

RACING

senstation

Story & design by Hope Van Riesen

David Kim uses a Virtual Reality headset to simulate racing cars.

Screeching tires race across the track, engines revving and ready for action. The crowd is cheering for their favorite racer as the drivers prepare for the course. For David Kim, all of this is simulated in Virtual Reality, allowing him the feel of the race, but removing most of the danger attached to it.

David Kim has been race car driving through a simulation for about four years and was introduced to cars by his brother.

"He [Kim's brother] was also a car nerd just like I was and slowly introduced me into it," Kim said. "He would take me out on drives when I was a little kid and just tell me things about cars."

One important yet overlooked aspect of racing in general is how many people are involved in the process.

"The driver would have many assists from a team of people that basically tune and perfect the car based on certain conditions," Kim said. "For example, if the track is wet

or dry, different tires need to be used." Overall, although racing is difficult, it has become one of Kim's favorite things to do.

"I would recommend people to get started into this sport because it is something that is fun and enjoyable and really easy to get into at first," Kim said. "But the reason why people turn away is [because of] how much time, effort, and dedication it takes to master it."

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DAVID KIM

(right) **STRIKING SETUP** The equipment consists of three pedals at the bottom, two monitors, a steering wheel, a shift stick, and a virtual reality headset. "My current setup is very simple," Kim said. (below) **READY, SET, GO!** Headset on and in the middle of a practice run, Kim grips the steering wheel and shiftstick tightly. "My favorite parts about driving and drifting are the speed and how exciting it is," Kim said. Photos courtesy of David Kim



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