

The following email was sent by Connie McCann, SHA Director of Development

May 20, 2020

2020 SHAbotics Sponsors and Parents:

We hope this e-mail finds you healthy and well during these pandemic times. Sacred Heart Academy cannot thank you enough for supporting our second-year robotics program with your donations. Although the season was cut short due to the COVID-19 precautions, the students on **Team 7495** participated in engaging lessons, and learned much about teamwork. Attached are summaries written by the students which will give you a snapshot of our season.

Overall, we are happy to report the following successes for the year:

- A larger robotics team (more students interested in the program after the inaugural year)
- Robotics (as a class) was added to the school science curriculum as an elective
- More than \$16,000 donated in support of SHAbotics
- The purchase of a 6' x 8' trailer for hauling materials to and from competitions (the trailer now sports SHA / IRISH decals and will be useful in many ways)

These successes, along with the lessons learned by our students, were made possible by YOU. We are grateful for your support and friendship. SHA will be geared-up (pun intended!) and ready to go for the 2021 competition season. Thanks again for your help, **Mr. Andrew Doerr and Mr. Josh Taylor, SHAbotics Advisors**

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Sacred Heart Academy Robotics Season Summary 2019-20



Nick Cataldo, 12th grade

- This season was very unique. I feel like our potential would have been met after the first game. I feel like we would have figured out what we needed to focus on and we would have executed it very well.
- A quote that would describe our season would be *"Nothing is more expensive than a missed opportunity,"* said by H. Jackson Brown. I feel like this describes our season because we missed an opportunity to see what robotics is truly about. Another reason why it describes us is because many of the seniors missed the process of what happens after the first competition which is reconstruction and turning our robot into something that really impacts the game.

Evan Holton, 8th grade

- Two things I learned from this season are (1) having more people on the team brings more ideas, and (2) working together in groups allows us to work faster.
- This season can best be summarized as "short and hectic".

Michael Hopp, 12th grade

- I learned how much work and preparation it takes to build a robot and have a successful team. I also learned how much coding you have to do in order to make the robot even move.
- My quote for the year? *"It was fun while it lasted."*

Alexis Horak, 12th grade

- The first thing I learned is how important teamwork and communication are in robotics. I also learned how many different skills are needed when building a robot.
- My quote: *"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."*

Austin Lobsinger, 12th grade

- In my first year of Robotics, I had a lot of fun with my teammates and participating in competitions. I didn't only develop skills in robotics, but also learned about my classmates' passion for robotics. I always learned that this event can bring so many people together competitively and friendly.
- If I had to describe the season and how we worked together with a quote, I'd say *"We push each other to get better. We could never be as good alone as we are together."*

Josh Lynch, 12th grade

- This year, I was able to learn more about the electronics and better ways to use a drill press.
- Memorable quote: "It's okay, I work on cars" – said by Jayden O

Lauren Munley, 12th grade

- Two things I learned this season:
 - I actually learned what robotics is, and how it all works for the most part.
 - I learned that the competitions are very hard.
- My quote: *"Although the season was cut short, it was a good learning experience."*

Jayden Oldenburg, 12th grade

- Things I learned:
 - how to use a band saw
 - I learned that FIRST robotics is huge and has been a thing for decades
- Quote which sums up the season: "Pitter patter let's get at'er"

Sara Peltier, 12th grade

- This season I learned how to construct the robot's bumpers and how to drive the robot.
- One quote I would use to summarize the season is, *"although the season was cut short, I got an insight into the world of robotics and problem solving".*

Lauren Rookard, 12th grade

- In the beginning of the season, a lot of time was spent on simply building the separate pieces of the robot such as the base, bucket, and bumpers. Groups worked individually until all aspects were completed and could be put together. After putting the robot together, it was time to fine tune and test out the robot. The first competition sprung up relatively quickly, and soon, we were competing in Milford. There, we were able to see many other teams and we gathered ideas on how to improve our robot. Armed with new ideas and experience, we got to work on brainstorming. However, our season was cut short because of the unexpected COVID-19 outbreak, but this season was certainly one to learn from!
- What I learned this season:
 - I learned how intense robotics competitions actually are, and how fun they can be.
 - I also learned how many small aspects have to come together to create a robot.
- My quote about the season: *"Everyone on the team has a role to play in order to be successful, and the determination of each member allowed us to work both individually and collectively as one well-oiled machine to reach a common goal."*

Matt Szymczak, 12th grade

- Here are two things I learned this season:
 - I learned how much fun robotics is and how a robotics competition works
 - I learned how to work and function as a team in a robotics competition
- Quote to summarize the season: *"This is where the fun begins."* -Anakin Skywalker, Revenge of the Sith

Lesley Armah, 12th grade

- Lessons learned: (1) There are always things to improve on; and (2) Reaching out to other teams for help is an important part of the process.
- Quote: *"Robotics is about the journey not the destination."*