



# Team 5172:

## Bringing Their News to You

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## Bringing The Fun To You

### Volume 04 Post-Northern Lights Regional 2017

#### Competition Updates

##### Thursday:

The team had a hard day with connection issues between the playing field and the radio on the robot. This year's robot, "Hailstorm", sat still as the first practice match began, the second it moved but was glitch, the third it sat again but the fourth showed promise with moving smoothly across the field.

##### Friday:

Qualification matches began which found Team 5172 losing its first match. The day would show the team some ups and downs but it would end on a high note with wins including high point values in the last two matches. Although we were not able to climb the first three matches, once we redesigned it we didn't lose after that on Friday.

##### Match Scores

Match Number (Red Alliance – Score) (Blue Alliance – Score)

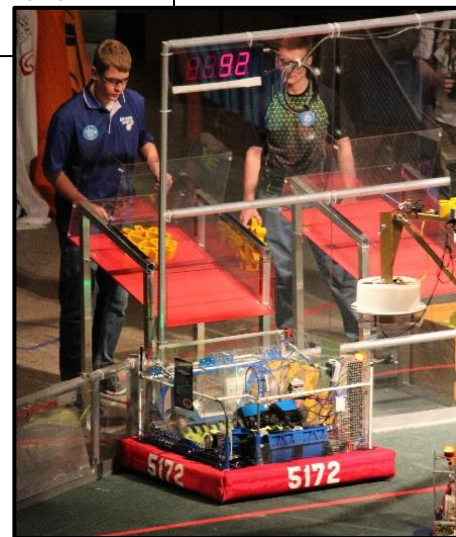
##### Qualifications

Q8 (2861, 3026, 5348 – 75) (5172, 3267, 4607 – 48)  
Q20 (2491, 2823, 6132 – 92) (3298, 4665, 5172 – 151)  
Q28 (3723, 4174, 2518 – 195) (5172, 3212, 6707 – 168)  
Q36 (4624, 3367, 2883 – 199) (6044, 5172, 2509 – 173)  
Q44 (5172, 525, 6758 – 246) (5720, 4054, 2501 – 55)  
Q56 (1792, 5172, 6758 – 315) (4226, 5172, 877 – 355)  
Q72 (5172, 3130, 2512 – 350) (2499, 2846, 2202 – 185)

See Saturday's update on the next page.



Above: "Hailstorm" is set to begin the next match.  
Right: It is on the move during the tele operated portion of the match.



Top: Human player, Kyle Stauffenecker sends a gear down the shoot to be received by "Hailstorm" during a match. Kyle said "I really enjoyed working with new people that I have never before. Also I am very happy with how well we ended up. Through all of the problems that we had we still ended up making it into eliminations. Left: "Hailstorm" is driven to receive balls from the hoppers on the sides of the playing field. Right: "Hailstorm" in action.





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### Saturday:

The team finished qualification matches and alliance selection began. We were chosen in the first round by alliance captain #8 – Team 2883 (FRED from Warroad). Together we decided to choose Team 2175 (Fighting Calculators from St. Paul). The alliance knocked off the top alliance in two matches and moved to the semi-finals. The semi-finals would find Team 2883 dealing with brown-out issues and Team 2175 having connection issues during the matches. “Hailstorm” was hit during the first semi-final match and bent the front of the robot causing driving issues. After our “Pit Crew” changed out the intake shaft and pounded out the belly pan we were on our way again for semi-final match 2. With the other alliance members not working to their full potential it found our competition coming to an end.

### Quarterfinals

QF1 (6758, 2987, 525 – 255) (5172, 2883, 2175 – 355)

QF2 (6758, 2987, 525 – 305) (5172, 2883, 2175 – 316)

### Semifinals

SF1 (5172, 2883, 2175 – 155) (876, 2512, 27 – 425)

SF2 (5172, 2883, 2175 – 149) (876, 2512, 27 – 290)



Above: “Hailstorm” receives the balls from the hopper.

