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Team 21
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There's 30 seconds left on the clock. I am focused. I don't hear anything but the voice of our coach and the sounds of the moving motors of the robots. 25...24...23... My fellow driver and I carefully dump some footballs onto the other side of the field. 19...18...17... We bring the robot back to put the white ball into our robot. 14...13...12... We are running out of time. Our opponent is blocking us. I am gripping the controller tightly. 9...8...7... We must get the white ball over, but we can't. I can feel the tension in the air. 5...4...3... It's almost there and YES!!! We made it! 1...0...

VEX has introduced me to a new realm of technology and has given me a new understanding of the world. Previously, my passion was to become a musician, but because of VEX, I want to redirect my future to engineering in the medical field. Most importantly, VEX has taught me many life skills that I have been using everyday even outside of robotics. I have learned how to hold a leadership position and how valuable teamwork really is. Dexterity is not the only quality that leads to success. There can be a team filled with intelligent students, but lack of collaboration can lead to disaster, especially during competitions.

I am very grateful to VEX for creating such a wonderful program. We learn a lot and have fun at the competitions simultaneously. Also, a new generation of bright and eager engineers is being created.