

The Adventures Of

FLIP

The FLL[®] Robot

RING
IT
UP!SM



*FLIP SPENDS THE DAY AT
A FIRST[®] TECH CHALLENGE
QUALIFIER!*

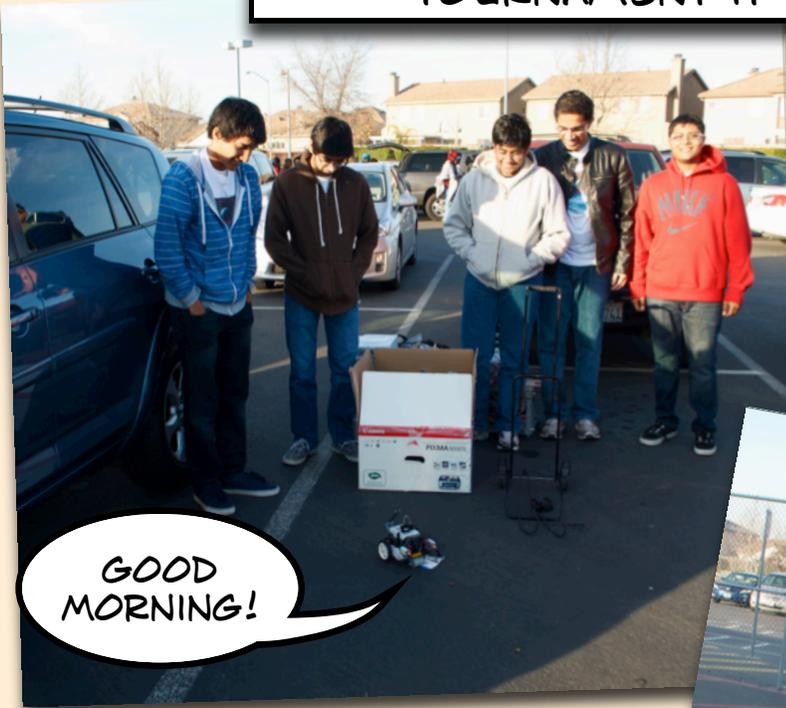


FIRST[®] Tech Challenge

BY - HEIDI BUCK

THIS YEAR'S FIRST@ TECH CHALLENGE (FTC@) SEASON OFFICIALLY KICKED OFF SEPTEMBER 8, 2012.

A LOCAL FTC TEAM INVITED FLIP TO LEARN MORE BY ATTENDING A QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT IT WAS HOSTING.



GOOD MORNING!

FLIP GOT THERE EARLY TO GREET THE COMPETING TEAMS!



THANKS FOR THE LIFT!

THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR GREETED FLIP!



WELCOME TO OUR FTC QUALIFIER!

FIRST VOLUNTEERS ARE AWESOME!



WHEN THEY ARRIVE, TEAMS HAVE TO CHECK-IN, SET UP THEIR PITS, AND THEIR ROBOTS HAVE TO PASS 3 DIFFERENT INSPECTIONS!

I LIKE THAT TEAMS CAN USE THEIR SAME TEAM NUMBERS EVERY YEAR!



FTC ROBOTS HAVE TO FIT INSIDE THIS BOX AS PART OF THEIR INSPECTION.

NO PROBLEM FOR ME!



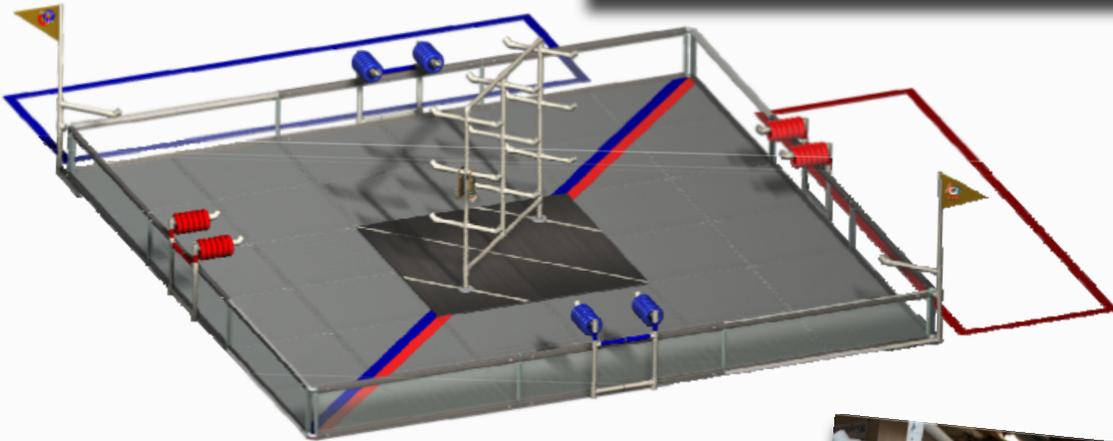
THIS MUST BE THE WAY TO THE FIELD!



