

2005 Rookie Factoids

- "Waldo"
Two of the Rookie Teams have named their robot "Waldo" and use the "Where's Waldo" Theme. "Mojave Robotics" Team 1641 has decorated their robot to look like Waldo himself. In the case of Team 1547 or "Team Waldo", the entire team dresses in the Red and White Striped Waldo Shirts. Want to play "Where's Waldo?" Both teams are in the Archimedes Division so look for them there.
- All-girl School Teams
Two of this year's Rookie All Star Teams are from all-girl schools. Team 1547 (Team Waldo) is from the Trafalgar Castle School in Whitby, Ontario Canada, and Team 1700 (Gatorbotics) is from the Castilleja School in Palo Alto, CA USA. Both teams have mixed a great sense of humor in with building a competitive robot. You Go Girls!
- RAS from Four Countries
Rookie All Star Teams this year really show the increasingly international reach of FIRST. Teams from 4 countries, Brazil, Canada, Israel and USA were awarded Rookie All Star Awards. Three of the countries will be represented by their rookie teams. Unfortunately, the Brazilian Team, #1628, who won the award at the Lone Star Regional, is not coming to the championship event. Be sure to meet the two Rookie Teams from Israel, Team 1574 "Misgav" in the Curie Division and Team 1577 "Steampunk" in the Newton Division.
- Watch out for the Triplets!
Rookie Teams 1503 and 1680 are two of the three Niagara FIRST Robotic triplets, with Team 1114. The Rookies will be competing together (or against each other) in the Curie Division.
- Engineering Inspiration Award
One rookie team was awarded the Engineering Inspiration Award. Team 1619, from Lockheed Martin/Seagate/NASA & Silver Creek High School, received this award at the Colorado Regional. Even though they are not at the Championships, we were so impressed that a Rookie Team won such a prestigious award that we felt they deserved special recognition!

This information was gathered and organized by Team 1511, Rolling Thunder, from USFIRST.org, Chief Delphi Forums, Team Websites and local news reports. Care has been taken to be as accurate as possible. Since all of our summaries are intended to be positive, it is hard to go wrong. However, if we did, we humbly apologize!

Meet the Rookies!

During the 2005 competitive season, 186 rookie teams participated in 31 Regional Competitions (including Israel). All of the 186 Rookie Teams are winners, and we applaud their efforts and their accomplishments! But not all Rookie Teams can make it to the FIRST Regional Championship... We hope you will agree that the 35 Rookie Teams competing this week in Atlanta represent the "Best of the Best"! To help you get to know them we have prepared this overview of each of the Rookie Teams.

These teams:

Competed at 48 Regional competitions
Received 30 Rookie All Star Awards
5 Rookie Inspiration Awards
14 Highest Rookie Seeds

They also picked up awards for spirit, website, creativity, industrial design, and the Judges Award. Wow!

These teams:

Were alliance partners in 37 quarterfinal rounds, (sometimes as captains)
With 23 making it to the semi-finals,
10 moving on to the finals,
and 7 teams were Regional Champions!

As Rookie Teams, we have lofty goals:


- To be the spirit of FIRST in our schools and in our communities
- To learn all the lessons Rookie Teams need to know so we can inspire the future of FIRST
- To be competitive, creative, sportsmanlike, spirited, and safe
- And to ultimately be recognized as a veteran team in the annals of FIRST by our Number, our Colors and our Name.

We thank our schools and our communities and most of all our sponsors for their support and financial backing. We thank our teachers, advisors, and parents for teaching, advising, and giving us the opportunity to let us test our wings.

We thank our mentors for giving up all of their free time to guide us, design with us, build with us, push us, and inspire us.

We thank our fellow teams for welcoming us, sharing ideas, tools, and expertise to make sure that we had a great first year. Thank you for picking us up when we fell, treating us gently when we were bruised and considering us as equals in competition! We want to be just like you!

