

# Meet the Rookies of 2009!

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**Penfield High School,  
Penfield NY**

[www.penfieldrobotics.com](http://www.penfieldrobotics.com)

## All Rookie Meet and Greet

**Who's Invited:** All 2007 Rookie Teams!! (and any veterans that want to meet this year's great rookie teams!)

**When:** Thursday, April 12, 12:30pm (following webhug)

**Where:** Lawn under the photo banner in the Courtyard

**What's Happening:** Fun Introduction Game, Distribution of Great Rookie packets with tons of information on Atlanta & your upcoming years, Meet & Greet other Rookie Teams! Find out what it took for them to get to Atlanta!

**Bonuses!!!:** Free Prizes for Rookies!! Group Photo of all Rookie Teams (emailed to you!!), Rookie Summary Booklet - get some great info on all the Rookies at Championships!

## Rah Cha Cha Ruckus III (RCCR 2007)



Going to be in the Rochester Area around Halloween? Don't know what to do with your Rack and Roll 'bot? How about joining the off-season party? Not only do you get to compete in a competition put together by a great committee, but you also get to have a great time! You can even come in costume, so can your robot!

Check out: <http://www.ruckus.penfieldrobotics.com/> for more information.

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!

[www.penfieldrobotics.com](http://www.penfieldrobotics.com)

4/2007

During the 2009 competitive season, 318 rookie teams participated in 48 Regional, District and State Competitions. All of the 318 Rookie Teams are winners, and we applaud their efforts and their accomplishments! Not all Rookie Teams can make it to the FIRST Championship... We hope you will agree that the 39 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 42 Regional competitions, District Events, and State Championships

Received 43 Rookie All Star Awards

5 Rookie Inspiration Awards

21 Highest Rookie Seeds

They also picked up awards for Regional Winners, Regional Finalists, Rockwell Automation Innovation in Control, Xerox Creativity, Website, General Motors Industrial Design, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers Entrepreneurship and Autodesk Visualization. Wow!

These teams:

Were alliance partners in 36 quarterfinal rounds (sometimes as captains) With 19 making it to the semi-finals, 11 moving on to the finals, and 4 teams were Regional Winners!

They have met all the challenges, some with surprising ease and some with great grit and determination. They have done Dean's Homework, formed partnerships with their schools, mentors, and communities and learned the meaning of Gracious Professionalism.

They have come to regional competitions with robots that performed, strategies that worked, spirit that shined, unique imagery, awesome technology and savvy well beyond their rookie year. We are awed by their achievements! Welcome to the FIRST Championship!

Thanks to all the teams for welcoming the rookies, sharing ideas, tools, and expertise to make sure that they had a great first year. Thanks for picking them up when they fell, treating them gently when they were bruised and considering them as equals in competition! You make great role models!

From rookie and veteran team alike, thanks to 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. Rookies – we expect great things from you! And we know you will continue to amaze us in the years to come! It may be Lunacy, but it's still the hardest fun we've ever had!

## 2009 Rookie Factoids

### The Legacy

We try really hard not to play favorites, but when a Rookie All Star team is mentored by one of your former mentors, it's hard not to be proud! Team 2775, Liberty Robotics, is mentored by Greg Needel who was a mentor on our team while he was in college! Way to go, Greg!

