

San Dieguito Academy



Newsletter Fourth Quarter 2009

KICKOFF

Which of the following doesn't belong?

- A. Spring
- B. Summer
- C. Fall
- D. Winter
- E. Build

Four of these are intercontinental seasons; Fall is what uncoordinated people do. (You may have been thinking of "autumn," but the term "fall" only applies to North America, whereas FIRST has chapters in South America, Europe, and eastern Asia. If you guessed C, congratulations, you have the weird type of critical thinking skills most necessary for build season 2009!)

It is, as the phrase is so often put, that time of the year once again. That sleepless, strenuous build season where robots are born has been has come to the legendary engineers (lengendineers?) of 2102. Build



season kickoff happened Saturday January 3rd, at High Tech High in San Diego, when FIRST officially released its newest mechanical challenge. Finally.

We arrived in a squadron of three cars, taking a staggered formation as we advanced upon the high school doors. The ominous, white-capped pavilion in front blasted Latin sensation Ricky Martin's "Olé, Olé, Olé," High Tech High's innards were glutted

with masses of other robotics team members getting chummy with strangers.

We crammed into our folding chairs when they announced the presentation. It was in this presentation that they would reveal this year's game and its rules, around which we will construct another robot. It's possible that they were being cynical when they made us wait through 45 minutes of other stuff (model robotics teams who donated books and met presidents and constantly pumped their fists in the air, FIRST founder Dean Kamen's speech of dazzling length). After a game show parody during which death by anticipation seemed all too possible, Kamen and his associates unveiled Lunacy.

The name describes both the game's lunar theme and its inspired insanity. The biggest twist is in the playing field (named "the Crater") is made of a special material meant to replicate the effects of the moon's one-sixth gravity on the tires' traction, meaning it's virtually impossible for a robot not to slide. Lunacy is Robotics on Ice.

Team members are already scheming about how to work around this handicap. "We're going to need make the bumpers really strong," said freshman Sabine Sinclair. "Reevaluate our ideas of physics, be creative, figure out how to make the robot throw stuff."



Freshman Isaac LeRuth practices shooting "moonrocks" and "super cells" during a session in Mr. Berend's metal shop. Teams score points for each one that makes it into the trailer seen in the foreground.

All robots are attached to a trailer in which other robots and players on the sidelines try to score balls called "moon rocks," "empty cells," and "super cells." Each match begins with a 15 minute autonomous mode followed by two minutes of control. If scored, "moon rocks" and "empty cells" are worth two points. If an empty cell undergoes a special process, it becomes a super cell, and if scored in the last 20

BUICK INVITATIONAL DISCOUNT GOLF TICKETS NOW ON SALE

The Buick invitational golf tournament is coming up at Torrey Pines golf course starting **Tuesday Feb 3rd** and running thru **Sunday Feb 8, 2009**. The SDA Sports Council is selling tickets which can be used for any day of the tourney for **only \$15**. Regular admission for weekends with advance purchase is \$ 26 or \$32 at the door if purchased outside the fundraiser.

The best part about this fundraiser is that 100% of the proceeds from ticket sales is donated back to SDA to benefit sports programs.

To buy tickets, please contact your Athletic Council team representative, Sheila Durkin in the SDA Foundation office or Keith or Cheryl Kelley at the4kelleys@roadrunner.com

seconds of the game, is worth 15 points.

No doubt, the prospect of low friction with a regulation set of slippery wheels is intimidating. "I'm terrified," said senior Haley Kovacs. "I thought I had some idea of what I would be doing this year compared to last year, but I really don't." Kovacs is looking forward to the challenge, however, because it will force the team to innovate. "[It] really got us out of that nice little comfortable place we had."

Nick Foote, a previous member of team 2102 and now one of its mentors, is confident that the team will rise to the occasion. "I think it's the same as in past years where we see the original idea and we're just overwhelmed by, 'Ugh, I have no idea how we're going to do this, I hate them for making it this hard!' But after a couple minutes or so, we start to realize that yeah, we can do this."

Now is when we need cash and manpower the most. While build team toils away on SolidWorks, marketing is drawing up business plans to attract sponsors. If there is anything you would like to do, even if it's just to come cheer us on at one of the competitions (which are a load of fun anyways), feel free to contact Matt or Asa sometime, if they aren't too busy to yell at you for Bawls.

Now is when Team 2102 needs cash and manpower the most. While build team is toiling away on 3D design and testing, marketing is drawing up business plans and attracting sponsors. The team is happy for any kind of support, even if it's just to cheer them on at one of the competitions (which are a load of fun anyways). If you desire to help during these long six weeks, email Denise Brown at edeniseb03@cox.net.

