My intro into robotics

Before I started robotics I was not really interested in extracurricular activities. I was not interested in sports or band. This year was different because I have never had the opportunity to do something like robotics. I have always been interested in robots. This year of robotics a lot of my peers were also joining the NERD NATION team. All the upper classman that were in robotics before us were surprised at how many freshman were joining. The number of students in robotics they said had doubled if not more from the previous year. When our building season started we had 2 weeks for design. Our design took a little longer than that. Our design process started with our game strategy. We decided to create a defensive robot. After about a week of designing we presented. A lot of questions were asked toward our design but we answered them with confidence and tried to explain within the best of our ability. There were a lot of doubts but we kept telling ourselves “we will show them what we can do”. Personally I had no idea how to build because it was my first year but our main team leader was an awesome builder. Before we received our other parts that we needed, our team leader built a drive train out of some smaller parts to help us better understand it. Our programmers did an awesome job also. They had the programming done by the time we had finished building. Finally we were ready for our first competition. Our first competition was at Marion, Ohio and started at 10:45. We had 5 matches and lost all but one. Then we met someone who made it to the world championship last year who we faced in a previous match. He wanted us on his team. Being in 25th place we were very confused. Why did he want us on his team? He explained that since our robot gave his a hard time (our robot is defense and his is offense) he wanted us in the tournament with him. We couldn’t believe it we still had a chance! We played a couple matches and won all of them! With my team leaders great descoring skills and our partners ability to score in the tube we won the finals. It wasn’t over though. We had to face on of our other teams it didn’t matter if we won or not we were still going to state. We lost the last match but both alliances were going to state and the team we were facing was also a NERD NATION team. I hope we win state and possibly nationals I guess It depends on how far we get. Robotics has been a great learning experience and I hope I get another chance to do it next year.