### Safety First in FIRST!

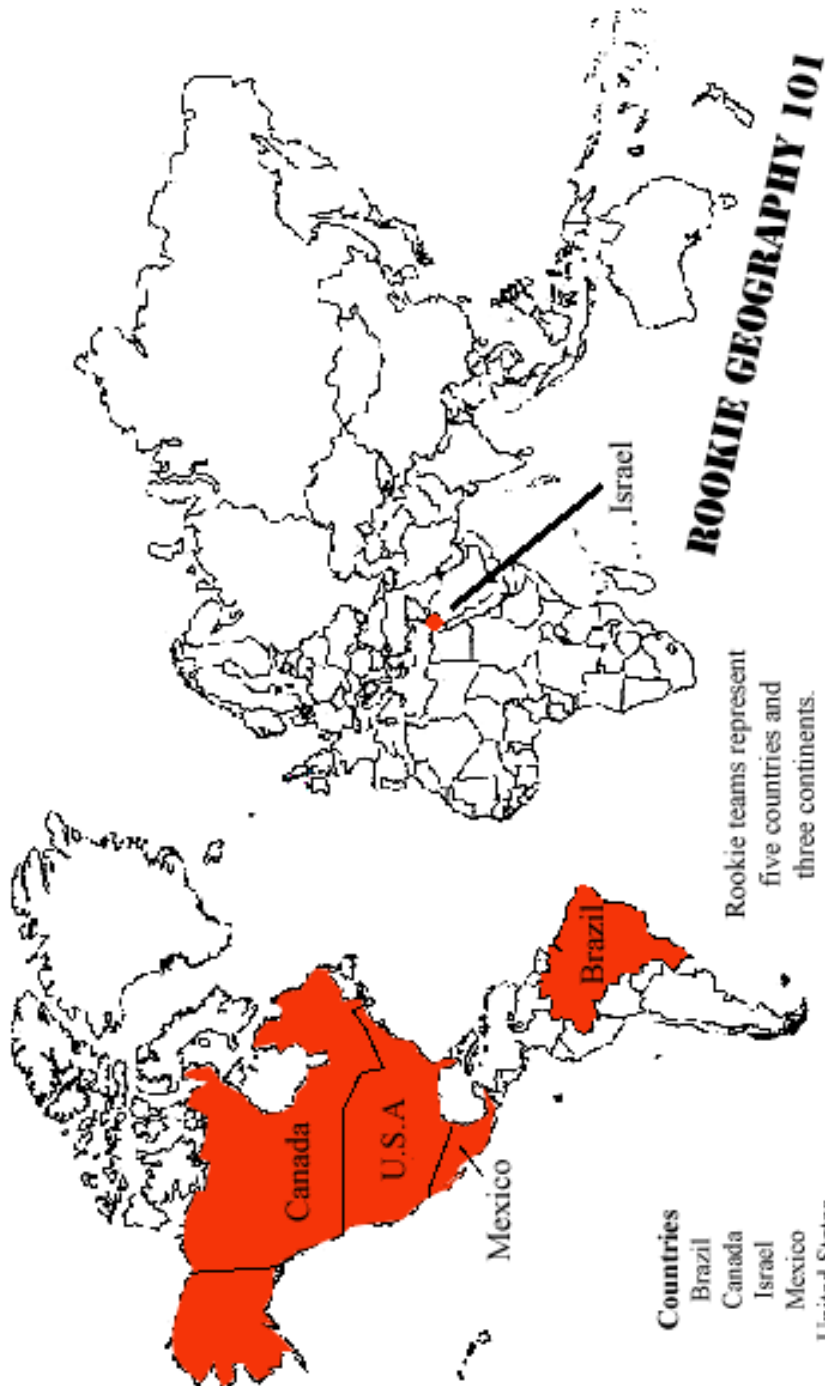
Several Rookies have been recognized at their regionals by collecting high numbers of safety tokens. Team 2783 - Engineers of Tomorrow, Team 2915 - Pandemonium, and Team 2936 - Gatorzilla can all wear the yellow hard-hat pin with pride!

### Crossing the Oceans!

Two teams are crossing an entire ocean to play with us in Atlanta. Team 3075 - Hadarim from Israel will cross the Atlantic, while Team 3105 - Team Lagablab from the Phillipines will take the Pacific route. Bon Voyage!

### Missing the Action

In addition to the amazing rookies at the Championships, three other rookie teams qualified, but were unable to be here to compete. We wanted to take a moment to recognize the Rookie All Star winners Team 2761, Clovis North Bronco Robotics from Clovis, CA; Team 2839, The Daedalus Project from Escondido, CA; and Team 3074, New School Robotics from Kennebunk, ME. Team 2839 and 3074 were also the Highest Rookie Seeds in their regionals and 2839 won the Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers Entrepreneurship Award.



