



GEARING UP *Reviewing different graphs and consulting the back of different textbooks, TEAMS members Daran Zhou, Eric Shang, Andrew Chuka and Kevin Choi prepare for the squad's upcoming competition.*

Eight sophomore TEAMS members edge schools from across the U.S. to take home national title.

In a nationwide competition involving the brightest minds and teams in the nation, the tenth grade and under division of Tests of Engineering, Aptitude, Math and Science (TEAMS) captured the first place title over the summer.

"The guys competed against schools from all across the country in tasks," science instructor Ken Owens '89 said. "The group had to solve engineering problems on paper, design something to solve a particular task, write a paper, and give

a presentation. The group placed high in all the categories and took first overall."

Recently renamed, the competition used to be called the Jets competition. St. Mark's squads have a history with successful Jets competitions as shown by the numerous plaques and trophies lining the upstairs science building hallway and the interior of the AP chemistry room.

"Although this was only the third TEAMS competition," Owens said, "we have placed well

in the three and have won many of the older Jets competitions before the name changed. Just look on the second floor hallway."

The TEAMS squad continues on preparing for the annual competitions with the goal of reaching the national competition once again. In their way stand regionals, then district and finally nationals. No squad from any school has ever gone back to back years as reigning winners of the competition.

WORKING TOGETHER

‘QUALIFYING FOR STATE WAS THE CULMINATION OF ALL OF THE HARD WORK WE PUT IN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. SEEING THE RESULTS OF SO MANY HOURS OF PREPARATION WAS BOTH GRATIFYING AND EXHILARATING. — ROBOTICS MEMBER **BEN CLAYMAN**, RECOUNTING THE TRIUMPH OF THE SEASON.

no short circuits here

Robotics members work to finish robot for competitions.

Minds cringe, hands ache and a band of brothers pushes toward a single purpose. Not one that will be stitched on a banner in the gym or talked about by the whole school, but one that makes these brothers different from everybody else. This is the robotics team.

What knits this group of guys so closely is unwavering commitment.

"We spend up to a total of six hours a week on robotics until about two weeks before competition," senior Ward Rushton said. "During those two weeks, we drive the robot we have already tested, prototyped, and built. It's just driving and practicing with the

robot that takes us the most time. In the final two weeks the hours range from 30 to 45 and hours a week."

After two weeks of non-stop 2 a.m. nights at the school, team members built a bond that would never be broken, purchased with baggy eyes and many headaches. As they walked out of the dark school during the wee hours of the morning after finishing the robot, they felt the experience was worth the sacrifice.

"The guys that you spend so much time with each night, makes all the stressful work so much better," Rushton said.



AFTER HOURS *Working late after school, Rex Northcut, Ben Clayman, Andrew Chuka, Brian Buckingham, William Haga and Andrew Smith add touches to their robot for an upcoming competition against local schools.*

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RED BULLS CONSUMED BY ROBOTICS CO-PRESIDENT ANDREW CHUKA THE WEEK BEFORE THE COMPETITION

writing around the clock

ReMarker staff members work after hours and on weekends to produce a monthly newspaper for the school.



AROUND THE TABLE *Reviewing pages for an upcoming publication deadline, sophomores Jimmy Rodriguez and Rett Daugbjerg carefully edit and sharpen the issues' spreads.*

The newspaper team delivers no matter what. Their show goes on, no matter how hard the road is. Every member of the 70-person staff works hard and embraces the commitment that comes with being on staff.

"We have to make 32 pages in six days," ReMarker editor-in-chief Phillip Smart said. "Some weeks we will be in production when we are actually making the pages and that week is a really intense week. Some kids will stay after school for quite a while designing pages."

After weeks of constant late nights at the school, The ReMarker completes production week and sends the monthly issue to the press, waiting for it to return to campus printed and ready to distribute.

"The newspaper makes me happy," Smart said. "Being able to hold it and say I was a part of the team that put this together. It's such a great feeling."