Industrial Automation Students Teach Robots “How to be Renegade Football Fans” for Homecoming 2018

Robots will be in attendance at the 2018 Renegade Homecoming Football Game Saturday, October 27, 2018

Seniors at Bakersfield College in the Industrial Automation program have been preparing Universal Robots UR-5, UR-10, and Softbank Robotics, also known as “Pepper,” to get in the spirit for Renegade Football. The robots will be in attendance at the 2018 Renegade Homecoming football game on Saturday, October 27, 2018 at 6:00PM at Memorial Stadium.

Pepper is a 4.5’ tall android capable of speech and motion with fully articulated fingers, five of them on each hand. The robot has vision, sound recognition, collision avoidance, and has learned the words to the BC Fight song. Students Chad Hidalgo and Aaron Thomas have been working on programming the robotic arms to say “Touchdown, Renegades!” and wave banners.

“I hope that when the families in attendance see the robots, they will come down and ask us questions about the Industrial Automation program,” said Chad Hidalgo. “We will make one of our banners say ‘Ask us about the Industrial Automation Bachelor's Degree’ and we can program Pepper to be the spokes-robot. Since she is interactive to touch, sound, and sight, we can have her respond to questions.”

The Industrial Automation four-year Baccalaureate program at Bakersfield College is designed to prepare individuals for technical management careers within industries that utilize automation, including petroleum, manufacturing, logistics, energy, and agriculture. This past May, Bakersfield College awarded seven Bachelor of Science in Industrial Automation degrees at the 104th Commencement Ceremony. At this time, 12 students are on track to graduate and receive their Bachelor’s degree in May 2019.

Bakersfield College offers a rigorous and supportive learning environment that fosters students’ abilities to think critically, communicate effectively, and demonstrate competencies and skills in order to engage productively in their communities and the world, while simultaneously contributing to the intellectual, cultural, and economic vitality of the communities it serves.

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