



# RAGE Robotics Team 173



## SOUTHEAST MASS DISTRICT EVENT

**From Build Season to Competition Season** — On Tuesday, February 19, RAGE put Marvin (our 2019 robot) in the bag to wait it out until the week of our first competition. During the week of March 4, we had 6 hours to work on the robot out of the bag. Between snow days, we managed to have 3 productive meetings as we prepared for our Week 2 competition at Bridgewater-Raynham High School in Bridgewater, MA. In that time, we tuned up our elevator, worked on finishing up the wiring, tested our programming, and did some work on the claw. We also worked on all of the “extra” competition prep (spirit, awards, scouting) so we were ready for 3/9. It was a true collaborative effort and we are happy to report that we never reached out-of-control chaos mode!



Our Chairman's Group with their presentation props



Going over our competition schedule



Friends



Help for our pits from our FLL kids!



Bumpers!!



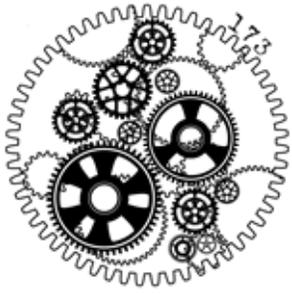
Adjustments to the grabber



Finishing up “the box” for scouting.



Sisters!



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63 days after finding out what the 2019 "game" was, we were on our way...

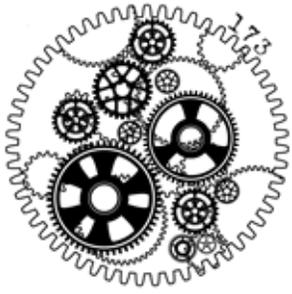
Friday—March 8

On Friday afternoon, 36 RAGE students and a group of excited mentors made the drive to the north (and east) to Bridgewater, Mass before our early morning start on Saturday. We had a small group head to the school to set up the pits, make some last minutes tweaks to the robot and get it inspected, get a little practice in and make sure we were ready to go Saturday. The rest of us had a great team dinner at the 99 Restaurant (we have to give them a shoutout for welcoming 40 people on a



Thanks to our friends and family who sponsored us through the "un"fundraiser! Your encouraging words were displayed on top of our pit façade—a great lift after each match!





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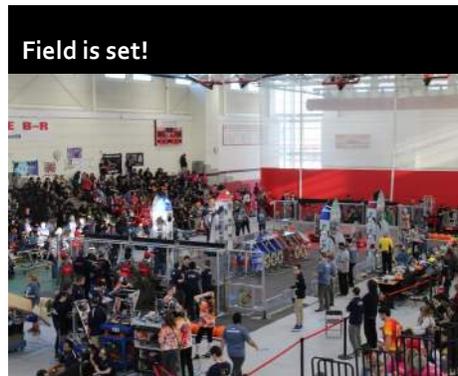


## SOUTHEAST MASS DISTRICT EVENT

**Saturday—March 9**—At 8:00 am, the doors to the high school opened and RAGE (along with a few hundred of our closest robotics friends) rushed the gym searching for the “perfect” seats we’d be occupying for the next 2 days. Success! With our seats secured, the drive team and pit crew began prepping for our first practice match on the field, our scouting crew got their area set up so we could be prepared for all of our matches and the rest of us explored and waited for opening ceremonies at 10:00 am.



Opening Ceremonies—finally!



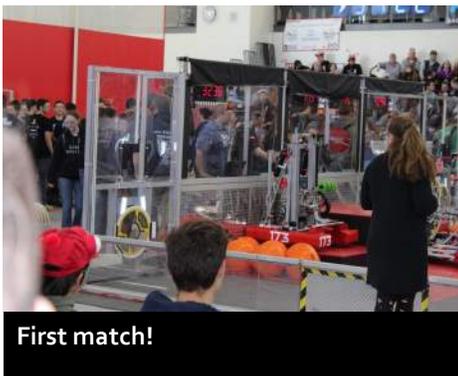
Field is set!



Robots ready for 1st practice match!

**Schedule for the day: Our Chairman’s group presented at 11:00 and we had 8 matches to compete in!**

We started off the day with high hopes and our robot and drive team did not disappoint! We had 3 wins to start the day and ended the day with 5 wins, 3 losses and ranked 11th out of the 38 teams in attendance. Our drive team continued to improve with each match as they became more comfortable maneuvering around the field, our pit crew worked all day long to make any necessary adjustments before the next match, and our scouting group was gathering data throughout the day so we could both strategize for each match as well as figure out which teams we could team up with that would best complement our abilities during the playoffs. Our team spirit was off the charts and everyone was having fun! Lastly, our Chairman’s group did a phenomenal job—putting on a 7 minute presentation to a panel of judges to showcase our team and our outreach efforts.



First match!

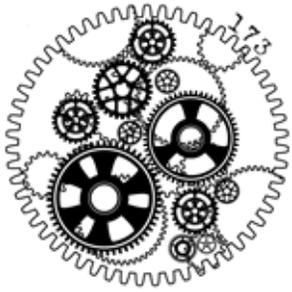


Chairman’s Group and mentors



Pit crew—always working!

