



Coconino High School Robotics

FRC Team 2486 · The CocoNuts · Flagstaff, AZ

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RE: **COCONUTS AND ASTRONUTS FIRST TEAMS KICKOFF FIRST ROBOTICS SEASON IN FLAGSTAFF;
NUMEROUS FIRST EVENTS HAPPENING IN FLAGSTAFF 2015/2016 SEASON**

The Coconino High School FIRST Robotics Teams “The CocoNuts” and the “AstroNuts” kicked off the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) season in Northern Arizona Saturday November 7 at Coconino High School. The AstroNuts hosted the 1st FIRST Tech Challenge Qualifying Tournament for the 2015/2016 season in the nation.

Ten teams from around Arizona competed in this year’s game, FIRST RES-Q. **The 2015/16 FIRST Tech Challenge game, FIRST[®] RES-QSM**, is modeled after actual rescue situations faced by mountain explorers all over the globe. Played by two Alliances of two robots each, robots will score points by: “resetting” Rescue beacons; delivering Rescue Climbers to a shelter; parking on the mountain; and parking in the Rescue beacon repair zone or floor goal. Robots may also score points by retrieving debris from the playing field and placing them in mountain or floor goals, and also by hanging from a pull-up bar during the last 30-seconds of a match.

The winning alliance was composed of the Mogollon Rim Jaegers from Heber, AZ, and the AstroNuts from Coconino High School. The Inspire Award Winner was the Mogollon Rim Jaegers. The complete list of award winners is below as well as pictures from the event taken by CocoNuts senior Candace Manygoats.

The Flagstaff Qualifying Tournament was just the first of 10 events for the CocoNuts. The team will host 2 other events locally at Coconino High School, and travel to sponsor and volunteer at 7 others in Arizona and New Mexico. The FIRST Tech Challenge season culminates at the Arizona FIRST Tech Challenge Championship February 27 at Coconino High School when 36 teams from Arizona and New Mexico will compete for a chance to advance to the Western Super Regional in California.

The next event is the Flagstaff FIRST Lego League Qualifying Tournament on December 5 at Coconino High School. Thirty teams of elementary and middle school students will compete in this year’s game, 2015 **FIRST[®] LEGO League TRASH TREKSM** Challenge, which explores the fascinating world of trash. From collection, to sorting, to smart production and reuse, there is more to your trash than meets the eye. Join **FIRST** LEGO League teams on a Trash Trek to discover the hidden (or not so hidden) world of trash!

A complete list of events is listed below. All FIRST events are free and open to the public.

March 11-12, the CocoNuts will compete with 50+ teams from 7 states at the Northern Arizona University Walkup Skydome in the 2016 FIRST Robotics Competition game (which will be revealed at kickoff January 9.)

Each event needs numerous volunteers! Judges, referees, people movers, robot inspectors, registration volunteers, and more! Please volunteer your time to help continue making FIRST in Northern Arizona a resounding success!

Visit www.usfirst.org/volunteer to sign up as a volunteer.

