

ROBOT ARMY

eighth grader creates self-thinking robot

Eighth grader Jacob Segura created Gorzycki's first self thinking robot all by himself.

The robot is controlled by a program that Segura created using the computer. The robot spins in one direction until it sees something then moves toward that object.

The robot is designed to sumo-fight other robots in the class.

"I tried to think of something people are intimidated by, and came up with the robot that thinks for itself," Segura said.

Segura started creating the robot at the beginning of the year. The



Segura operates his robot in the Tech Lab. Photo by Samuel Hayek

achievement. "I have never seen anything like it before," Howard said.

Howard has been teaching in the Technology department since the school has opened in 2009.

Howard describes his experience in tech.

"I used to be a programmer, and when I sold my company I wanted to stay in the tech field," Howard said. "I decided to teach middle school tech because I have kids this age and I like the energy and excitement middle school students have everyday."

program that runs the robot, plays itself over and over until the robot has succeeded.

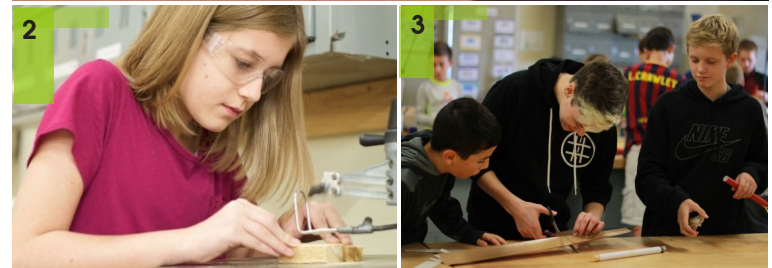
Technology teacher Jon Howard was impressed by his student's



Cutting wood, seventh grader Ben Forrest focuses on the machine. Forrest used the machine for his birdhouse. "In Woodshop we use some dangerous tools and knives that can sometimes be scary to use," Forrest said. Photo by Mandy Pedneau



Concentrating on painting his car, eighth grader Austin Moorman focuses hard on finishing his project. Toothless the dragon is from how to train your dragon. "My model of the CO2 car is Toothless the Dragon," Moorman said. Photo by Megan Williams



1. Focusing on fixing their robot, seventh graders Robert Tafoya and Juliane Payne get it ready to race. Photo by Samuel Hayek **2. With her eyes** on her work, seventh grader Hannah Shepard uses the scroll saw on her birdhouse project. Photo by Mandy Pedneau **3. Constructing their project,** eighth graders Diego Moreland, Jake Bradbury, and Logan Mayberry bring their rocket to life. Photo by Aspen Kissinger