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<b>2702 "REBotics"</b>	Newton
Ontario Centres of Excellence / Research In Motion & Eastwood Collegiate High School, Kitchener, ON, Canada	
Waterloo Regional: Rookie All Star, Rockwell Automation;	
With a techno twist on their school's Rebel nickname, REBotics is a team on fire! Look closer! The red flame on their shirts is actually a lion's head! They work with community mentors and hosted a day for 8th graders on the HS technology classes.	
<b>2729 "Storm Robotics"</b>	Galileo
Lockheed Martin/NASA & Lenape Regional High School District & Cherokee High School & Lenape High School, Marlton, NJ, USA	
Washington DC Regional: Rookie All Star; Philadelphia Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed	
Storm Robotics' members hail from two schools. Many are former FLL'ers. They spread the message of Gracious Professionalism through schools with classroom posters, and developed a children's robot design coloring book.	
<b>2741 "Method 2 Madness"</b>	Galileo
Caterpillar Inc/NASA & Batavia Robotics, Batavia, IL, USA	
Midwest Regional: Rookie All Star; Minnesota 10000 Lakes Regional: KPC&B Entrepreneurship, Web	
The "big robot" part of Batavia Robotics, Method2Madness (M2M) members come from 4 schools and use a sub-team structure to stay organized. Look for their ball elevator control labeled, the "Darth Elevator."	
<b>2753 "Team Overdrive"</b>	Archimedes
NASA/Umicore/Colonial Metals/Evonik Industries/Healthcare Facilities Management Society of New Jersey/Firestop Solutions & Teen Technology, Bridgewater, NJ, USA	
New Jersey Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed, Regional Winner; New York City Regional: Highest Rookie Seed, GM Industrial Design	
2008 FTC World Champions, Team Overdrive was undefeated in their first FRC regional. A division of Teen Technology, they stress business skills as well as technical literacy. Never content, they have robot upgrades planned for Atlanta!	
<b>2767 "FLEET"</b>	Curie
Western Michigan University / BAE Systems / The Geek Group / Bauer Soft Water / Kellogg Community College / Schupan Aluminum / Battle Creek Community Foundation Youth Alliance Council / Lake Michigan Community College & Homeschool HUB Home School & Berrien Springs Schools & Galien Schools & Battle Creek Schools, Battle Creek/Kalamazoo, MI, USA	
Lansing District: Rookie All Star; West Michigan District: Highest Rookie Seed, Rookie Inspiration	
A partnership of several schools and home-schoolers, FLEET was mentored by Team 1677, sharing workspace and a machine shop. Play of the Day! At Lansing, they had a score-changing super-cell throw during eliminations.	

<b>2771 "Code Red Robotics"</b>	Newton
Huizenga Group / RoMan Manufacturing / GM / PTC / BAE SYSTEMS & Grand River Preparatory High School, Grandville, MI, USA	
Michigan State Championships: Rookie All Star, Chrysler Team Spirit; Traverse City District - Rookie All Star; Kettering District: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed, Chrysler Team Spirit, District Finalist; West Michigan District: Rookie All Star	
A spin-off from Team 288, Code Red has students from 6 schools. Their team logo pays homage to their team roots, and may make you thirsty! A big portion of their annual budget is earmarked to plant Lego League and FRC teams in the area.	
<b>2775 "Liberty Robotics"</b>	Galileo
DeWALT / PTC / NASA & Liberty Technology Magnet High School, Jackson, TN, USA	
St. Louis Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed, Regional Finalist;	
After using VEX in the pre-season, Liberty Robotics build two identical robots, "Larry" for practice and "Shred" for competition. Expanding FIRST into a new geographical region, they assisted 3 other rookie teams with tools and technical assistance.	
<b>2779 "CH1RP"</b>	Archimedes
Baker Hughes-Centrilift / NASA / Oklahoma State Department of Education / Mullins Repair / Websites by Leslie / Quiktrip / Claremore Weld Shop / NGC Industries Inc. / RCB Bank / Adpro of OK, Inc. & Claremore Public Schools, Claremore, OK, USA	
Oklahoma City Regional: Rookie All Star;	
CH1RP, which stands for Claremore High's FIRST Robotics Program, is focused on more than just the robot. They are collecting money for an Engineers Without Borders project that will build simple ram pumps for use in rural South Africa.	
<b>2783 "Engineers of Tomorrow"</b>	Newton
Kentucky Engineering Foundation/NASA/FrankDesign, LLC & Oldham County Robotics, Crestwood, KY, USA	
Boilermaker Regional: Rookie All Star;	
Engineers of Tomorrow, with members from 4 counties, meet in a local machine shop. They made their debut as a pre-rookie at IRI using a robot from Team 554. They demonstrated the new control system and hosted an FLL Tournament.	
<b>2791 "Bionic Bison"</b>	Curie
NASA & Shaker High School, Latham, NY, USA	
Finger Lakes Regional: Rookie All Star;	
Bionic Bison, as part of Shaker Robotics, started in 2007 with VEX. This year they got a taste of competition when 3 members won an off-season event using a borrowed robot. They are mentored by Team 250, with a teacher legacy from Team 1726.	

