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Press Release

Source: FIRST

Over 1,000 Area High School Students Recognized at Boston's Second Regional Robotics Competition

Friday March 30, 3:17 pm ET

Three teams from Massachusetts advance to finals in Atlanta

BOSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--During the second annual Boston FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) regional robotics competition held March 23-24, 2007 several high school teams received awards for design excellence, competitive play, sportsmanship and high impact partnerships between schools businesses and communities.

Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick treated attendees to a spirited address. Over 5,000 fans, families, educators and industry leaders attended the competition.

The three Regional Winners are:

- Team 69 - Quincy High School, sponsored by P&G Gillette
- Team 125 - Brookline High School and Boston Latin High School, sponsored by Northeastern University and Textron
- Team 126 - Clinton High School, sponsored by Nypro

Team 126 also won the Regional Chairman's Award, FIRST's highest honor and most sought after award. Other award winners can be found at the Boston FIRST website, <http://www.bostonfirst.org>.

Each of three winning teams will compete in FIRST's national competition at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta on April 12 - 14, 2007.

During the six weeks prior to the competition, each high-school team worked with professional mentors to design and build a robot using only a provided kit of parts and a set of rules - but no assembly instructions. In this year's game - nicknamed "Rack 'n Roll" - robots were required to hang inflated colored tubes on pegs configured in a grid (the "rack") ten feet high.

"We are delighted by how many folks got involved in this year's competition," said Marc Hodosh, Boston FIRST chairman. "The event engaged the community and empowered students throughout New England to explore technology," continued Hodosh.

Students participating in FIRST are eligible to apply for over seven million dollars in scholarships from leading universities, colleges and companies. Scholarship announcements will be made at the FIRST championship in Atlanta.

FIRST was founded by inventor Dean Kamen to improve students' attitudes towards math, science and teamwork and encourage students to pursue internship and employment opportunities in science and engineering.

This year's major sponsors include Boston University, MIT, P&G Gillette and Textron.

About FIRST

Accomplished inventor Dean Kamen founded FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to promote an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, NH, FIRST designs accessible, innovative programs that build self-confidence, knowledge and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology and engineering. With the support of many of the world's most well-known companies, the non-profit organization hosts the FIRST Robotics Competition for high school students and the FIRST Lego League for children 9-14 years old. To learn more about FIRST, go to <http://www.usfirst.org>. To learn more about Boston FIRST and the Boston Regional Competition, please visit <http://www.BostonFIRST.org>.

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Source: FIRST

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