WEST CATHOLIC ENIGMA ROBOTICS

FIRST Robotics Logomotion Build Week 3
February 2011 Issue 4

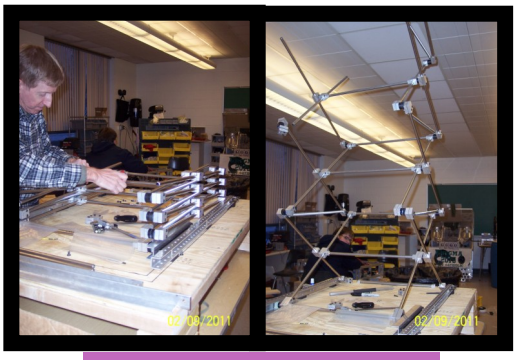
Team 2075

Enigma: (noun) somebody or something that baffles understanding and cannot be explained

Enigma Robot Reaches New

2,700 individuals have climbed to the peak of Mount Everest. They, like the members of Enigma, are dedicated and hardworking people. Though this metaphor may be just a bit dramatic and the 9 foot mark which the robot arm must reach does not quite compare with the 29,029 foot mountain bordering Nepal and Tibet, the dedication exhibited by students and mentors has yielded extraordinary results for the 2011 robot.

With the dawn of build week three, the team began work on prototyping the scissor lift to which the black widow pick-up device will be attached. This arm must reach 9 feet in order to reach the highest row of pegs, which also constitutes the largest point-value. After completing the PBC-pipe prototype of the scissors lift, the team tested it on the practice field and found the results successful.



The work-in-progress scissor lift compressed and fully extended.

While the external apparatus were being improved and evaluated, the frame of the robot was brought to life as the builders and programmers worked on wiring the electronics.

Beyond the focus on the physical building and programming of the robot, the marketing team has been hard at work raising money to fund the parts and competition fees needed for the busy season. $850.00 have been raised through a Poker Tournament for which Enigma parents volunteered. Team members are also looking ahead to the competitions, and to the potential of incoming enigma members. Seventh and Eighth grade students from the Catholic grade schools will be invited to the first contest of the competition season to take place at the Grand Valley Allendale Campus on March 19th.

While holding on to the momentum of this season's progress, Enigma is looking forward to new heights, as the next ascent to be made will be that of the mini-bot. And the challenge will be of how it can reach the peak in under 2.9 seconds, the current goal.

Please help Support Enigma!

If you are interested in supporting Enigma, please make checks payable to WCHS—Enigma. If you are interested in volunteering or seeking sponsorship opportunities, please contact the team coach at:

enigma2075@student.grcss.org

Thank you for all of your support; Team Enigma wouldn't be where it is today without the generous gifts of time, money, tools and mentorship that we receive.

Come Join Us!

Please feel free to join us. We're happy to show you who we are and what we do!
With the beginning of the 2011 build season, we are currently meeting **Monday-Thursday nights from 6:00pm to 9:00pm and Saturdays from 10:00am to about 4:00pm.** These times are subject to change so please contact **Mary-Beth Zakfeld** by e-mail at **khzak@comcast.net** before attending. You can also request to be added to Enigma's mailing list to receive additional information.

WHAT F.I.R.S.T. ROBOTICS IS ALL ABOUT!

For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics organization is a program that enables students to develop and hone skills that will help them throughout their lives as well as in their prospective college plans and careers. Some requirements for commitment of this caliber include: determination, multi-tasking, logical thinking, perseverance, creativity, resourcefulness and much patience. These skills help the students to achieve goals that are set by themselves and by their mentors at the beginning of each new season. And with this commitment also comes opportunity. Opportunity to train for the future; be pioneers of science; meet students and engineers from different schools, states and even different countries. But still more important, FIRST students learn gracious professionalism and the true meaning of teamwork.