1503 "Spartonics"	Curie
General Motors & Westlane Secondary School, Niagara Falls, ON Canada	
Waterloo: Rookie Inspiration Award; Greater Toronto: Regional Finalist	
The motto of Team 1503 is "Sigma - Sum of all Inspiration - is FIRST" and their robot "Spartek" has certainly lived up to the motto, reaching the semi-finals and finals in the teams two competitions. Spartonics is one of the Niagara FIRST "Triplets", with Team 1114 and 1680, and is the proof that mentors have a great impact in FIRST.	
1506 "Metal Muscle"	Newton
Kettering University/Araco America /Computer Assistance & North Oakland & Macomb Schools, North Oakland County, MI USA	
Detroit : Rookie All Star	
"Metal Muscle" understands the power of the alliance, since their members come from 5 schools. Preseason events included community service projects for the Groveland Fire Department & Toys for Tots. Team Captain, Brendan, has been awarded a Kettering University FIRST Scholarship!	
1507 "Warlocks"	Galileo
Delphi Thermal & Interior/iiCS/NASA & Lockport High School, Lockport, NY USA	
Finger Lakes: Regional Finalist; Chesapeake: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed	
The "Warlocks" have demonstrated their wizardry during their rookie season. Competing at two Regionals with their robot, "Billy" they were regional finalists at their first regional, and Highest Rookie Seed and All Stars at their second. They should also be recognized for their community service to Project Crayon, Christmas gift donations and for their tsunami relief efforts.	
1508 "Robowizards"	Archimedes
Ford Motor Company/Dusevoir Metal Products, Inc/General Motors/Arvin Meritor & Southwestern & Casa Richard & Holy Redeemer & Western International High Schools, Detroit, MI USA	
Detroit: Participant; West Michigan: Rookie All Star	
As an alliance of four diverse schools in Detroit, the "Robowizards" came out on top as the Rookie All Stars in their second regional. They demonstrated tenacity and teamwork in their two regional competitions with their robot "Magically Delicious."	
1510 "Westview Robotics"	Curie
LEGO/NASA & Oregon Space Grant/Synopsys & Hendel & Westview Robotics Team, Portland, OR USA	
Pacific Northwest: Rookie All Star	
Westview Robotics with their robot, affectionately known as "Sir Forkalot," gained the admiration of the judges and other teams during competition. The triangular shaped robot, with autonomous capabilities, performed consistently in competition and saw semi-final action in its first regional!	
1511 "Rolling Thunder"	Newton
Harris Corporation RF Communications & Penfield High School, Penfield, NY USA	
Finger Lakes: Rookie All Star; Buckeye: Highest Rookie Seed; Greater Toronto: Regional Champions, Rookie Inspiration Award, Daimler Chrysler Spirit Award	
In addition to building a robot, "Rolling Thunder" built a FIRST Practice field and hosted the Rochester FIRST Rally providing valuable pre-season experience for 10 local Rochester teams. They have had an amazing rookie season, winning all 3 Rookie Awards, spirit and a regional championship. Their preseason and fundraising efforts have shown 1511's powerful teamwork.	

1675 "Ultimate Protection Squad"	Galileo
GE Healthcare/Rockwell Automation/Milwaukee School of Engineering & Rufus King High School & Lynde & Harry Bradley Technology and Trade School, Milwaukee, WI USA	
Midwest: Rookie All Stars	
"Ultimate Protection Squad" or "UPS" made their debut at the Midwest Regional with their robot "Super Uper." The robot features an arm on a turntable, so it can be easily rotated. "UPS" gave out creative awards at the regional, such as the "Martha Stewart Award," for the neatest pit.	
1676 "Pascack Pi-oneers"	Archimedes
Mercedes-Benz USA & Pascack Valley Regional HS District, Montvale, NJ USA	
New Jersey: Rookie All Star	
The "Pascack Pi-oneers" name is from a meeting of mascots from their two high schools. When the Cowboys and the Indians meet, they form the Pioneers. Add a little engineering and you get the Pi-oneers. This large team is well organized with lots of tools and documentation on their website. Their helpfulness, especially in the pits, was noted at their regional.	
1680 "Fesstronics"	Curie
EDS Canada & Fort Erie Secondary School, Fort Erie, ON Canada	
Waterloo: Rookie All Star, Greater Toronto: Semi-Finalist	
Fesstronics had the support of the Niagara FIRST and some really great mentors as they built their robot "Festor." Meeting with two other teams, including mentor team, 1114, they have become one of the strongest rookie teams this year. "Festor" is one of a set of triplet robots, built identical to the robots of Team 1114 and 1503.	
1700 "Gatorbotics"	Newton
IDEO/Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers & Castilleja School, Palo Alto, CA USA	
Silicon Valley: Rookie All Stars	
The "Gatorbotics," a team from an all-girl school, has proven that you don't have to be a guy to love robots. Their robot, "Thor," with his arm known as "Jack the Gripper" saw quarterfinal action in their regional. You can visit the "Swamp," their team website to meet the team, or look for them in their swamp-green shirts at the competition.	
1708 "Natural Selection"	Galileo
McKeesport Area High School and Technology Center, McKeesport, PA USA	
Pittsburgh: Regional Champions, Rookie All Stars, Highest Rookie Seed	
The "Natural Selection" Team may be the Cinderella story of the year! The 11-member team built their robot "Charles" (after Charles Darwin) in only two weeks. At their regional, the team was the Highest Rookie Seed, but was not initially selected for an alliance. It became a 4 th team after another robot was disabled, and the alliance went on to become Regional Champions!	
<p>Brought to you by</p> <p>Team 1511</p> <p>Rolling Thunder</p> 	