WOW-COOL LOOKING TROPHIES!

THE FTC COMPETITION FIELD LOOKS LIKE THIS...

AND THIS YEAR'S GAME IS KIND OF LIKE TIC-TAC-TOE, ONLY WITH ROBOTS!

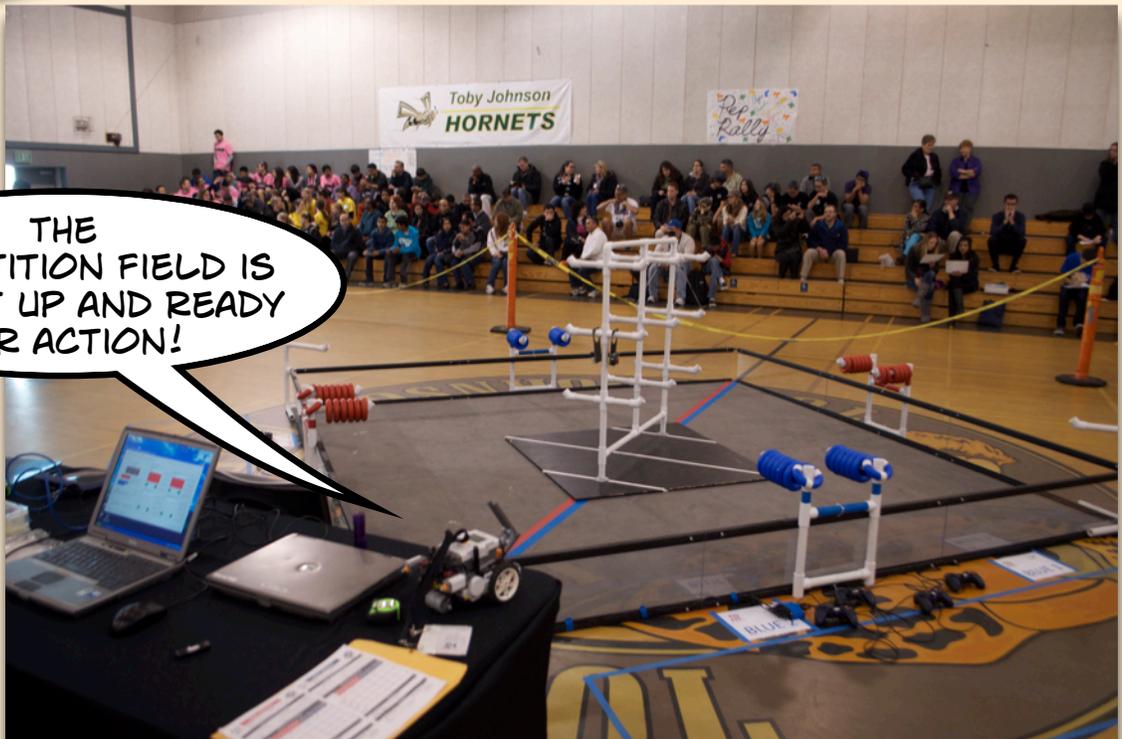


THE SCORING ELEMENTS ARE RED AND BLUE RINGS!

HEY LOOK, I GOT ONE ON THE CENTER RACK!



THE COMPETITION FIELD IS ALL SET UP AND READY FOR ACTION!



FLIP MET SOME OF THE OTHER FTC VOLUNTEERS...



HELLO HEAD REFEREE!



HELLO TIMEKEEPER!



HELLO JUDGES!