Top Right: John Langaas and Robert Hlucny carry “Hailstorm” out for the next match.

Right: The human player, Blake Dallager, places the first gear in the airship slot.



Left: “Hailstorm” hangs from the rope attached to the airship.

Top Right: Kyle Stenberg works with the alliance captain from Team 2883 – FRED to

determine the third member of their alliance. Bottom Right: Blake Dallager stands atop the airship celebrating the scale of all three robots on our alliance.





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### Junkyard Robot wins 1<sup>st</sup> Place!

"Steampunk Sally", the junkyard robot of 2017, was created by Jorden Hendrickson, Piper Sondreal, and Kristy Williamson under the mentorship of Deb Aune. She is made from all recycled parts including a manikin, inside parts of various computers, boots and clothing that was out of style and a commercial hair dryer donated by Tanya Gjovik. This is the fourth year that the team has created a junkyard robot but the first time they have won the overall award.

Thoughts from the creators of "Steampunk Sally"...I think it was a great way to help us learn how to present something without reading off a paper and not even knowing the questions that the judges would ask.



### Safety FIRST!



Safety is a major component of FIRST Robotics. There are safety judges that are around the pits observing and interviewing the safety captains of the team as well as other team members during the weekend. They give away Safety Hard Hat pins to teams that work toward high levels of safety. The top award however is the "Industrial Safety Award" which celebrates the team that progresses beyond safety fundamentals by using innovative ways to eliminate or protect against hazards. Team 5172 won this award as a fourth-year team!

### OMG Robots – The Man is Here

Team members met Dean Kamen, founder of FIRST Robotics, inventor of the Segway, prosthetic robotic arms as well as many other things when he was brought to our pit by Mark Lawrence, the director of FIRST events in Minnesota, Laurie Shirmizu, member of the Northern Lights planning committee, and Ken Rosen, FIRST senior mentor.



Following the experience, Hannah Anderson said "meeting Dean Kamen was also pretty sweet. I couldn't believe that he talked to me directly about what I am going to do when I graduate." Blake Dallager said after his meeting "we were lucky enough to get the opportunity to meet the founder of such an impactful organization. He was a down to earth man who asked us about our future which was pretty cool."





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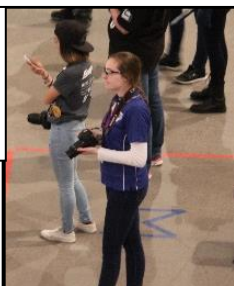
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"As a mascot my job is to get everyone pumped before the match. This job has allowed me to be an all around better person. I got all three alliance members pumped even when we were down."  
(Jonathan Peterson)

The two team photographers for the weekend were Emily Wicklund and Issie Brockhouse. Emily's view on this is "The competition is so fun for a photographer because I get to go down onto the floor with the drive team. It is fun to interact with the other photographers talking about how their team has been doing." From the rookie view, Issie said, "It was amazing to have the privilege to go down to the floor and see everything closer. I felt very involved and part of the team. I got to capture very fun, special and memorable moments."



Dylan Heggdahl played basketball in Roseau Friday night before having his mom and dad drive him to Duluth to join the robotics team. When asked what makes robotics worth driving through the night for he replied, "The environment and the people there make robotics what it is. I also like watching something that we created compete against a lot of really good robots."



Members of the U.S. Air Force stopped in the pits to visit about our robot and our team. They took time to take a photo with us and gave some members in the photo a medallion that very few civilians have the honor to receive.



### Shout Out...

Matt Mittag, the lead robot inspector on Northern Lights, was on hand for Team 5172 during the build season and competition to answer questions about robot specs and game rules. He is our favorite LRI as he comes from, a team that we wish to emulate, Green Machine Team 1816.



Dean Kamen signed "Hailstorm!"



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#### Chairman's Award

##### Description:

The most prestigious award in FIRST. It honors a team that best presents the concepts of FIRST, and the team others want to emulate.