San Dieguito Academy's Academic Leagues

Mustang Minds' Academic League

San Dieguito Academy Mustang Minds' Academic League competes in the Coast League Division beginning in February. Coast League Division is part of the North County Academic League (N.C.A.L.). N.C.A.L. is an association of high schools in north San Diego County, California, competing in academic team question-and-answer quiz bowl matches and dedicated to the demonstration of academic competition, scholastic excellence, and educational achievement. Tryouts for SDA's freshman, junior varsity, and varsity teams were held in December, 2008.

Matches begin at 6:30 p.m. with the freshman, followed by the junior varsity at approximately 7:15 p.m. and the varsity at 8 p.m. Home matches are held in SDA's library.

2009 Coast Division League Schedule

Date	Opponent	Host
February 5	LCC	LCC
February 12	Carlsbad	SDA
February 19	Oceanside	Oceanside
February 26	Santa Fe Christian	SDA
March 5	Canyon Crest	Canyon Crest
March 12	Torrey Pines	Torrey Pines
March 19	El Camino	SDA

The San Dieguito Academy's Mustang Minds' Junior Varsity Team were the Coast Division Champions in 2008 and 2007. Additionally, SDA's Junior Varsity Team was the 2007 N.C.A.L. Champions!



*San Dieguito High School
2008 Coast Division Junior Varsity Champion*

Front row, from left: Michelle Ferreira, Amanda Reis, Ryan Healy, and Josh Drilling. Back row, from left: Coach Linda Hauck, Kyle Shohfi, Henry Sweat, Drew Spiller, Jacob Kalichman, and KiSung Kim.

SDA's Varsity Quiz Bowl Team

Congratulations, to SDA's Varsity Quiz Bowl Team who qualified for the National Academic Quiz Team High School Championship National Tournament to be held the last week of May, 2009 in Chicago. SDA's Quiz Bowl Team currently ranks 3rd in California State. SDA's Varsity Quiz Bowl Team currently consists of 5 seniors- Huaxing Bai, Michelle Ferreira, Jacob Kalichman, Ki Sung Kim, and Drew Spiller and coached by Ms. Blaze Newman. SDA's Quiz Bowl Team has been competing since October at UC-Irvine, UCLA, and Cal Tech competing in final rounds placing 2nd in the UCI tournament on 10/18 and placed 3rd in the final round at UCLA. Quiz bowl is a competitive, academic, interscholastic game in which two high school teams compete head-to-head to answer questions from all areas of knowledge including history, literature, science, fine arts, current events, sports, and popular culture.



SDA's Quiz Bowl Varsity Team after placing 2nd at UC-Irvine.

Photo taken by Volunteer Coach & SDA Teacher- Ms. Bryony Kinnear.

Michelle Ferreira, Huaxing Bai, Ki Sung Kim, Jacob Kalichman, Drew Spiller

Mustang Field Hockey Team makes it to CIF D-II Semi-Finals!

The Mustang Varsity Field Hockey team finished this years season as Valley League Co-Champions and making it to the CIF D-II semifinals. And what a season it was! Final record: 20-5 overall, 9-1 in Valley League play. Definitely one of the most impressive field hockey seasons in quite a while for SDA. The 2008 Varsity roster of 16 players: 8 seniors, 4 juniors and 4 sophomores started the year thinking they had to rebuild the complete backfield as they had graduated the entire starting defense from 2007 except for goalie Samantha Sprau. They knew they had a strong returning offense; however the season's stats clearly show that this year's team had few weaknesses – offensively or defensively. Hat's off to the excellent coaching from head coach Brooke Wilson, assistant coach Christen Graeser and leadership from team co-captains: Lauren Livingston, Amanda Graeser and Elizabeth Siemion.

A sampling of this years accomplishments: 95 goals scored; 17 shut-outs; allowed only 18 goals and were only shut-out twice -- only 2 games where SDA was scoreless: a 0-1 loss to LCC and a 0-2 loss to Serra in the semifinals. 9 different players scored, 10 different players assisted. They also had several significant wins over larger D1 schools including an incredible 2-0 win over LCC (the 3 time CIF Champs and long time SDA rival), a 1-0 OT win over Torrey Pines, and wins against RBV, Fallbrook etc. The last published rankings in the Union Tribune coaches poll had the Mustangs ranked 7th overall in the county and the North County Times wrote feature articles on 2 Mustang games this year.

The Mustangs finished the year with the 3 leading scorers in North County:

- Elizabeth Siemion led the county in goals, assists, and points with 29 goals, 20 assists for 78 points; 2 game winning overtime goals against Torrey Pines and Cathedral in the quarter finals; named to Valley League 1st Team and CIF Division II All-County 2nd Team.
- Lauren Livingston finished second in county with 23 goals, 16 assists for 62 points; named to the Valley League 1st Team and CIF Division II All-County 1st Team.
- Emily Mecke finished third in county with 19 goals, 12 assists for 50 points; named to Valley League 2nd Team

Also named to Valley League 1st Team were: Amanda Graeser, Maggie Barry, Samantha Sprau and Erika Union was named to Valley League 2nd Team.

