



"HER NAME WAS LOLA...SHE WAS A ROBOT"

MAKING THE ROBOT PART III

TEAM 694...READY FOR ACTION AGAIN!

MARCH 2003 Stuy Illustrated

# Scorecard

# Making the Robot III

The Stuy Robotics team survives the snow, expands the team, raises its profile to build another mean machine.



As we begin our third year in FIRST, we can't believe our luck: we brought home a NY finalist trophy in Year I and The Engineering Inspiration trophy for JACK from the NY Regional last year. JACK was an amazing ball handler but will pale in comparison to this year's LOLA, a bin stacker extraordinaire!

The team is bigger and stronger and more organized each year. Three of the girls who started on marketing have put on goggles and switched to engineering! Now Mr. Colon has to say "gentlemen and ladies" when he calls us to order to report progress in the lab.

We continue to mentor our neighbor school IS 89 for the Lego League. Gordon Franken, our Co-President goes to their school to teach.

And IS 89 sneaks over to Stuyvesant for a hands on demonstration of JACK and a tour of our Robotics Lab. We can't dismantle JACK because he is in such demand as a "speaker" for the Parents Association, for Freshman Orientation and recruiting, for the Stuyvesant Alumni reunions, etc.





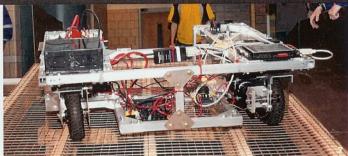
### Scorecard



Jack's getting famous outside of our neighborhood. He joined other FIRST robots for a demo day at the New York Science Museum in Flushing, Queens. Named after Jack Welch, the former chairman of GE, who was our sponsor after 9/11 closed our school.



Team 694 organized a book selling effort at the LIFE "Portraits of Ground Zero" exhibit at Rockefeller Center. We raised more than \$132,000 for the 8 public schools closest to the WTC including IS 89 (our Lego League Team) and Rookie Team 1238 (H.S. of Economics and Finance).



Our expectations and aspirations grow exponentially every year because of FIRST. No one-even at Stuyvesant High School where 19 INTEL semi-finalists seem ordinary-can believe the machines coming out of the Robotics Lab on the fourth floor. It's not unusual to see huge goals or ramps and strange prototypes being test driven in the hallway by the fourth floor escalators. Here, early LOLA shows good traction on this year's mesh ramp. We've invited Team 1238 to come over since we know a rookie team won't have the materials to replicate their own playing field.





Parents continue to supply massive quantities of food to sustain The engineering mentors us through the long hours. We miss the Indian banquets from are fabulous-two of them aren't even parents and we Tayeb's mom but enjoy Italian feasts from Freshman Paul's wonder why they still mentor! The hours are brutal! The pay is worse!



Interest in robotics has increased so dramatically a Senior Tech class has been added to the curriculum taught by our own Mr. Colón. The Lab is now well equipped and organized due to three years in FIRST.



mother. The parental involvement really distinguishes our team.

Our Guidance Office has never had a strong historical connection to Princeton. We suspect a change since Shirley Tilghman, the President of Princeton, accepted Team 694's invitation to visit. She tried driving JACK and had such a blast, she stayed for dinner.



Brendan is in early to Harvard, Jeff to Cornell. We say goodbye to 16 graduating seniors and hope they return to Robotics Lab 450 as mentors like Ray, Elton, Tayeb and Justin. They leave with rich experiences, friendships and memories.

# **Faces in the Crowd**

#### David Coen, TEAM PROGRAMMER, A.K.A. "THE TERMINATOR"

David towers over his teammates at a whopping height of 6'2". This year his job is even more instrumental. He is entrusted with the vital task of programming the robot to run unassisted for 15 seconds during the competition. But he is not sweating it because "it's hard work, but it's worth it."





#### James Carpino, MENTOR

His fresh ideas and crazy methods inspire everyone around him. Even though James graduated from Stuyvesant in '89, his interest in technology and passion for robotics compel him to participate in this fledgling program. "After all," says James, "it makes me feel like a kid again."