<p align="center">1646 " Precision Guessworks" Curie Purdue University /Convergence Education Foundation/NASA & Jefferson High School, Lafayette, IN USA</p> <p align="center">Boilermaker: Rookie All Star; Midwest: Highest Rookie Seed</p> <p>Living up to their motto, "We are precise, I guess?" "Precision Guessworks" and their robot "Boiler Ten Day Express" has had a great Rookie Season. They won rookie awards in both of their regional competitions. As a spin-off from Team 461, watch for them to do well in Atlanta!</p>
<p align="center">1647 "Iron Devils" Newton Lockheed Martin & Seneca High School, Tabernacle, NJ USA</p> <p align="center">Philadelphia: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed</p> <p>The "Iron Devils" made their FIRST Robotics debut at the Philadelphia Regional where they were named the Highest Rookie Seed as well as Rookie All Stars. They have a great FIRST Motto "Getrrr done!" Their robot "Top Gun," lives up to its name with a telescoping arm that looks like it could touch the sky.</p>
<p align="center">1648 "Gearbox Gangstaz" Galileo Turner Broadcasting & Henry Grady High School, Atlanta, GA USA</p> <p align="center">Peachtree: Rookie All Star, Regional Finalist</p> <p>"Gearbox Gangstaz" and their robot "Sir Gears-a-Lot" are sure to be a hometown favorite! They have an amazing robot that can reliably stack 3 tetras at one time on the lower goals, with speed that makes it possible to repeat that four times during a match. In their free time (What free time?), they are also participating in the FIRST Vex Challenge.</p>
<p align="center">1653 "RoboKatz" Archimedes Washington High School, Kansas City, KS USA</p> <p align="center">Colorado: Rookie All Star</p> <p>"RoboKatz" were named the Rookie All Stars at the regional with the most rookies, Colorado! Their robot is named "PussN'Boltz," and appears to have great defensive potential. If you get a chance, check out their website. It has pictures of the "Itty Bitty City Kitty" during the build process, as well as great bios of the team members, mentors and advisors.</p>
<p align="center">1665 "Weapons of Mass Construction" Curie Kaz Inc & Hudson High School, Hudson, NY USA</p> <p align="center">UTC/ New England: Rookie All Star</p> <p>A small team, "Weapons of Mass Construction" and their robot "Vaporizer," overcame mechanical and technical difficulties to see quarterfinal action in their regional. To raise interest and awareness of FIRST in their school and community, the team held an open house with robot demonstrations before shipping "Vaporizer" off to the competition.</p>
<p align="center">1671 Buchanan High School Newton DDBA-Safe-T-Cab-CV Robotics & Buchanan High School, Clovis, CA USA</p> <p align="center">Sacramento: Highest Rookie Seed, Rookie All Star</p> <p>Buchanan High School's robot "Doc" seems to have it all. It has been described as small, fast and a great defensive pusher, with a point scoring autonomous mode. Rather than lift the tetras, it pours them under the goals. On top of good functionality, the robot is decorated beautifully and creatively. As the Highest Rookie Seed, Team 1671 saw quarterfinal action in their regional.</p>