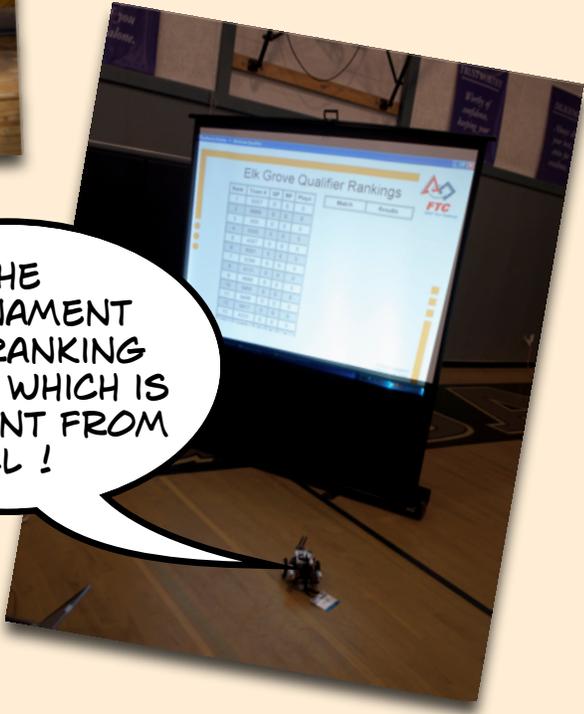
FTC TEAMS HAVE 15 MINUTE INTERVIEWS WITH JUDGES, AND THERE ARE 6 JUDGED AWARDS: THINK, ROCKWELL COLLINS INNOVATE, PTC DESIGN, CONNECT, MOTIVATE, E1 INSPIRE!



HELLO SCOREKEEPERS!

DO YOU HAVE ANGRY BIRDS ON THERE?

THE TOURNAMENT USES RANKING POINTS, WHICH IS DIFFERENT FROM FLL!

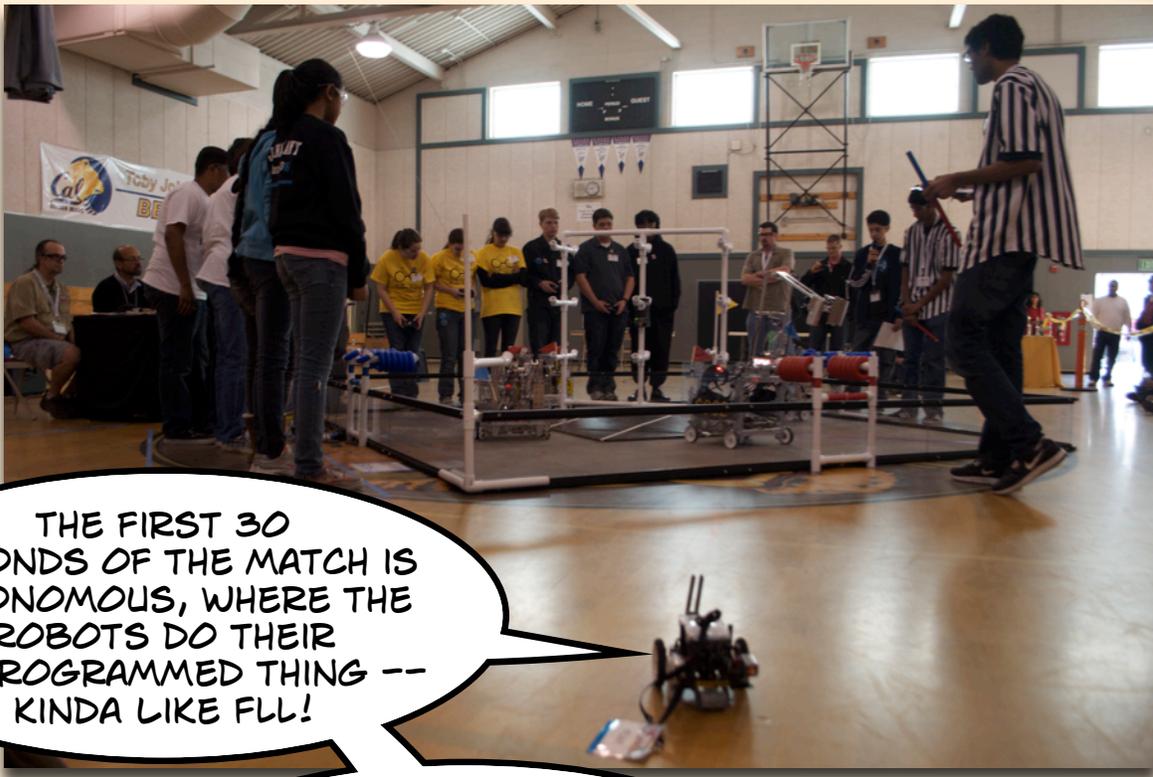




TEAMS ARE SETTING UP FOR THE FIRST MATCH! EVERYONE IS WEARING SAFETY GLASSES, I WONDER IF I NEED SOME?

