

As building season ended and the race date quickly approached, our team members began to meet more often with longer hours to finish Horus. Team members sacrificed time from their summer vacation to get the car into the best shape before sending it off to race.

When it finally came time to compete, parents trailered the car 1,500 miles to reach the Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth/Dallas, Texas, where the Solar Car Challenge was held. Our car was up against twenty other teams from all over the nation.



The first two days at the Texas Motor Speedway consisted of scrutineering and making final modifications before starting the race. The car had to go through a series of 6 stations to test safety, stability, and quality. Our car passed all six stations without a problem. Once finished with scrutineering, our team members dispersed around the garage to help other teams. After the second day, we prepared for the challenge ahead.

The race consisted of two days of track racing and two days of cross-country racing. The Walnut Solar Car Team competed in the Open Division against three other teams. At the starting line, we all panicked because the car would not move. Frantically, we all tried to troubleshoot the problem and finally found that the problem was overcharging. Back on the track, Horus ran relatively smoothly with few problems. The car had a few flat tires, and wheel changes needed to be made, but they were done quickly and efficiently and Horus returned shortly. After each race day, the team members had to stay long hours to charge the batteries and prepare the car for the next day.



Once the track portion of the race ended, Horus began its journey from Fort Worth to Austin, Texas. The car drove through highways and city streets to reach the finish line. We stopped at memorable destinations such as Baylor University and a central Samsung building.

When the challenge ended, our car finished with a total of 519.9 miles. We finished fourth overall and second place in Open Division. We also received the Best Engineering Award. We are excited for the future and we plan to build two cars in the new year! Our goals are to cut the weight of our car in half, to win first place and finally take our place as number one in the Solar Car Challenge. By the end of our long journey, friendships were made, knowledge was gained, and memories were made.