**2809 "K-Botics"** Curie

Queen's University / Science '82 and '78 / Transformix Engineering / Ontario Centers of Excellence & Limestone District School Board & Kingston Collegiate Vocational Institute High School, Kingston, ON

Greater Toronto Regional: Rookie All Star;

With FIRST Alumni college mentors guiding them, K-Botics has been developing relationships with students in a Canadian First Nations school. They also mentored FLL Team # 87, the current Ontario champions, all while building a robot!

**2813 "Prospect Gear Heads"** Archimedes

NASA / BAE SYSTEMS / PTC / Google & Prospect High School, Saratoga, CA, USA

Silicon Valley Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed; Hawaii Regional: Regional Finalist

With a chassis borrowed from Team 668, the Prospect Gear Heads built a manipulator and competed in the CAL games. To spread the FIRST message, they've taught elementary students about robotics and volunteered as Santa's helpers!

**2815 "Los Pollos Locos"** Curie

NASA/University of South Carolina & Richland County School District #1, Columbia, SC

Palmetto Regional: Rookie All Star, Regional Finalist; Bayou Regional: Rookie Inspiration Award

The garnet and black team of Los Pollos Locos has members from five high schools and one middle school. They work with USC College of Engineering and Computing and a highlight was meeting the President of the University.

**2826 "Wave Robotics"** Archimedes

NASA / Triangle Mfg. Co. / Oshkosh Corp. / Blue Door Consulting / Price Engineering / EAA / Sadoff and Rudoy / Marvel Manufacturing Co. / Fox Valley Technical Coll & Oshkosh Area School Distt & Oshkosh North HS & Oshkosh West HSI & Our Lady of Lourdes HSI, Oshkosh, WI, USA

Wisconsin Regional: Rookie All Star; Minnesota 10000 Lakes Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed, Regional Winner

In the pre-season, Wave Robotics, with members from 4 high schools and home-schoolers hosted an FLL event and helped with sound effects for a Haunted Hangar. Bet it wasn't as scary as facing them at their 2nd regional where they finished undefeated!

**2834 "Bionic Barons"** Curie

The Chrysler Foundation/PTC/Oakland Community College & Andover High School, Bloomfield Hills, MI, USA

Michigan State Championships: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed; Travers City District: KPC&B Entrepreneurship; Detroit District: Rookie All Star

The Bionic Barons have a great website with a scouting database, a robot cost tracker, training materials on physics and mechanics of materials. In competition, they delivered all 4 empty cells to partners who made good on three of them!

**2836 "Team Beta"** Newton

ebm-papst Inc. & Nonnewaug High School, Woodbury, CT

Connecticut Regional: Rookie All Star;

Many of the members of Team Beta are also part of the Electrathon Club, and work on a small electric racing car and some have also had FLL experience. The team had a chance to work out the kinks at the pre-ship Suffield Shakedown.

**2844 "Stampede Robotics"** Galileo

NASA / General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems & Betty H. Fairfax High School, Laveen, AZ, USA

Arizona Regional: Rookie All Star;

A new team for a new school, Stampede Robotics has only 9th and 10th grades and helped out at the Future Freshman night. They used FTC as a stepping stone, and documented their build season progress step-by-step on their website.

