As the newest design team, Battlebots has never competed before. Our first competition would have been in March of 2020. However, COVID cancelled all of our events that year. With that being said, the team will be competing with two robots this year: the 15lb robot from 2020 and the 30lb robot from 2021. Students are excited to finally be able to see their robots compete at Bots KC in Kansas City, MO and Norwalk Havoc Robot League in Norwalk, CT. Navigating the logistics of traveling safely to competitions has been a challenge, but we are hopeful everything will work out. The state of what is safe nowadays is always changing and we want to make sure we take all the precautions necessary to compete responsibly.

In February, the team performed construction on building a full scale testing enclosure for our robots. The former 12ft square arena has been extensively upgraded. Measuring a full 16ft by 16ft with 8ft ceiling it meets the size of competition standards and allows our team to test and practice safely on a regular basis. The expansion was a whole team effort to construct. We tore down the old enclosure and used its components within the new arena to save cost of the material and manufacturing time. Now that the new box is complete, the team will really be able to see what the robots are capable of on a larger scale.

Our new 30lb robot has been named “Option 14”. Its name is somewhat of an inside joke on the team. Our goal is to have Option 14 completed by March 3rd so that as a team we can fine tune and discover any weaknesses before our first competition. The weapon on this robot is a modular vertical spinner, meaning we have two spinners built and choose which one to use based on the opponent we are facing. The team is excited to see the 30lb robot run for the first time in the upcoming weeks.

To learn more about our team, please visit our website (Battlebots.mst.edu) or reach out to us through email (battlebots@mst.edu)

If you would like to support our team, go to http://give.mst.edu and choose Battlebots under Student Design & Experiential Learning Center