#### Daniele Hauptman, JUNIOR

She's been on the team since her freshman year. This year she decided to work with the engineering team as well as the marketing team. She enjoys building the robot adn says she is "not afraid to get my hands dirty." Her favorite part of the whole experience is the feeling of team spirit and accomplishment.





#### Ben Zelnick, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING, A.K.A. "THE DRIVER"

He's been on the job for 3 years and has yet to experience road rage. This senior is committed to the team and strongly believes in group effort. He's currently building the drive module and gearing up for the big day.

#### Ian Ferguson, DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT

It's lan's job to make sure the tools and suplies are there when the team needs them and to make sure the budget is balanced. "I serve their needs at home and at school" lan happily explains. Ian is also the team's CAD Designer developing blueprints for the robot using Autodesk Inventor software.





#### Gordon Franken, CO-PRESIDENT, ENGINEERING

He's got the 4II on the when, where and how of the robotics team. He enjoys robotics because "it's everything I like to do...all combined into one." He devotes all his time to robotics and thinks that "it's really cool to make [the robot] work and make it win."

#### Mr. Colón, ROBOTICS TEACHER

When asked how he became part of the team, he says, "Destiny played a good part." He assisted Mr. Ng, the original head of the team, the first year and eventually took over. His favorite part is watching the students apply what they have learned in their academic classes to a real life situation. The only downside is how much time it takes. He puts his "life on hold for the kids, but it's worth it."





#### Ethan Heller, FIELD DIRECTOR

Last year the robot had only an hour to use Ethan's practice field before it was shipped. This year Ethan's hoping the robot will have more time. Building a field isn't easy; "There's a lot of cutting, a lot of bolting, and a lot of drilling."

## **STUY**ILLUSTRATED

#### **FACULTY**

Principal Stanley Teitel
Assistant Principal Technology James Lonardo
Assistant Robotics Room Advisor Tim Pon
Research Coordinator Anne de Sostoa Manwell
Robotics Team Advisor Rafael Colón

#### STUYVESANT ROBOTICS CLUB

Co-Presidents Brendan Moore, Gordon Franken Strategy Ji-Feng Zhu Engineering Ben Zelnick, Joe Ricci Procurement lan Ferguson Field Construction Ethan Heller Programming David Coen

#### **ENGINEERING TEAM**

Spike Appel, Ilya Blay, Andrew Blum, Joshua Casner, Jonathan Chin, Paul Desiderio, Teddy Drivas, Georgia Faust, David Ferguson, Dan Gant, David Goluskin, Daniele Hauptman, Christian Kim, Daniel Ko, Slava Kotlyar, Amanda Kwok, Leo Li, Victor Liu, Leonid Morozovskiy, Aviv Ovadyal, Hansam Park, Brad Stronger, Mike Tkach, Benson Tsai, Joshua Yim

#### **MARKETING TEAM**

Liz Alspector, Helena Chan, Eugene Epshteyn, Sonia Gollance, Theresa Langschultz, Yelena Mendelyuk, Laura Paliani, Valentina Popuva, Daniela Sorokko, Nelli Zaltsman

#### **MENTORS**

Christina Albee, James Carpino (\*89), Carolyn Chauncey, Clif Eddens, Tom Ferguson, Tom Franken, Isabel González, Mel Hauptman, Jim Heller, Steve Hilton, Ray Harris (\*01), Ed Jackson, Tayeb Al Karim (\*02), Elton Kwok (\*02), Justin Lee (\*02), Ceil McCarthy, Andy Woo (\*96)

#### **PARENTS**

Benita Berkowitz, Li-quan Cai, Mark Casner, Leah Casner, Mary Christopher, Keren Eisenberg, Dikko Faust, Carol Franken, Shelley Grant, Edwin Ko, Deborah Ko, Nadya Kotlyar, Abby Laufer, Ann Moore, Donovan Moore, Jacki Ochs, Quan Ou, Andy Ricci, Esther Smith, Larry Zelnick, Yuan-Shan Zhu

#### **SPONSORS**

AOL Time Warner LIFE Lucidity Awards and Signage SPORTS ILLUSTRATED Stuyvesant Alumni Association TEEN PEOPLE