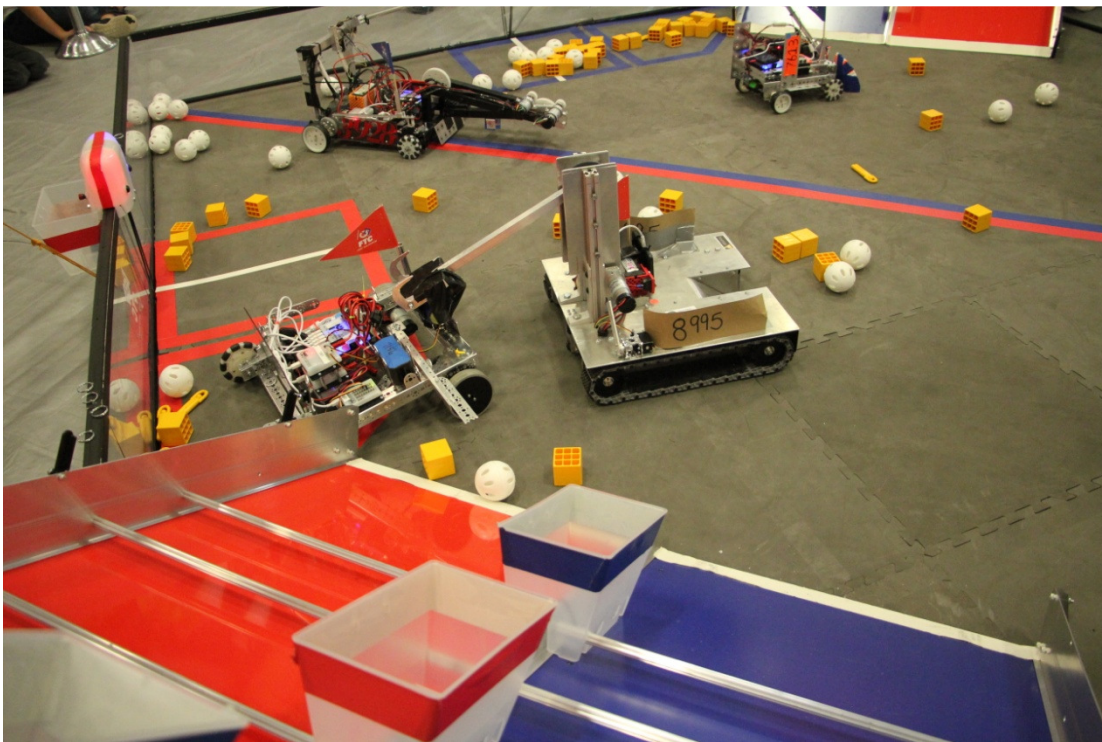


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Flagstaff FIRST Tech Challenge Qualifying Tournament Awards

Award	Team #	Team Name	Organization	Hometown
Judges Award	7613	Mustangs	Sinagua Middle School	Flagstaff, AZ
Control Award	8081	Knights of the Lab Table	Gilbert Christian High School	Gilbert, AZ
Motivate Award	6900	Cyber Hounds	Winslow High School	Winslow, AZ
PTC Design Award	7167	Mecha Hawks	Buckeye Union High School	Buckeye, AZ
Rockwell Collins Innovate Award	7156	Wolves Robotics	Estrella Foothills High School	Goodyear, AZ
Connect Award	8640	Trojan Robotics	Valley Christian High School	Chandler, AZ
Think Award	8570	InFALAbles	Flagstaff Arts and Leadership Academy	Flagstaff, AZ
Finalist Alliance	8640	Trojan Robotics	Valley Christian High School	Chandler, AZ
	8570	InFALAbles	Flagstaff Arts and Leadership Academy	Flagstaff, AZ
Winning Alliance	8995	Mogollon Rim Jaegers	Mogollon High School	Heber, AZ
	3928	AstroNuts	Coconino High School	Flagstaff, AZ
Outstanding Volunteer		Eric Eliason		
Inspire Award (highest award)	8995	Mogollon Rim Jaegers	Mogollon High School	Heber, AZ
Teams advancing to the Arizona FTC Championship	8995	Mogollon Rim Jaegers	Mogollon High School	Heber, AZ
	7167	Mecha Hawks	Buckeye Union High School	Buckeye, AZ