##### Presentation:

It includes a 10,000-character essay, 15 questions answered with 250 characters or less, a three minute video, and a 7 to 10 minute presentation. Three student members and one mentor can enter the judging room with two judges. The team uses their time to defend why they are worthy of winning.

##### Video:

Watch our video at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MCZxNV1-0PU> or search 5172 Chairmans 2017.

When Kaiya Novacek was asked, "What does it feel like being a Chairman's presenter?" She replied, "Chairman's is a job no one wants, but I love it. It teaches me so many skills and give me confidence in myself and the caring and giving personality of our team."



Top Right: Casey Gram looks over the robot prior to the next match.

Left: He answers questions about our team and robot from another team's scout. This is Casey Gram's first year in robotics and being a pit crew member. From the pits Casey says, "You see the behind the scenes of how everything works and how nice the different pits really are along with the teams."

#### Woodie Flowers Award

##### Description:

Each team can nominate one mentor that exemplifies effective communication in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. The regional winner is presented with a trophy and a blue banner for the team to hang in their pit.

##### Our Nomination:

This year our team nominated Doug Hlucny. Our paper talked about how he was welcoming, patient, caring, and mechanically inclined; when we told Doug, we nominated him he told us, "I'm not ready for this," although Doug truly deserved this award he did not receive it at the Northern Lights Regional.

##### Winner:

Russ Meyers, a mentor from team 2512, The Duluth East Daredevils, won Woody Flowers this year, and was completely deserving. He is one of the main reasons the team is in existence, and two weeks ago he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and is given two months to live. Congratulations to him and Team 2512!



#### Keep Informed

##### Informational Websites:

- ❖ FIRST Robotics: <http://www.firstinspires.org/>
- ❖ Team 5172 Gator Robotics: [www.5172gators.org](http://www.5172gators.org)
- ❖ Chief Delphi: [www.chiefdelphi.com](http://www.chiefdelphi.com) (forum based communication on various topics)
- ❖ Blue Alliance: <http://www.thebluealliance.com> (site to watch competitions, see statistics and history of all FIRST teams)



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### Northern Lights Regional from various team member's views.

Blake Dallager stands on the airship in the middle of the playing field during our matches. His reflection is "There's more than what meets the eye when it comes to being a pilot aboard the airship. One needs to be quick, observant, and steady. It's a whole new perspective on the game that most people will never see. It's nerve wracking and exhilarating, I am honored to be able to be a part of this drive team".

Ella Koebernick is a rookie to the team this year. When asked to give her rookie's view she said, "My first robotics competition was definitely something I will remember. I really enjoyed sitting in the stands and watching different team's robots and comparing them to ours. I liked how the more I watched, the more I began to understand the game. My job as a scouter really helped me feel like part of the team".

Michael Green is also a rookie to the team and was a member of the pit crew. His feelings after his first experience were, "It was a great experience to be in the pits as a pit crew member. It was a great feeling to get the robot going so John and Robert could take control and rack up the points. It's a great feeling when the robot works and does great after a rough start".

Emily Tarala was the pit crew captain this year and was on hand to work but also answer questions as other teams and judges stopped by. When asked her thoughts on this experience she replied, "It was a lot of fun to sit in the pit and talk to all the teams that came by and all the judges that stopped by. There were many gracious teams who came looking for advice and we made sure to thank the judges as they came by".

Abbie and Issie Brockhouse's dad Howie experience his first robotics competition at the Northern Lights Regional. He said "after attending the robotics competition for the first time, I see how this program is so successful for all involved. The experiences and skills the kids acquire will help them their entire lives". Abbie was asked to reflect on having her dad share this experience with her for the first time. She responded, "being able to share the robotics experience with my dad was amazing. He really enjoyed it and was happy he went. He could catch up on the game quickly and he stayed engaged while he watched. He will definitely attend more robotics competitions".

