPirates are confident that he will be successful in whatever he sets forth to do.

What is FIRST Robotics?




“Our mission is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well rounded life capabilities including self confidence, communication, and leadership.” This is the formal mission statement of FIRST Robotics. There is a lot of work that goes into designing, building and maintaining robots. FIRST goes beyond that and teaches “gracious professionalism”. This is evident in FIRST teams throughout the world as well as in the iPirates. We are in the business of finding and developing solutions through teamwork and cooperation. It is easy to see that we are confronted with a host of complex and interrelated challenges in the world. Food production, energy management, global warming, health care, educational concerns and population growth are but a small listing. FIRST Robotics helps to bring a message of hope and a mission to young people. The iPirates not only compete in the here and now but we are building solutions for tomorrow.

Partner on Deck

The iPirates team wishes to thank all of its partners by featuring one of them each month in our newsletter. This month we are recognizing ITT Tech. **ITT Technical Institute** offers technology programs that can help students develop the knowledge and skills to begin a technical career. Programs have been designed to help develop practical technology skills that are used in the workplace. Programs have also been designed to fit into most schedules. Student who can't make it to a campus may be able to earn their degree online. Programs offered at ITT Tech focus on teaching technical skills. ITT Tech has an ability to attract those not interested in the traditional four-year school with several two-year technical programs available. With over 100 campuses in the US in more than 34 states and online programs offered as well, ITT Tech can help students with technical career development. You can check them out further at <http://www.ITTTech.edu>

Marketplace

The iPirates wouldn't be around without the support from our wonderful partners. We thank them for all that they do!

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|  <p>DTE Energy & DTE Energy Foundation</p> |  <p>ITT Technical Institute</p> | <p>Iceberg's One Hour Heating and Cooling</p> |
|  <p>FANUC Robotics</p> | <p>Your company could be here! Visit www.ipirates1528.com for more details.</p> | |

Upcoming Events

Monroe County Fair

August 2
10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

August 8
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.