“Classic Rocker”
Week #10
Date: 4/3/06
Tom Dabrowski

Work Completed

During the past week, I was able to begin attaching a skirt to the bottom of our chair so that we could hide the less attractive areas of it from view. Sarah was able to stitch it together for me with her sewing machine, and she was also able to put a hem in the bottom of it, which gave it a neater end than a leaving the frayed edge as the bottom. I pinned the skirt into place and completed stapling it into place. I can finish the last stitching as soon as possible. A picture of the progress can be seen below.

![Figure 1: Front of chair with skirt stapled into place.](image)

In addition, I created labels for all of our switches, circuit breakers and connection points that the caretaker will need to be able to identify. The master power and motor power switches were identified, as well as both circuit breakers, as well as the potentiometer and its range for rocking the chair, as well as the switch ports for the user switches. The following figures demonstrate the labeling completed.
Figures 2 and 3: Labeling completed on both the caretaker switching box and the motor controller box.

I was also able to begin working on the user’s manual for our project. The device shouldn’t be too difficult to operate, but we need to ensure the safety of all who will operate the chair. The caretaker’s instructions are very specific in the directions of how to turn everything on and achieve optimal response from both the audio and motor controls, but the user instructions are very simple (in that the user only needs to sit back as far as possible, push to rock and push to hear music.

Finally, I was able to complete some odds and ends for the design, like make a last-minute purchase of a stronger circuit breaker for our new motor that we have to install because our old one would stall out with heavier weights. Having a stronger motor warranted us to need more amperage to power it, and from here, we needed to get a higher-rated circuit breaker for the motor’s connection. I was also able to pick up new wire for the lab since we, as a group, collectively used about 60 feet of wire for this project. To replace it, I picked up 75 feet of wire at RadioShack and expensed it on our account.
Future Work

During the next week, I hope to be able to install the new circuit breaker as soon as it comes in, and to complete attachment of the skirt with final stitching where applicable. I hope to be able to continue to go more in depth on the User's Manual, as it needs a warning section, as well as troubleshooting, and maybe even a “Do’s and Don’ts” section.

Timeline 1: Work originally scheduled for this week.

Project Review

A slight setback had occurred last week when we realized that our motor just wasn’t going to cut it (at least not in the long run) if it began struggling this early with our rocking. Swapping out to a higher-torque motor allowed us to ensure some longevity in the automated rocking portion of our device, but it still meant reworking our resistances to ensure the motor turned slowly, as well as creating a new cam and mounting area for the motor. The new circuit breaker has to be installed, and testing still needs to be completed. Also, this week is the last week for build time, so we need to really hope that our circuit breaker makes it here on time and that this motor doesn't provide any issues with the change.

Timeline 2: Work originally scheduled for next week.
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<th>#</th>
<th>Task Description</th>
<th>Days?</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
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<td>93a</td>
<td>PAPERWORK</td>
<td>21 days</td>
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<td>Thu 4/27/06</td>
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<td>93b</td>
<td>Prepare user manual</td>
<td>4 days</td>
<td>Fri 4/7/06</td>
<td>Mon 4/10/06</td>
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<td>93c</td>
<td>Tweak Final Report</td>
<td>7 days</td>
<td>Tue 4/11/06</td>
<td>Mon 4/17/06</td>
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<tr>
<td>93d</td>
<td>Power Point slides, poster</td>
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<td>Tue 4/18/06</td>
<td>Mon 4/24/06</td>
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<td>93e</td>
<td>Practice/rehearse for final day</td>
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<td>Thu 4/27/06</td>
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<td>Fri 4/28/06</td>
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**Timeline 3:** Updated future timeline.

**Hours Worked**
Tom Dabrowski: 13.25