**2848 "The All Sparks"** Archimedes

Burns Controls/J.C. Penny After School Fund/PTC & Jesuit College Prep High School, Dallas, TX, USA

Dallas Regional: Rookie All Star;

The All Sparks are based out of their school's Engineering Club. They have developed partnerships with mentors from PTC, JC Penney, and Burns Controls. In their pre-season they held a Star-Wars based catapult design contest!

**2866 "Project Mayhem"** Newton

BAE Systems/Fred Needel, Inc./US FIRST & Owings Mills High School, Owings Mills, MD, USA

Chesapeake Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed;

When a pipe burst, flooding the team's build room with four inches of water, Project Mayhem didn't give up. They learned about Gracious Professionalism when other teams helped with the robot reconstruction. They compete both in FRC and VEX.

**2874 "Eagles"** Archimedes

May Technology & Mfg. Inc / NASA / Hollis and Miller Architect's / Honeywell FM&T / KCSout & Grain Valley RV School Dist. High School, Grain Valley, MO, USA

Greater Kansas City Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed;

The Eagles hail from a PLTW school, and sold gasoline as a unique fundraiser! Their team motto is "Don't touch the Red Button!" The Red Button is prominently displayed on their website. It has been pushed and we've seen the results!

<b>2875 "CyberHawks"</b>	Newton
Cold Spring Harbor High School, Cold Spring Harbor, NY SBPLI Long Island Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed;	
The CyberHawks cut their teeth at an off-season event using a spare robot from another team. The catch? They had to fix the robot first! Their school has a woodshop, so building the crate was easy. The robot? Built with hand tools, new and borrowed.	
<b>2877 "Ligerbots"</b>	Curie
NASA / PTC / Boston Engineering Corporation / Raytheon / Textron & Newton Public Schools, Newton, MA, USA Boston Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed; Connecticut Regional: Rookie Inspiration Award, Highest Rookie Seed	
Forming one team from cross town rivals, the Lions and Tigers have merged into the Ligerbots! Their mascot was popular, as was the HS Break Dance team that came to cheer them on! Their robot is even listed in a Top 25 list on Chief Delphi!	
<b>2884 "EngiKnights"</b>	Curie
BAE Systems/PRIOR & Notre Dame High School, Caguas, PR, USA Florida Regional: Rookie All Star;	
The EngiKnights are EngiStrong! And well rounded - all team members are also involved in other clubs or activities. Starting with VEX, they won 1st place at their very first competition! To get here, they have sold everything from popcorn to watches!	
<b>2890 "Hawk Robotics"</b>	Newton
NASA/BAE Systems Norfolk Ship Repair/ECPI College of Technology/A and W Contractors Inc./General Electric (GE)/Avineon & Hickory High School, Chesapeake, VA, USA NASA / VCU Regional: Rookie All Star;	
Hawk Robotics was formed after success in a Technology Student Association state robotics competition made the students want to take it to the next level! They are mentored by Team 1793 and are the first team from their school district.	
<b>2910 "Jack in the Bot"</b>	Galileo
Terry's Machine / OSPI / Boeing / BAE SYSTEMS / Altair / PNW AIAA / FGOD1138 / Shigeru Tsubota / Platt / Computer Concepts / Fluke & Henry M. Jackson High School, Mill Creek, WA Microsoft Seattle Regional: Rookie All Star;	
For Jack in the Bot, safety comes FIRST and passing the team safety test is required to work on machine tools. The team has an organizational chart and officially elected officers. Reaching out to the community, they hosted a booth at Oktoberfest!	

