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Newton High School's FIRST Robotics Team Moves to Regional Competition

By JENNIFER DERICKS
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BRIDGEWATER, NJ - Aperature, Newton High School's robotics team was ranked third overall at the FIRST competition last week end at Bridgewater. They also won the UL Industrial Safety Award and the Engineering Inspiration Award, "which is very prestigious," according to coach Jim Hoffman.

The win allows Aperature to compete in the Regional Championships at Lehigh University April 6 to 8. The win also saves the team the $4,000 registration fee.

In addition to competing with the robots. The team continued their efforts to lobby legislators to afford varsity status to all high school academic competition teams. They worked with members of the Pascack Hills and Pascack Valley robotics team.

"We will be providing them with a template endorsement letter," Hoffman said. Senator Steve Oroho has co-sponsored a bill in the New Jersey Senate to support the students' cause.