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Vex Robotics Essay Challenge

My first year on the robotics team, I had no experience with robotics. Therefore, I was assigned to build a Claw-bot and a Square-bot to learn the basics of building and programming. Simultaneously, I was taking the physics course and started applying what I learned to my robots like making the arm of my Claw-bot stronger by using a 1:5 gear ratio instead of a 1:1. When my team felt my foundation to robotics was strong enough, I was finally able to help work on the competition robot.

Working on this robot really opened my eyes in terms of what I want to do in the future. I have always known that I wanted to go into the science field, for I have always been strong in this area and Math; however, until VEX, I never knew what specifically. As an athlete at my school, it never touched my mind that tinkering at something for hours while sitting down could be so interesting. However, this experience with VEX robotics has altered my life’s future goals and dreams. I now want to do something that requires both types of engineering: mechanical and computer.

In order to help reach my goal, I am currently taking an advanced math course and multiple science courses including an honor class in physics. On top of this, I am learning different computer languages on my own.

Without VEX, I would still be a typical teenager without knowing what I want to do with my life.