

2010 - Executive Summary

Final

Essay Questions

Cougars Gone Wired

1. As individuals on the team we all have been impacted differently by FIRST. But there are some common influences that we all have had. We have become more responsible and come to see the importance of deadlines and good work ethic. We have grown individually in the respect that we have been forced outside our comfort zones and we can now take on more challenges. We also have developed many good skills for life and working in our futures that include flexibility and teamwork.
2. This year the team has focused on reaching out into the community, we held camps for four hours a day for five days in one week or three days a week for three weeks for middle school students this past summer to get them involved in FIRST and prep them for their competition in December, we sponsor and mentor a FTC team for the freshmen in our school become familiar with FRC, there are students from other schools on the team and the team helps mentor and start other feeder Lego League teams.
3. We have become well known in the community around our school and the west side of the community of Colorado Springs through school pep assemblies for varsity sports and the school's annual homecoming parade that is the second biggest homecoming parade in the state. As a team our knowledge of science and technology has increased greatly. We have learned how to use machines and technology that we wouldn't learn about otherwise and we have been able to apply concepts that we learned in school.
4. Our team has spread the FIRST message of Gracious Professionalism by emulating these equities in the community surrounding our school. In our team's school we aspire to be role models to other students by respecting them even when our views do not agree. We strive to do our best quality work on every assignment or task we receive whether that is homework or picking up trash around our school.
5. At the beginning of the season we had many new team members that had poor communication skills; as the season continued new and old members' communication skilled enhanced. To help communication within the team we have a web site and the sub- team leaders have communication within their groups and with other team leaders and we use email often. We rely heavily on leadership meetings to disseminate information to teams and have wrap up meetings with the entire team.
6. At our school we have a FTC team for the freshmen; this is a way for them to become better acquainted with expectations of FIRST. This also gives FRC members an opportunity to act as mentors and develop their leadership skills. This has also been a good way to promote

teambuilding among all members. Last year our team won our regional as well as the Rookie All Star Award, and the web design and animation at the regional.

7. Last year was our team's first year and we were extremely successful. At the Colorado regional we won the Rookie All Star Award, the Animation Award, the Website Design Award and we won the overall competition with our alliance. Then at nationals we took second for the Animation Award.