YOU DON'T NEED ANY, FLIP, YOU'RE A ROBOT! BUT HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU A SAFER PLACE TO WATCH.

THANK YOU!



THE FIRST 30 SECONDS OF THE MATCH IS AUTONOMOUS, WHERE THE ROBOTS DO THEIR PREPROGRAMMED THING -- KINDA LIKE FLL!

THE REMAINING 2 MINUTES OF THE GAME IS TELE-OP, WHERE THE DRIVERS TAKE CONTROL!

THIS IS SO EXCITING!

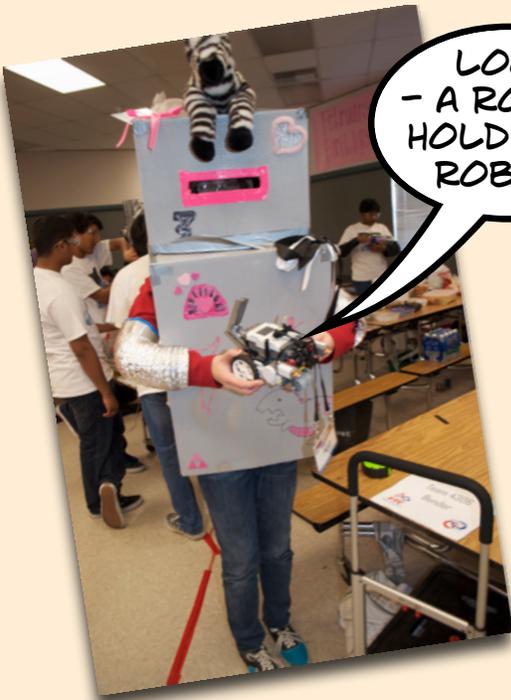
FLIP HUNG OUT IN THE PIT AREA AND SPENT TIME WITH SOME OF THE COMPETING TEAMS...



YOU USED A 3-D PRINTER TO MAKE THIS? AWESOME!



NICE GRAPHICS OF YOUR ROBOT!

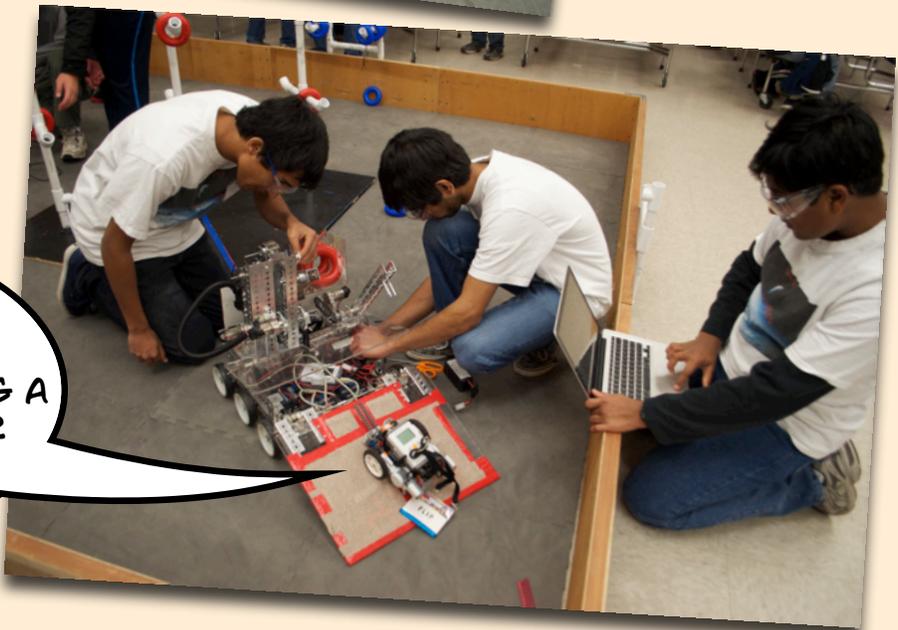


LOOK - A ROBOT, HOLDING A ROBOT!



MMMMM----- PIZZA!

