

# THE NUTS AND BOLTS

## TECHHOUNDS TEAM 868

### Upcoming Events:

#### Ship Robot Date

February 19th

The team must stop building the robot on this day. The robot will be "bagged and tagged" until the first Regional competition.

#### Boilermaker Regional

March 14th

The TechHOUNDS first competition, the Boilermaker Regional, will take place at Purdue. Team members, friends, family, and sponsors are all welcome to watch the match and cheer on the team.



### this issue

Founding Fathers Retire **P.1**

Division Updates **P.2**

The Game **P.3**

Rookie Corner **P.4**

## The Founding Fathers Retire

The team brings its first season without founders Smith and Haltom

The TechHOUNDS Robotics Team was founded 12 years ago by Dave Smith, an industrial technology teacher at Carmel High School for over thirty years. After several years of managing the team alone, auxiliary construction teacher Mark Haltom joined the team to mentor the TechHOUNDS in the area of construction.

Together, Smith and Haltom are the true "founding fathers" of the team, dedicating hours to helping students learn the skills of problem solving, engineering design, and, ultimately, fabrication. This past year, however, both teachers retired from teaching and also as mentors of the TechHOUNDS.

Smith and Haltom have been spending their time with their hobbies and interests. Haltom has begun to remodel and expand his farm house in Quincy, Indiana. He is adding a bedroom, upper floor, and kitchen. His goal is to move in and make it his permanent home.

Smith has also been doing many different remodeling jobs to keep himself busy. He is planning on returning to the TechHOUNDS to help mentor robot ops.

This year, without Mr. Smith or Mr. Haltom, the TechHOUNDS have had to make a few changes to how the team operates. The team will miss their creativity and the vast experience with the many power tools and machines available to them. To help compensate, Giltner has asked the current mentors to attempt to devote more time, along with his own time, guiding and encouraging each individual team member.



*Mr. Smith visits the team during the pre-season. Although he has retired, he continues to work with the team as a mentor.*



# Division Updates

The entire team is ready to go this year. Everyone has a new task in their hands, ready to create something new. This is probably one of the best groups we've had in the past four years. We are excited to get going, and we have lots of motivation to win this year.

- Akash Shankar (Team Lead)

## Auxiliary Construction

The auxiliary team built 15 sign posts which the school uses during orientation events to guide parents through the school. We also built baseball benches for Faith Church, located in Anderson.

- Blake Loncharich (Division Lead)

## Animation

We just finished our pre-season animation. The video is about 30 seconds and has various animations of the word "TechHOUNDS." We also taught the rookies how to use the animation software.

- Alyssa Dash (Division Lead)

## Robot Operations

Robot Ops finished building two drive trains. The drive train is what makes the robot move, and it is the core of the machine. We also trained the new members how to use the equipment in the shop.

- Evan Chivington (Division Lead)

## Programming/ Electrical

Electrical completed a practice board, which the new members used to learn useful wiring skills that they will use during the season. The programmers have trained the new members how to write JAVA code with the software the team uses.

- Jacob Sweizy/John Du (Division Leads)

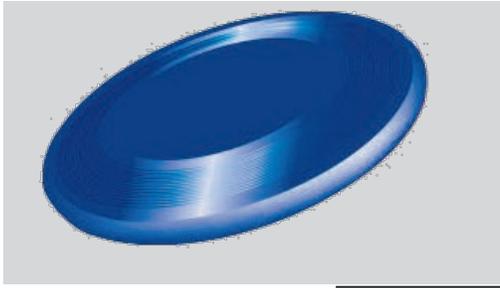
## Website

Website has been exploring newly integrated Adobe programs such as Photoshop and Dream Weaver. They have started creating personal websites for fictional companies so rookies can gain experience and practice.

