Joining a Vex team has been a natural progression for me. As a kid, I was always into building with Legos and Kinex. In middle school, I joined a Lego team, which introduced me to the concept of solving an engineering challenge. But I never realized how much Vex robotics would affect my future.

We work on our design three to five days a week. Most days, we are tweaking the robot to make it better and more efficient. On days that the team isn’t working on the mechanical design, we program and work on autonomous. Many meetings take place at our engineering mentor’s house; he gives us real world engineering insight, makes us think about different solutions, and helps us determine which one is the best for our problems.

VEX Robotics provides a team environment to innovate, overcome challenges, and continually improve. Our team participates in a Vex League, which means that we have the opportunity to compete against 40 other teams over a three month period. While we all strive to win, we also build friendships and mutual respect for our competitors.

In our team’s five-year history, we have advanced to the World Championship twice. Competing and establishing alliances with talented teams from all over the world was truly an awesome experience. Vex has made me rethink my life career and made me want to learn about engineering. It has opened my eyes to the endless possibilities of what I could do in the future.