THERE SURE IS A LOT OF WORK INVOLVED IN GETTING A ROBOT READY FOR COMPETITION!

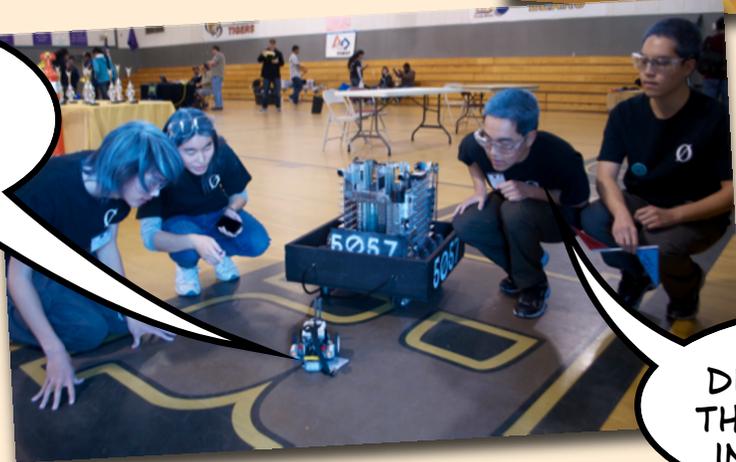


IN FTC THERE ARE FOUR ROBOTS AT A TIME ON THE FIELD IN TWO ALLIANCES. SOMETIMES YOUR PARTNER IN ONE MATCH WILL BE YOUR OPPONENT IN ANOTHER.

THIS IS THE LAST QUALIFYING ROUND... NEXT IS THE ALLIANCE SELECTION!



CAN I BE YOUR ALLIANCE PARTNER?



UMM... DID YOU PASS THE SOFTWARE INSPECTION?



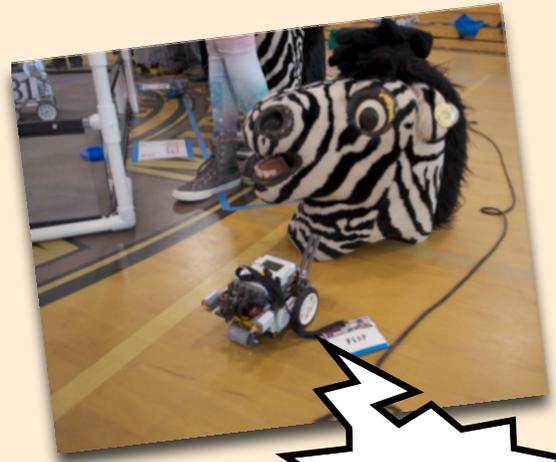
STRATEGY SURE GETS INTENSE IN THE ELIMINATION ROUNDS.

THE RED ALLIANCE WON! THAT MEANS THEY GO ON TO THE FINALS!

