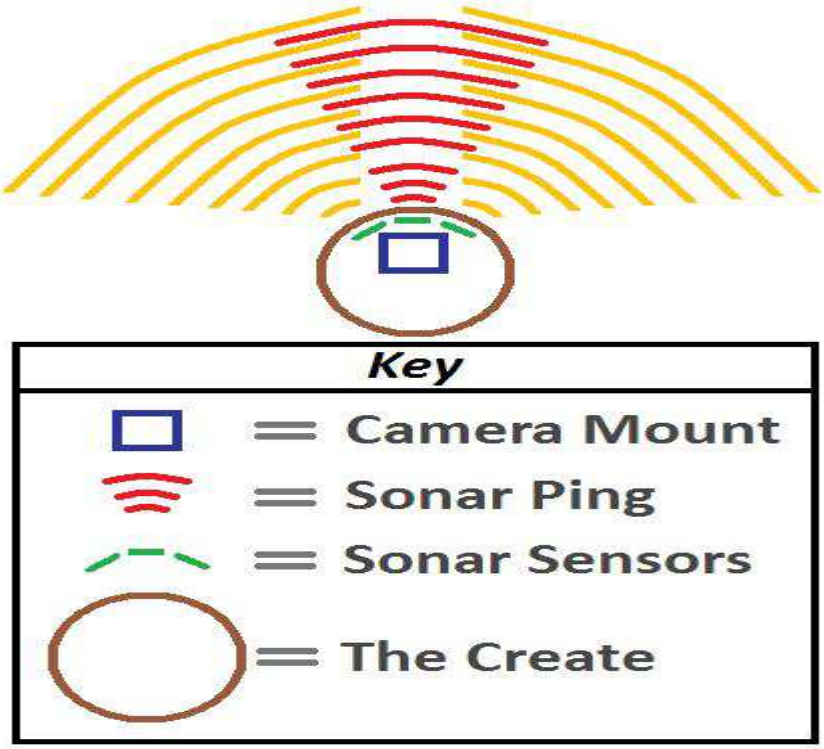
Jeffrey Terry
Norman High School

Camera Bot

This robot is designed to run around and take pictures of people who are within approximately two meters of the robot. It works by sensing objects that are near it with three sonar sensors that are attached to the CBC processor, then using the data given to it by those sensors to track down and align both vertically and horizontally with that person. Next, it takes a picture of them using a servo that controls a lever that presses the button on a digital camera in order to take a high quality, printable picture of that person. In Botball, we can use this to record our bots when they run. It works better than a person because it is super steady, and it stops when you want it to. Also, it is helpful having an extra person to help work on the robots instead of holding a camera. In real life, this technology could be used to spy on criminals and terrorists without them knowing, or when it is unsafe for a person to be holding the camera. A robot similar to this actually appeared in Star Wars: Episode II, when Anakin was using Padme as bait to catch the person who was trying to kill her. In that scenario, they had programmed R2D2 to tell them when someone entered the room that she was sleeping in. A current real world example would be filming things on the deep sea floor where conditions aren't optimal for human survival, or in an underground mine that has been filled with toxic gases. This specific program is designed to run around and take pictures of people who are within approximately two meters of the robot.