<p align="center">1515 "MorTorq" Galileo Walt Disney Imagineering/NASA & Beverly Hills High School, Beverly Hills, CA USA</p> <p align="center">Colorado: Rookie Inspiration Award; Southern California: Rookie All Star</p> <p>"MorTorq" had the goal this year to build a foundation with their school and community. They have built strong partnerships with Walt Disney Imagineering and other sponsors and have plans to sponsor a FIRST Lego League team starting in the Fall. The team has a great robot, too! Their robot, "Norman 1," saw semi-final action in both of their regionals.</p>
<p align="center">1517 "Phi Pi Pho Phun" Archimedes LEGO & Bishop Brady High School, Concord, NH USA</p> <p align="center">BAE/ Granite State: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed</p> <p>The "Phi Pi Pho Phun" (P4) team made their mark at their regional with their robot "The Aluminum Chef". The robot has the ability to place up to three tetras at once on the center goal. That must be a sight to see. Although Rookies at FIRST, this is the 2nd year for the schools Robotics Club. They participated in the Robocup Junior Program last year, gaining valuable teamwork experience.</p>
<p align="center">1527 "Bionic Battalion" Curie NAVAIR/NASA & Granite Hills High School, El Cajon, CA USA</p> <p align="center">Arizona: Rookie All Star; Las Vegas: Regional Champions, Rookie Inspiration Award, Website</p> <p>After losing its arm at a rally in San Diego just prior to the ship date, "Torbor" the robot of the "Bionic Battalion" has had a full recovery. Using "Torbor" as an amazing defensive robot, the team assisted its alliance with Team #957 and Team #64 as they became the Las Vegas Regional Champions. The team has also received recognition for its website.</p>
<p align="center">1539 "C.A.R.L.O.S." Newton Clover High School, Clover, SC USA</p> <p align="center">Peachtree: GM Industrial Design; Palmetto: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed</p> <p>Team "C.A.R.L.O.S." or "Clover's Awesome Robotics League of Students" certainly stands out in a crowd with their bright pink shirts (and sometimes shorts). Their unique unicorn mascot "Fernando" must be sharing his magic as the team saw semi-final action in both of their regionals before being defeated by the alliances that went on to become the Champions.</p>
<p align="center">1546 "Chaos, Inc." Galileo Baldwin Foundation for Education & Chaos, Inc; Baldwin Robotics, Baldwin, NY USA</p> <p align="center">Long Island: Rookie All Star</p> <p>"Max," the robot of Chaos, Inc. is 100% student built and has a complex arm with a motorized pulley system. Although the team started in chaos about the robot design, they have pulled together to become a model for teamwork and the ideals of FIRST. They have been invited to share their Rookie experiences at a conference in New Jersey, after the Championship.</p>
<p align="center">1547 "Team Waldo" Archimedes General Motors of Canada & Trafalgar Castle School, Whitby, ON Canada</p> <p align="center">Finger Lakes: Rookie Inspiration Award; Greater Toronto: Rookie All Star</p> <p>They've got spirit, yes they do! "Team Waldo" hails from the all-girl Trafalgar Castle School. Recognizable by their red and white striped shirts, and their ability to sing, you will know when their robot, "Waldo" has entered the field, by the battle cry WWAALLLLDDDDOOOOO! Along with their competitive ability, they are definitely a crowd pleaser.</p>

