



# Coconino High School Robotics

FRC Team 2486 · The CocoNuts · Flagstaff, AZ

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### RE: ARIZONA FIRST TEAMS PERFORM WELL AT THE 2015 FIRST ROBOTICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN ST. LOUIS

On April 22-25, 2015 St. Louis welcomed over 800 FIRST Robotics Teams from all four levels of FIRST. Sixteen Arizona Teams competed in the event (13 FIRST Robotics Competition teams for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, 2 FIRST Tech Challenge Teams for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, and 1 FIRST Lego League Team for 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders). The CocoNuts represented Flagstaff and Coconino High School for the 8<sup>th</sup> time in their 8-year history.

Members of the press can view and download pictures and video of the CocoNuts at FIRST World Championship by accessing this Google Drive:

[https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B9CtbHgAN\\_zFfnh2NFV0dDhxTVpPcGdma3AwZHZqNEtNYnhPd19Xak82SklpWZU9lZGpGdGs&usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B9CtbHgAN_zFfnh2NFV0dDhxTVpPcGdma3AwZHZqNEtNYnhPd19Xak82SklpWZU9lZGpGdGs&usp=sharing)

Photo and video credits go to Christine Sapio (Non-technical Coach of the CocoNuts).

The FIRST Robotics Competition challenges teams of high school students to build a 120-lb machine from scratch in just six weeks. **RECYCLE RUSH** is a recycling-themed game played by two Alliances of three robots each on a 27'x54' field. Robots score points by stacking totes weighing over 8 lbs each on scoring platforms, capping those stacks with recycling containers, and properly disposing of pool noodles, representing litter. In keeping with the recycling theme of the game, all game pieces used are reusable or recyclable by teams in their home locations or by FIRST at the end of the season.

The Arizona teams competing in the FIRST Robotics Competition were:

2486	CocoNuts	Flagstaff
60	Bionic Bulldogs	Kingman
1011	CRUSH	Tucson
1726	NERDS	Sierra Vista
2375	Dragon Robotics	Phoenix
3944	All Knights	Tempe
5059	TigeRobotics	Globe
4183	Bit Buckets	Tucson
5465	BinaryBots	Chandler
4146	Sabercats	Scottsdale
842	Falcon Robotics	Phoenix
3785	Gila Monsters	Yuma
4841	Optimal Robotics	Tucson

The Arizona FRC teams received several honors at Championship. Three teams, the CocoNuts, CRUSH, and Dragon Robotics were competing with 67 other teams for the Championship Chairman's Award. Though none of these teams received this highest honor, all the three teams had excellent presentations. The Chairman's Award is given to one team at each Regional Competition that best embodies the values of FIRST and serves as a role model for other teams. This was the 1<sup>st</sup> time winning the Regional Chairman's Award for the Dragons and CRUSH, and the 6<sup>th</sup> for the CocoNuts.



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Several Arizona teams also had finalists for the FIRST Dean's List Award celebrating outstanding student leadership. These students were honored at a luncheon featuring FIRST Founder Dean Kamen and Megan Smith, United States Chief Technology Officer and FIRST Alumna.

The Arizona Dean's List Finalists were:

David Tafoya	CocoNuts
Alexis Tuggle	Dragon Robotics (FTC)
Rebecca Leggett	Bionic Bulldogs
Conner Sonnier	Titans (Arcadia High School)
Kazandra Zelaya	Knight Tech (Metro Tech High School)
Hannah Baez	CRUSH

CRUSH was recipient of the Imagery Award in honor of Jack Kamen in the Galileo-Carson Division.

The All Knights won the Galileo Subdivision and had the opportunity to compete with the winners from the other 7 divisions for the World Championship on Einstein Field.

The FIRST Tech Challenge has teams of up to 15 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders building robots from a kit that can play a game on a 12'x12' field. The FTC CASCADE EFFECT Game puts teams of 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders in alliances of two teams each. Teams score points by placing 160 white plastic balls (40 large and 120 small) into rolling goals that are 30 cm, 60 cm, and 90 cm tall. The game play features a 30-second autonomous period in which robots can score points under pre-programmed instructions and a 2-minute driver controlled period in which teams control their robots using game controllers. Teams can score bonus points during the 30-second end-game by moving robots and goals onto a ramp or by scoring balls in the Center Goal.

The Arizona FIRST Challenge Teams at Championship were:

201	Brophy Broncobotics	Phoenix
2844	Valley X	Chandler

Team 2844, Valley X, was a member of the winning alliance from the Franklin division, and went on to win the World Championship with alliance partners from Florida and Montana.

The FLL WORLD CLASS Challenge calls for teams of 9 to 14 year-old children worldwide to research and present their original tools and/or tactics that enrich the current landscape of learning. Teams will also build, test, and program an autonomous robot using LEGO® MINDSTORMS® technology to solve a series of wisdom-gathering missions which include: pushing a lever to open a door to learning, moving an idea outside of the box, loading a model with knowledge and skill loops, and more. The cornerstones of the experience are the FLL Core Values, which emphasize contributions of others, friendly competition, learning, and community involvement.

The Arizona FIRST Lego League Team at Championship was Team 5156 "CS6" from Tucson Arizona. Coach Charlotte Ackerman was the recipient of the Coach/Mentor Award.



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Next up, 30 Arizona Teams, including the 13 that competed at the FIRST World Championship, will compete in the 1<sup>st</sup> ever Arizona Interscholastic Association Robotics Championship. The AIA Championship will take place May 23 at the Prescott Valley Events Center (formerly the Tim's Toyota Center) in Prescott Valley. The event starts at 9:00 am, and is free and open to the public.

The CocoNuts can be seen in numerous events coming up around Northern Arizona, including:

- \*Innovation Nation STEM Festival in Whiteriver, AZ (May 6)
- \*Puente de Hozho Family Night (May 14)
- \*Ahoy to Summer (May 16)
- \*AIA FIRST Robotics Championship (May 23)
- \*Movies on the Square – Big Hero 6 (May 23)
- \*STEM Gathering at Fort Defiance (May 28)
- \*STEM Club Conference in Tempe (June 8)

The CocoNuts will also be hosting the Camp COCONUTS (Challenging Outrageous Camp of Nutty Unique Technology and Science) programs in July. Stay tuned to their website for dates, prices, and how to sign up.

The CocoNuts want to thank the Flagstaff community for their long-time and continued support of our team. It's because of the generosity of our community that they are able to compete with the best teams in the world every year and continue to spread FIRST throughout the region. Thanks, and GO NUTS!!!

## **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 its founding in 2007, the CocoNuts have been the recipients of such prestigious awards as the Inspire Award, Engineering Inspiration Award and five-time winners of the Regional Chairman's Award. 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, teach a robotics curriculum at the NAU Summer Enrichment Program, run a summer robotics program for younger students, and host the Northern Arizona FIRST Lego League and Arizona FIRST Tech Challenge Programs. Visit [www.fusd1robotics.org](http://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



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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](http://www.usfirst.org).

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The CocoNuts are partners with:  
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Northern Arizona University  
Coconino High School

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AZ Superbowl Planning Committee STEM Superhero Awards  
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And the generous and continuing support of the Flagstaff Community.