- Nick Saggese (Division Lead)



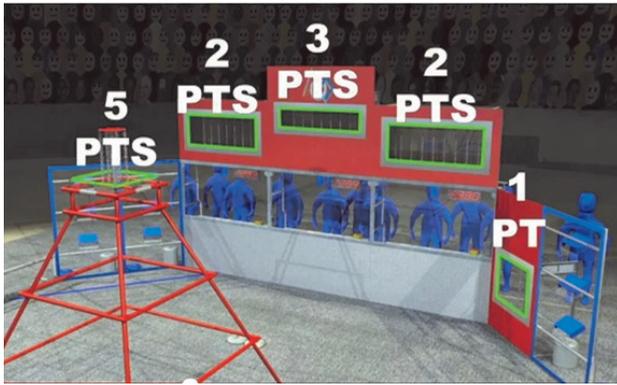
# 2013 FIRST Robotics Game:



# ULTIMATE ASCENT



This year's FRC challenge game is called Ultimate Ascent. The game was inspired by ultimate Frisbee or disc golf and involves scoring Frisbees into goals located throughout the field. Since the game's objective and rules were revealed on January 5, the team has been brainstorming plans to design and build a robot that can compete on this playing field and take advantage of the many component's of the game.



### Scoring:

To play Ultimate Ascent, robots must collect Frisbees off of the playing field and somehow get these Frisbees into goals located throughout the playing field. Robots can shoot, throw, or drop the Frisbees into the goals- any method that scores points. The goals are located at various heights and are worth 1, 2, 3, or 5 points each (see picture to left).

### End Game:

The final 30 seconds of the match comprise the "End Game" where teams have a chance to earn bonus points. This year's End Game involves climbing the metal tower with three bars (picture to the right). Robots that climb to the lowest bar will receive additional 10 points. Robots who reach the second and third bars will receive 20 and 30 points, respectively. The End Game wins alliances many points in a short time, making this portion of the match crucial to strategy and success.



## TEAM STATS 2013

Here is how  
our 80 members  
break down:

Veterans: 28

Rookies: 52

Freshmen: 19

Sophomores: 20

Juniors: 31

Seniors: 9

# Rookie Corner



## Garret Rose

Division: Robot Ops  
 Grade: Freshman  
 Dream school: Butler or IU  
 Favorite Class: Biology  
 Inspirational Person: Dad

### Why did you join TechHOUNDS?

Last year, I was in Creekside Middle School's Vex Robotics team and I wanted to step up to TechHOUNDS.

### What Division are you in and why?

I am in Robot ops, Because I wanted to help build and design a robot and learn how engineers think.

### What is your favorite part about TechHOUNDS?

I like the teamwork that everyone has and how we are able to solve problems with each other.

### What are the most valuable skills you have gained from the team?

I have learned how to think of ideas to solve different problems. I want to be a doctor when I grow up, so I am glad I will be able to utilize these skills once I become a doctor to help people.



**Aerodyn Engineering**  
**Applied Engineering Services**  
**Boomerang Development**  
**Carl D. Perkins Career & Technical Education**  
**Cardinal Publishers**  
**Charles Schwab**  
**E-Gineering Services**

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2011-2012 SPONSORS!**  
 We hope you will continue your generosity this year.



**Rolls-Royce**

**The Erli Family**  
**Eli Lilly and Company Foundation**  
**Hamilton County Retired Teachers Association**  
**ITT Technical Institute**  
**J.R. Pavey Memorial**

**Latex Systems**  
**Lentz Independent Consulting**  
**Major Tool & Machine**  
**MI-Tech Metals, Inc.**  
**Moriarty Fund**  
**Peter Rogers Fitness**  
**Raffin Construction Co.**



**TECHPOINT FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH™**

**Redali Consulting, Inc.**  
**Schue Engineering**  
**Stoneware, Inc.**  
**Tesco**  
**Tony Steward Foundation**  
**William's Comfort Air**  
**Wishard Health**

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2012-2013 SPONSORS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!**

Arni's  
 Brandon K. Tiek DDS  
 Carmel Orthodontics  
 Charles Schwab

CIM Systems Inc.  
 David W. Ditzler  
 GlaxoSmithKline  
 IN Motion Orthopedics Inc.  
 Latex Systems

Mi-Tech Metals Inc.  
 Matthew Appliance Repair  
 Moriarty Fund  
 Piano Solutions  
 Peerless Pump

Rolls-Royce  
 Schue Engineering  
 Walker Dentistry, P.C.  
 Westfield Steel