1574 "Misgav" Iscar & Misgav High School, Misgav, Northern Israel Israel: Regional Champions	Curie
Competing in the first ever FIRST Competition in Israel, "Misgav" and their robot, "Miscar," topped the field! Their website contains photos and videos capturing the competition and the opportunity the team had to meet with Dean Kamen. They owe their success to teamwork, persistence, and sponsors Iscar and "Humas Nash Nash"!	
1577 "Steampunk" MAG & Aviv High School, Raanana, Central Israel Israel: Rookie All Star, Website	Newton
This is the third year that the members of "Steampunk" have worked together on engineering competitions, but their first in FIRST. One of Israel's first 12 teams, their robot is "X-Factor," which they describe as "constantly flowing, changing, growing - we just can't take our hands off X-Factor." Their award-winning website includes robotic tutorials & videos of "X-Factor" in action.	
1590 Lorain City Schools NASA & Lorain City Schools, Lorain, OH USA Buckeye: Rookie All Star	Galileo
Small (12 members), diverse and very enthusiastic, the Lorain City School Team was recognized for their involvement with the community when they received the Rookie All Star Award at the Buckeye Regional. The veteran teams at Buckeye were impressed with this team's persistence, cooperation and excitement at being part of the FIRST family.	
1592 "Bionic Tigers" Analex Corporation & Cocoa High School, Cocoa, FL USA Florida: Rookie All Star, Regional Champions	Archimedes
The "Bionic Tigers" built a robot with a well-designed gripper that can consistently stack 4 to 5 tetras in a match. It was a great fit with the other members of the winning alliance at their regional. Recognizable by their bright orange shirts and "cat in the hat" hats, the "Bionic Tigers" have learned the value of color from their well known sister team, Team 233, "The Pink Team"!	
1593 "2 Hot 2 Trot" Verizon & High School for Environmental Studies, New York, NY USA New York City: Highest Rookie Seed	Curie
Coming from a school recognized for its diversity, applied-learning experiences and hands-on approach to education, "2 Hot 2 Trot" demonstrated their skill at their regional with their robot "Deuces Wild." As the Highest Rookie Seed, they were alliance captains in the elimination matches.	
1595 "SGS Dragons" NASA & Saint George's High School, Spokane, WA USA Pacific Northwest: Regional Champions, Judges Award	Newton
The robot of the "SGS Dragons" operates with a unique double-pronged skewer, which retracts to drop tetra in place, as well as a point-scoring autonomous mode. These features were put to the test on their way to becoming Regional Champions. To the tune of Mr. Roboto, a foot-tapping video of their robot can be found at http://www.employscreen.com/mrroboto/	

1596 "Twin Sault International Instigators" Convergence - GM - FLL - ADSB - Sault Area Career Center - Korah Collegiate, Sault Ste Marie, MI USA Great Lakes: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed, Website; Greater Toronto: Highest Rookie Seed	Galileo
This is the only multi-national team, with members from two schools in two countries (Canada & US). Not only did the "Instigators" build one robot (Boomer 1) for competition, but also built a second practice robot, which was helpful for fund raising and community awareness.	
1597 "Blue Falcons" IBM/Verizon/NASA & Bronx Aerospace High School, Bronx, NY USA Peachtree: Participant; New York City: Rookie All Star	Archimedes
The "Blue Falcons" have energy to burn. Not only are they having a great FIRST Robotics Rookie year, but some of the team members are also on a FIRST Vex team (FRV-39, Blue Falcons"). Their Robot, "Jet X," has a well-designed scissors lift and helps the team to achieve their motto of F.L.I.G.H.T. or "Falcons lead in great heights together!"	
1610 "Broncos" SCHEV/Hercules, Inc./Eastman Chemical Co./International Paper & Franklin High School, Franklin, VA USA NASA/ VCU: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed	Curie
"Mechanical Bronco" or "MB" for short, the robot of the "Broncos," impressed the veteran teams at the NASA/VCU regional with its working vision system, and its reliable capping ability. It came oh-so-close to capping the center during its very first match, but the arm wouldn't let the tetra go!	
1625 "Winnovation" NASA and Winnebago High School, Winnebago, IL USA St. Louis: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed, Regional Champions, Xerox Creativity	Newton
The word "dominate" may have been used to describe the performance of "Winnovation" at the St. Louis Regional. Seeded #3 at the end of the qualification round, they went on to become regional champions! Be sure to check out their robot, it actually has a dog toy at the end of the arm. Now that's thinking outside the box!	
1626 "Falcon Robotics" St. Joseph's High School, Metuchen, NJ USA New Jersey: Highest Rookie Seed	Galileo
After apparently living on White Castle Burgers during the build season, "Falcon Robotics" produced "Dante." In keeping with the school falcon mascot, Dante picks up the tetras with a small hook, like the talon of a falcon. The arm assembly is mounted on a turret, powered by a van door motor that gives Dante excellent maneuverability and great competitive ability!	
1641 "Mojave Robotics" Air Force Flight Test Center/NASA & Mojave High School, Mojave, CA USA Las Vegas: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed	Archimedes
"Mojave Robotics" describes their Rookie year as "From scratch, we've built a robot, a team, and a family." Their robot has an amazing resemblance to Waldo, of "Where's Waldo" fame, and is capable of holding and capping multiple tetras at a time. They have been successful with up to seven tetras, and their usual mode was to get 4 tetras at once on the center goal.	