The 2008 Mustangs even had some submissions for the San Diego Section CIF Record Books: Samantha Sprau: most shut-out Games in a season: 17; Samantha Sprau: most career shut-outs by one goalie: 21+; Elizabeth Siemion: most goals in a game:-:5. At least one player (Lauren Livingston) is continuing her field hockey career at college (committed to UC Berkeley), with others being courted by UC-Davis, University of the Pacific, Wooster College of Ohio.



Mustang Hoops!!!

Wow...it's been a crazy pre-season. The Varsity Boys have played in three preseason tournaments and have really improved since our first game at the Raven Classic Tournament held at Canyon Crest Academy in early December.

Our team is excited about our new head coach, Luke Stuckey. Luke comes to us after a very successful coaching career at La Jolla High School where he assistant-coached a team that won the CIF title in 2008. He played college ball at Iowa Wesleyan College and brings a fundamentally strong knowledge of the game to our boys along with an incredible work ethic, dedication and passion!!! Luke currently teaches at Sierra Academy in Scripps Ranch.

The Varsity guys have elevated their game by the coaching from Coach Stuckey. One of our players, Kevin Barth, is the third leading scorer in the North Coastal League. In addition, we see some excellent ball handling and hustle from Kevin Ginn, Eric and Brian Peck, speed on defense from Rory Anderson. We have some great height in rebounding and some tremendous lay-ups from Tom Tumosa, Mike Lauth and Cody Abramson. The team gets additional relief help from players Eric Finely, Josh Popping and Rudy Hergsheimer.

League play begins January 6th. We encourage all the students to join in fun. Come root for your favorite Mustangs. Some of the best high school times are either participating in or being a spectator of these memorable sporting events!!!

Hope to see you on the court.

Go Mustangs!!

Theatre Arts Upcoming Events

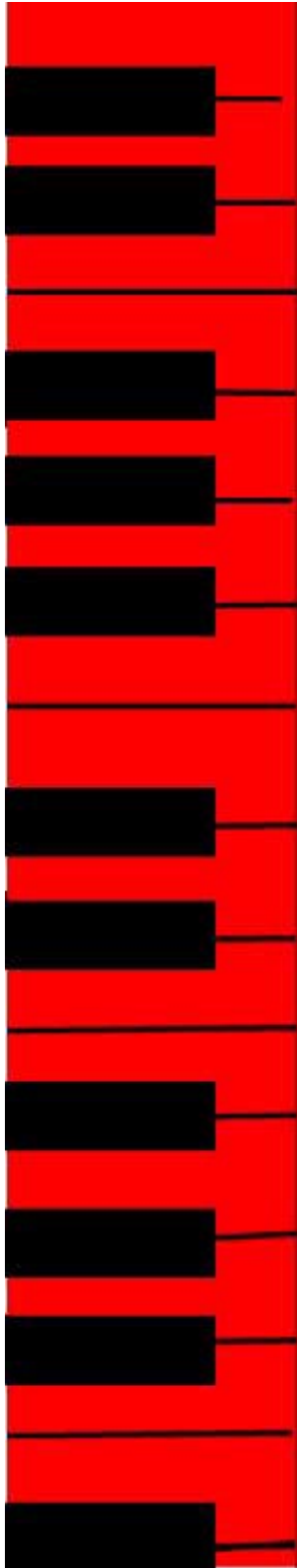
San Dieguito Cabaret Night on February 21, 2009

Come and enjoy an evening of spectacular entertainment by San Dieguito Academy students! Music, comedy, and theatre will be presented on the main stage at 6:00 pm at the Encinitas Community Center.

Dinner and dessert will be served. Tickets are \$40 each before 1/31/09 and \$50 after 1/31/09. Tickets can be purchased by e-mailing Mr. Weurtz at Jeremy.wuertz@sduhsd.net, make checks payable to SDA Foundation

and mail to SDA Foundation P.O. Box 235109 Encinitas, CA 92023-5109 or pay by credit card using pay pal through the SDA Foundation website.

Show your support for San Dieguito Academy Performing Arts!



San Dieguito : CABARET NIGHT

IN SUPPORT OF SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY
PERFORMING ARTS

DATE: FEBRUARY 21, 2009

TIME: 6:00 PM

PLACE: ENCINITAS COMMUNITY CENTER

SPECTACULAR
ENTERTAINMENT BY SAN
DIEGUITO ACADEMY
STUDENTS!
MUSIC, COMEDY AND
THEATRE



**DINNER AND DESSERT WILL
BE SERVED.**

TICKETS ARE \$40 EACH BEFORE 1/31/09. PLEASE
EMAIL MR. WUERTZ AT
JEREMY.WUERTZ@SDUHSO.NET FOR TICKETS OR PAY
BY CREDIT CARD USING PAY PAL THROUGH THE SDA
FOUNDATION WEBSITE.

LIMITED SEATING-RSVP ASAP!