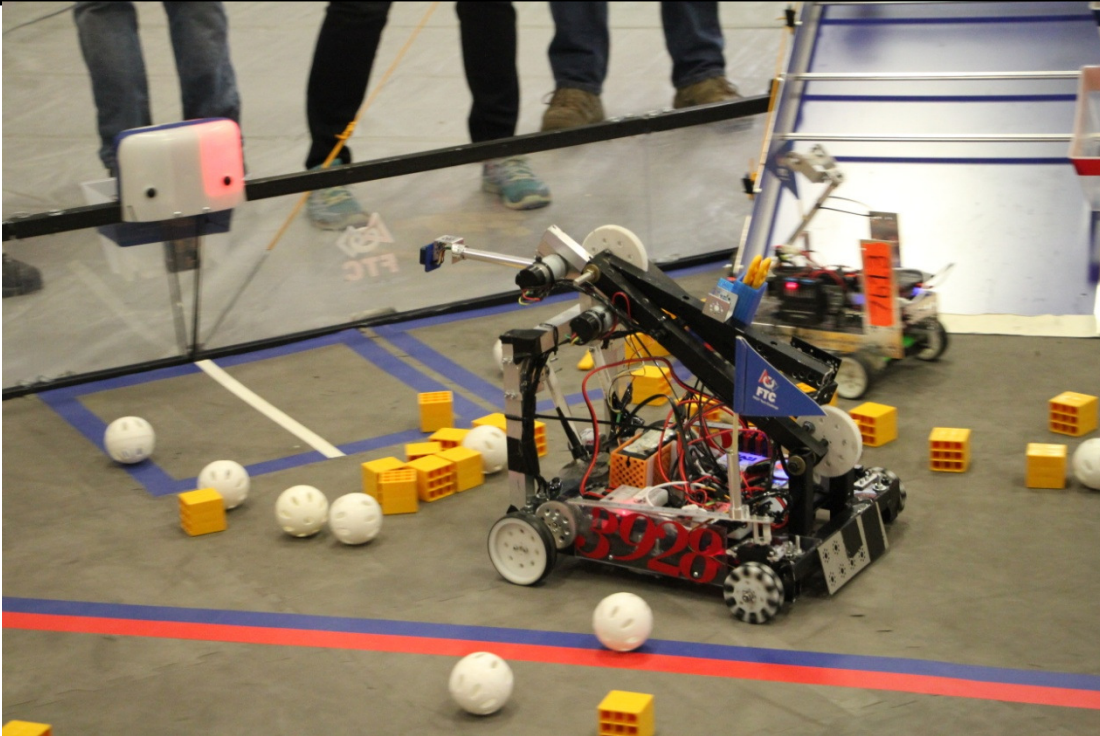


Robots playing FIRST RES-Q as seen from the top of the mountain on Saturday at Coconino High School.



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The AstroNuts robot attempts to rescue some climbers in the safety zone at Saturday's Flagstaff FIRST Tech Challenge Qualifying Tournament.

Flagstaff FIRST Robotics Events:

- Dec. 5 Flagstaff FIRST Lego League Qualifying Tournament (Coconino High School)
- Feb. 27 Arizona FIRST Tech Challenge Championship (Coconino High School)
- March 11-12 Arizona North FIRST Robotics Competition Regional (NAU Skydome)

Arizona FIRST LEGO League Events:

- Nov. 14 Winslow High School**
- Nov. 21** Payne Jr High (Queen Creek); MetroTech HS (Phoenix); ASU Polytech (Mesa); Mohave MS (Scottsdale); Sonoran Science Academy (Tucson);
- Dec. 5** Carl Hayden HS (Phoenix); Bioscience HS (Phoenix); Salvation Army Kroc Center (Phoenix); Red Mountain HS (Mesa); **Coconino HS (Flagstaff)**; Buena HS (Sierra Vista); Wilson K-8 (Tucson); AZ Western College (Yuma)

Arizona FIRST Tech Challenge Events:

- Nov. 7 Flagstaff, Coconino High School
- Nov. 21 Chandler, Valley Christian High School
- Dec. 5 Tucson, Sonoran Science Academy
- Dec. 12 Phoenix, Bioscience High School
- Jan. 16 New Mexico, Albuquerque
- Jan. 30 Goodyear, Estrella Foothills High School
- Feb. 27 Arizona FTC Championship, Flagstaff



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Arizona FIRST Robotics Competition Events:

March 9-12, 2016: Arizona North Regional at the Northern Arizona University Skydome in Flagstaff
April 6-9, 2016: Arizona West Regional at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix

About the CocoNuts:

The CocoNuts Robotics Team from Coconino High School in Flagstaff, Arizona, is the first robotics team of its kind in Northern Arizona. Since our founding in 2007, the CocoNuts have been the recipients of numerous prestigious awards as the Inspire Award, Engineering Inspiration Award, the Woodie Flowers Award, and the Dean's List Finalist Award. They are the six-time winners of the Regional Chairman's Award, the highest honor given to a team at a FIRST Robotics Competition event.

The CocoNuts spend countless hours working in their community to spread the excitement of FIRST Robotics, mentor many of the younger FIRST teams in Flagstaff and the surrounding areas, run a summer robotics program for younger students, host the Northern Arizona FIRST Lego League events, and sponsor the Arizona FIRST Tech Challenge program. Visit www.fusd1robotics.org for more information and to get involved. **GO NUTS!**

About FIRST[®]

Accomplished inventor [Dean Kamen](#) founded [FIRST[®]](#) (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, N.H., [FIRST](#) designs accessible, innovative programs to build self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology, and engineering. With support from three out of every five Fortune 500 companies and more than \$14 million in college scholarships, the not-for-profit organization hosts the [FIRST[®] Robotics Competition](#) (FRC[®]) and [FIRST[®] Tech Challenge](#) (FTC[®]) for high-school students, [FIRST[®] LEGO[®] League](#) (FLL[®]) for 9 to 14-year-olds, (9 to 16-year-olds outside the U.S. and Canada) and [Junior FIRST[®] LEGO[®] League](#) (Jr.FLL[™]) for 6 to 9-year-olds. Gracious Professionalism[™] is a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community. To learn more about [FIRST](#), go to www.usfirst.org.

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The CocoNuts are partners with:
Flagstaff Unified School District #1
WL Gore and Associates
Northern Arizona University
Coconino High School



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The CocoNuts are proudly sponsored by:

Northern Arizona FIRST Alliance Partners:
Phoenix Analysis & Design Technologies

Northern Arizona FIRST Fanatics:
GKC Geoscience LLC
Mr. Steve Sanghi

And the generous and continuing support of the Flagstaff Community.