The next page includes a compilation of photos from the weekend.



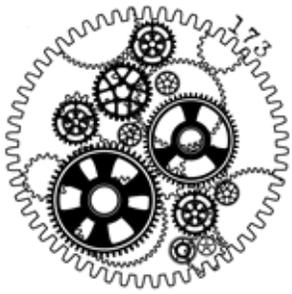
# RAGE Robotics

## Team 173



### SOUTHEAST MASS DISTRICT EVENT





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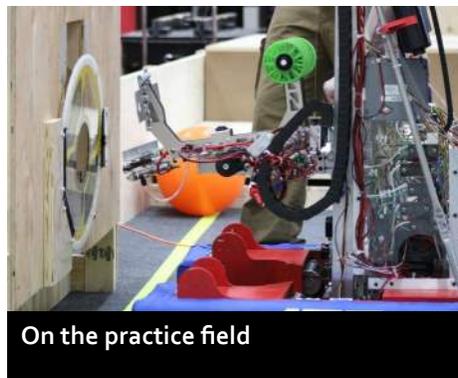


## SOUTHEAST MASS DISTRICT EVENT

**Sunday—March 10**—After a short night at the hotel (the time change did NOT help), we were back at the school by 8:00 am for another 4 matches before alliance selection. We knew we had some tough matches ahead of us, competing against some of the top ranked teams, but we held our own and finished better than expected with 2 wins and 2 losses. Our overall record for the qualification rounds was 7 and 5 and we had earned enough ranking points to be ranked 13th out of the 38 teams. At this point, we had also developed a reputation as the wildly loud cheering team and brought back some old school cheers with the host team.



Drive team getting ready



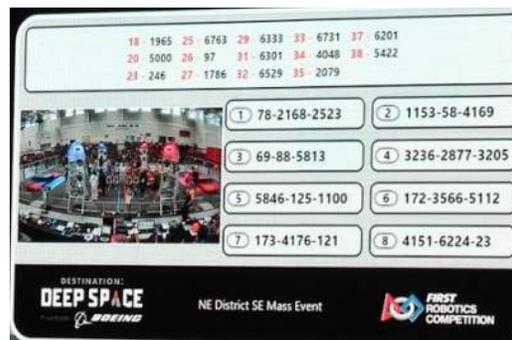
On the practice field



RAGE kids are ready!

### Alliance Selection!

After a day and a half of qualification matches, it was time to form the top 8 alliances that would be competing in the playoffs on Sunday afternoon. The top 8 ranked teams are designated as the Alliance Captains and are given the opportunity to choose their partners. The top team picks first and can choose anyone, independent of where they are ranked. At this point, the teams are looking for robots that best complement themselves. If a team is consistent with placing the hatch panels, they will want a team that can quickly follow up with placing cargo and this is where a team's scouting ability is critical. With the alliance selections, #1 chose #3 and everyone "shifted" up so that the original #4 alliance captain was the new #3 captain and the #9 ranked team was then the new #8 alliance captain. After everyone shifted, the #2 alliance chose the 7th ranked team and everyone shifted again. This continued until RAGE, ranked #13 overall, was the captain of the #7 alliance! Since moving to Tolland, RAGE has not been an alliance captain at a district event but no worries, our awesome Scouting representative, Madalyn, had all of the information needed and made the best choices available, choosing Team 4176 (The Iron Tigers) and Team 121 (The Rhode Warriors) to move on with us into the playoffs!





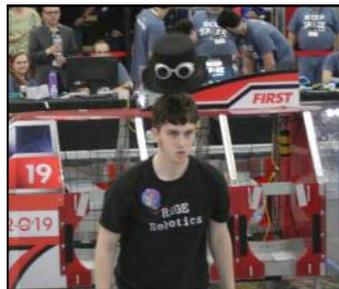
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**Playoffs:** After some strategizing with our alliance partners and lunch, the playoffs began. As the 7th alliance we were facing a best of 3 matchup with the #2 alliance led by Team 1153 (Walpole Robotics Revolution). To defeat them we would need to have 2 flawless matches *and* our opponents would need to make some mistakes. That's where our luck ran out—while we had 2 great matches and really kept it competitive, we weren't able to compete with their climbing in the last 30 seconds and were out of the playoffs after 2 matches. We continued to cheer on the remaining teams and saw some great finals matches!

Before heading out, we took the opportunity to get a little more robot time on the practice field and worked on our climb. We found a few modifications that need to be made but we hope to be climbing in Rhode Island!!



Woodie Flowers Award nominees (Mrs. Lewis)

### Team Spirit Award write-up:

The judges would like to formally request that this team sit on the OPPOSITE end of the field next year. You cheered for your teammates. You cheered for your alliance partners. And, when you were bored, you literally cheered for both alliances at the same time! Your costumes, your energy, and your unrelenting volume got the gears turning in the judges' minds.

**Congratulations Team #173!**

**Awards:** While we didn't win the competition, we did win the Spirit Award!



**Up next: 3/22 — 3/24 (matches start Saturday 3/23): Bryant University, Smithfield, RI**