<b>2915 "Riverdale Robotics Pandamonium"</b>	Archimedes
The Boeing Company / BAE Systems & Riverdale High School, Portland, OR, USA Oregon Regional: Rookie All Star;	
You need to do the math to find Riverdale Robotics Pandamonium's team number on their website. Organized into subteams, they used a blog to document their build season. With an international flair, their website is translated into four different language	
<b>2936 "Gatorzilla"</b>	Galileo
NASA/Texas Direct Auto/Oyster Creek Rotary Club/Fort Bend Focus, LLC/Jacobs, ESCG/Attractions Unlimited, Inc./Pickett Enterprises/Sport Performance Touch Up Specialist/New Braunfels Communications, Inc/Merchants' Choice Card Services of Texas & Dickinson High School, Dickinson, TX Lone Star Regional: Rookie All Star;	
With their pit decorated as "The Swamp," Gatorzilla was a hit, receiving honors of "Coolest Pit" and "Remarkable Rookie" from other teams. They have done outreach to 8th graders in their community to teach them about FIRST Robotics.	
<b>2970 "eSchool eBots"</b>	Newton
Kenosha Area Business Alliance/SRT-Nyro/Gateway Technical College & Kenosha eSchool High School, Kenosha, WI, USA Minnesota North Star Regional: Rookie All Star, Regional Winner; Wisconsin Regional: Regional Finalist, Highest Rookie Seed, GM Industrial Design	
With a robot to watch out for here in Atlanta, the eSchool eBots learned about cooperation by sharing build space with Team 1652. Their robot has fan propulsion, and the team reached the finals at both of their regionals!	
<b>2992 "Prometheus"</b>	Curie
NASA / LEAP / St. Tammany Parish School Board & Mandeville High School, Mandeville, LA, USA Bayou Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed;	
It may look like their heads are on fire, but it is just Prometheus and their robot "Dante" that are hot! If you like literature, you should read their NASA essay: it's written as an epic poem! The LA Governor's wife drove their robot during practice at	
<b>2996 "Cougars Gone Wired"</b>	Newton
NASA / Lockheed Martin / Aeroflex / Vertec Tool, Inc / IEEE / ITT & Coronado High School & Colorado Springs School District 11, Colorado Springs, CO Colorado Regional: Rookie All Star, Regional Winner, Website Award, Autodesk Visualization;	
Coronado Robotics, Cougars Gone Wired, developed an org. chart with a full corporate structure. Members had to get a 100% on a safety test to be able to work on the robot. They are also Autodesk Visualization Design Competition Finalists. Wow!	

**3009 "High Scalers"** Archimedes

NASA/ Eldorado Energy/ Sunrise Rotary/ Goodfellow Corp./ Timberwolf Const./ R & D Draney/ Boulder City Chamber of Comm./ Barth Electronics, Inc/ Bureau of Reclamation- Boulder Dam/ H & G Begley/ M Hickey/ G Heilman/ L & N Richner/ Richner Air Conditioning/ Amerityre/ B.C. Canvas/ Eldorado Rock/ Boulder City Home Hardware/ Hershel Mooney & Boulder City High School, Boulder City, NV

Las Vegas Regional: Rookie All Star;

The High Scalers are named after high scaling construction workers of the nearby Hoover Dam. Their robot "Eagle 1" was built in a former broadcast room - "Skunk Works" and was 50% overweight the first time it was weighed! Now it is a lean machine!

**3010 "Centerburg Trojans"** Curie

NASA / NASA Glen Research Center / The Community Foundation of Mt. Vernon and Knox County / AEP Ohio / AmVets Centerburg Post 59 / Nord Family Foundation / Martha Holden Jennings Foundation / SMART Consortium & Centerburg High School, Centerburg , OH

Buckeye Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed, Regional Finalist;

Centerburg Trojans have members from the local HS as well as home schoolers. Not formally affiliated with the school, they still received School Board recognition for their success. They hosted a community open house before shipping their robot!

**3020 "Rancho Santa Margarita"** Archimedes

Boeing & Santa Margarita Catholic High School, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA, USA

Los Angeles Regional: Rookie All Star;

With only 5 team members, Rancho Robotics has tenacity! Because of delays in forming the team, they had 13 days to build the robot and worked 8-12 hour days to catch up! A unique feature, the robot has skateboard grip tape to help move the balls!

**3059 "Riverside Envirobotics"** Galileo

Andrew and Judith Economos Foundation/IBM/Manhattan College School Of Engineering & Riverside High School, Yonkers, NY, USA

New York City Regional: Rookie All Star;

Riverside Envirobotics hail from Riverside HS for Engineering & Design (R.E.D.), Yonkers' first environmentally friendly high school. They were mentored by Team 2334. With only 8-10th graders in their school, they didn't meet as a team until after kickoff

**3062 "Spartan Robotics"** Archimedes

PTC/Heinz Endowments & St. Joseph High School, Natrona Heights, PA, USA

Pittsburgh Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed;

Spartan Robotics began in 2006/2007 school year with FTC, then VEX, and now FRC! Their VEX teams won the "Excellence" awards at their regional and because of their success were encouraged by PTC to enter into the FRC competition.