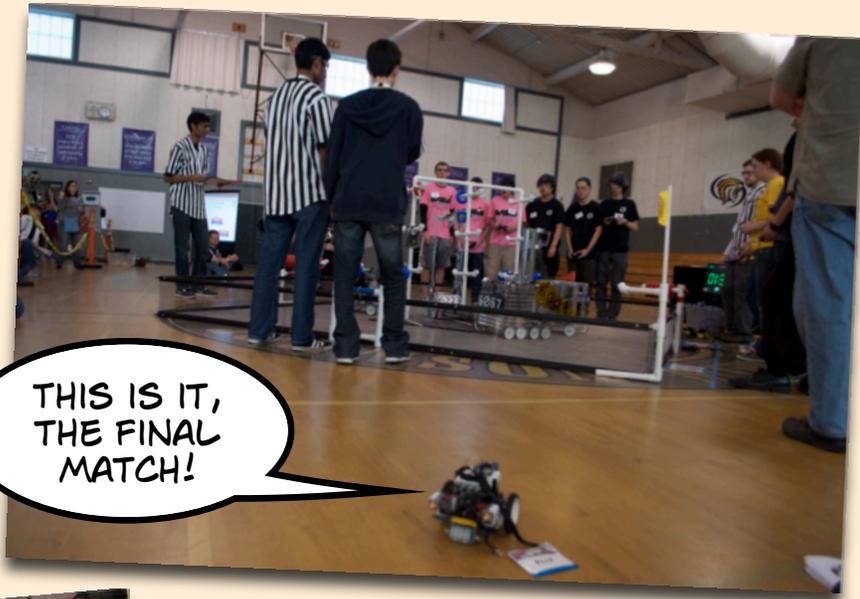




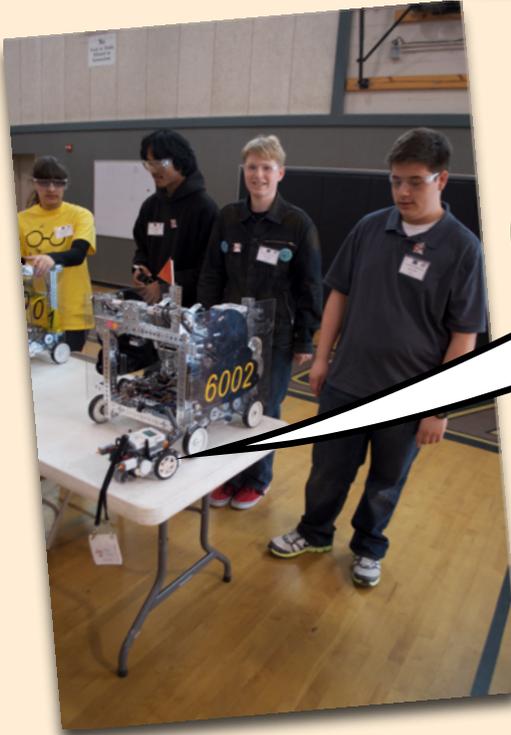
IT'S THE
FTC FAN
CLUB!



EEK!



THIS IS IT,
THE FINAL
MATCH!



CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE CAPTAINS OF THE
WINNING ALLIANCE:
BASILISK!

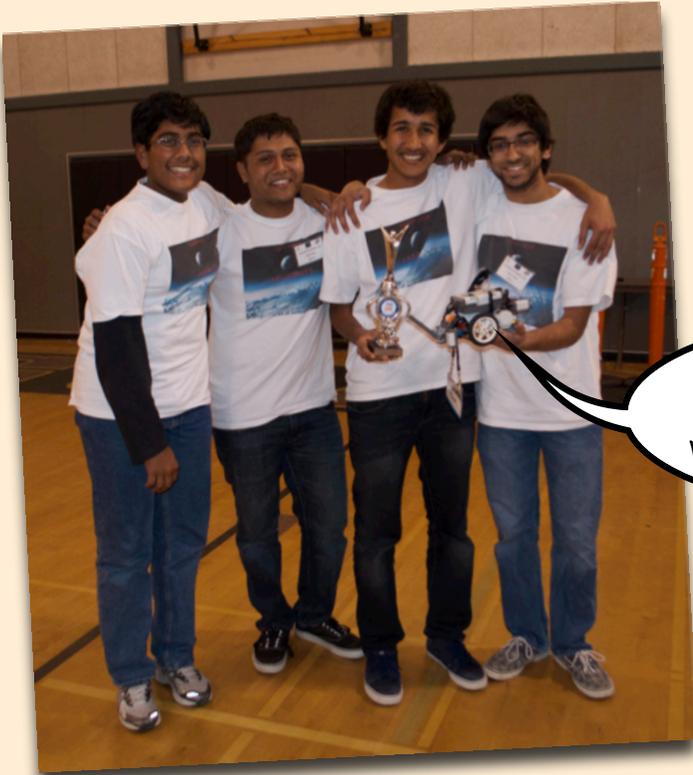
WITH THE MATCHES OVER, IT'S
TIME FOR THE AWARD CEREMONY!



EVERYONE IS THANKING THE VOLUNTEERS!



THEY'RE STARTING TO ANNOUNCE THE AWARD WINNERS!



THE INSPIRE AWARD IS THE HIGHEST JUDGED AWARD GIVEN. THE TEAM THAT WINS THIS IS A ROLE MODEL, AND IS A TOP CONTENDER FOR ALL OTHER AWARDS.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE INSPIRE AWARD WINNERS: LEGONAUTS!

A BIG THANKS TO FTC TEAM 4963 NOVA - HOSTS OF THE NORCAL ELK GROVE QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT!

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FTC, VISIT:
WWW.USFIRST.ORG/ROBOTICSPROGRAMS/FTC

FLIP The FLL[®] Robot

FOLLOW FLIP ON FACEBOOK:
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FLIPFLLROBOT