**3075 "Hadarim"** Newton

HBA system integrators & Hadarim High School, Hod-Ha'Sharon, Central, Israel

Israel Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed, Regional Finalist;

Hailing from Israel, Hadarim was mentored by 1577, and had a chance to work with them on the control system beta test. They have named their robot "RoboRabak." Their motto is listed as "Chuck Norris." Do we need to say more?

**3091 "Project Success Robotics"**

Archimedes

AT&T / NASA Space Center / Lockheed Martin / Johnson Research and Development Co., Inc. / EMC / Atlanta Gas Light / Georgia Power Company / SRT-Nypro / Georgia Tech Robojackets / 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc. & 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA, USA

Peachtree Regional: Rookie All Star;

Project Success Robotics hosted a FLL Qualifying Tournament, the first FLL sanctioned competition hosted by an African-American organization. They mentored younger students at a math & science camp and held a robotics workshop.

**3105 "Labuyo"** Curie

Science Education Institute & Philippine Science High School, Manilla, Philippines

Hawaii Regional: Rookie All Star, Highest Rookie Seed;

First FRC team from the Philippines, Team Lagablab wowed the audience in Hawaii by performing the Filipino dance called the Tinikling, and taught the Governor part of it. Lagablab means flame, burning strong and bright, and their robot is "Larry Labuyo."

**3115 "Robo Panthers"** Curie

SRT & Detroit Public Schools & WEST SIDE ACADEMY High School, Detroit, MI, USA

Michigan State Championships: Rookie Inspiration Award; Traverse City District - Rookie Inspiration Award, Highest Rookie Seed

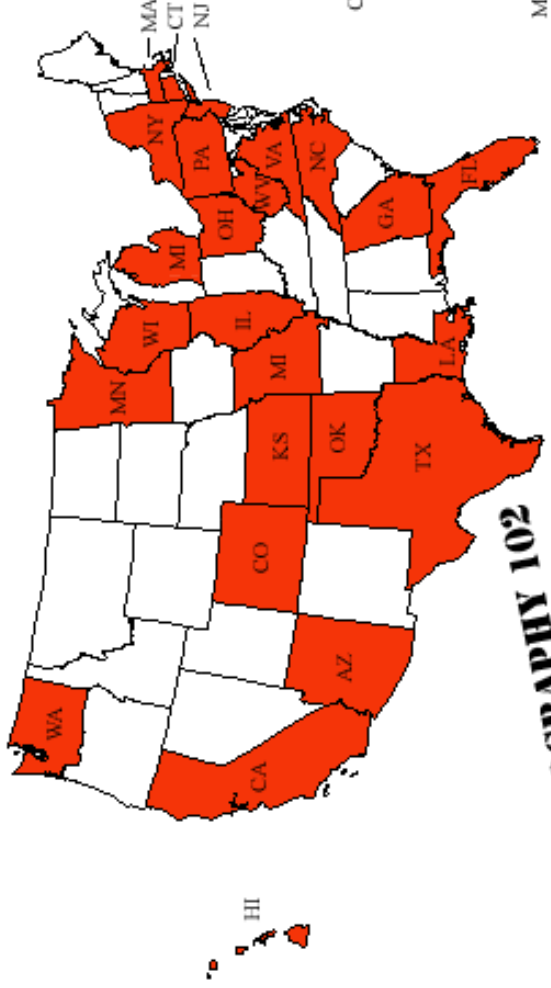
Detroit District Participant

Although mentored by Team 503, the Robo Panthers are not just little froggies! Their robot features an efficient helix lifter and uses brushes to both acquire balls and dump them. They spent hours on the practice field perfecting their driver skills!

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**State Names**

- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Kansas
- Louisiana
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- Texas
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin

**ROOKIE GEOGRAPHY 102**

Rookie teams represent  
25 out of 50 states